

Thursday 28th May 2015

## PRESS RELEASE

The Dudley Group's directors will be rolling up their sleeves next week and going 'back to the floor' with our volunteers to mark national Volunteers' Week.

Chief Executive Paula Clark will be joined by other members of the Board as they step into the shoes of volunteers making drinks for patients, taking the library trolley to wards and carrying out patient surveys.

Paula Clark, Chief Executive, said, "We want to say a huge thank you to the more than 300 volunteers who regularly lend a hand at Russells Hall Hospital and at our outpatient centres at Corbett and Guest.

"Our volunteers kindly give up their time for us and the work they do in every part of the Trust really is invaluable and very much appreciated.

"I want to encourage staff, patients and visitors to show their appreciation for our volunteers by taking a few minutes to fill out a Volunteers' Week thank you card.

"This is our opportunity to recognise the dedication of our volunteers and for the difference they make to patients."

Thank you cards will be available at the main reception desks at Russells Hall Hospital, Corbett and Guest, until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June and will be displayed throughout the week.

The Trust is currently recruiting volunteers to join our fantastic team. Anyone over the age of 16 who would like to make a difference in Dudley can apply to become a volunteer at the Trust

"Whether you can spare a few hours a week around your existing commitments or want to give your time more regularly, we'd love to hear from you" said Paula.

"There's a variety of volunteering roles with vacancies at the moment, from mealtime assistants and department hosts, to patient friends and wayfinders."

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer at the Trust please email or telephone the volunteer coordinator on (01384) 456111 extension 1887. You can also write to Volunteers' Coordinator, Russells Hall Hospital, Pensnett Road, Dudley, DY1 2HQ.

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For more information, please contact Alice Ford, Communications and Staff Engagement Officer for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, on (01384) 244403 or email <a href="mailto:alice.ford@dgh.nhs.uk">alice.ford@dgh.nhs.uk</a>