Community Corner

Community Corner is a concept originally created by the Communications and Involvement Team at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust. Its rationale is to help provide the voluntary and community sector with a platform for meeting our hospital community and help the Trust further develop its community partnerships.

It provides a dedicated display space for organisations to promote their campaigns and interact with our patients, visitors and staff. Hospital departments and clinics too are invited to showcase their health and wellbeing information during national awareness weeks. The Trust is a healthcare provider at the heart of the local community and equally our local community is at the very heart of everything we do.

Where is it?
Community Corner is situated within the main entrance of Rotherham Hospital. It is located in the opposite corner to the coffee shop, between the main entrance doors and the wheelchair enclosure.

Who can use it?
Anyone belonging to the local community who has information or a message they would like to share with our patients, visitors and staff. For example, local voluntary, community or support groups, charities, schools, colleges, hospital departments, health interest groups and our Members and Governors.
Rotherham Hospital and Community Charity

The Rotherham Hospital and Community Charity is a registered charity (charity ref: 1054407) and is managed by a Charitable Funds Committee. The Charity currently runs a number of appeals including:

- The Purple Butterfly Appeal, which raises funds to help enhance end of life care at the Trust
- Dr Ted’s Children’s Appeal, which raises funds to further improve the experience of children and families using Trust services

To find out more about the Rotherham Hospital and Community Charity or any of the charitable appeals or to make a donation, please contact Charity Development Officer, Tracy Williams, on 01709 427589 or Tracy.Williams@rothgen.nhs.uk.

How are donations spent?
In all areas of the Trust you will find the legacy of what charitable donations have provided, including:

- A second Purple Butterfly Suite for End of Life Care. Located on C Level, near to the Stroke Unit, this room provides a private, peaceful environment for patients and their families. Fundraising is now also taking place to open a third suite
- Comfy chairs and overnight fold-away beds for the parents of the children on the Children’s Ward
- A new dining room for patients and their families on Ward B2
- Refurbishment of a waiting room in Ophthalmology
- Bedside chairs for patients of Breathing Space
- Assessment steps for our community services
- Specialist medical equipment and clothes for the SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre)
- Flowers and plants for the Trust’s sensory garden.

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We have over 100 registered volunteers across the Trust, ranging from 17 to over 80 years of age, offering their time once or twice each week in the hospital and community, and in some cases giving more time.

We have volunteers who have been volunteering with the Trust for over 25 years, some who are new to the Trust and were welcomed only last month and some who are current staff members and retired staff members, who have returned to the Trust as a volunteer.

We have a significant history of involving members of the public as volunteers, making a positive difference to our patients, their carers, family, visitors and our staff. Volunteers are a valuable part of our organisation, giving their time, being happy to help and offering a friendly welcome.

The role of our volunteers
Our volunteers support us in a number of ways. Examples of how their time is spent whilst volunteering include helping patients with their menu choices on wards, providing a mobile library service for our patients and helping patients to continue their falls prevention exercises at home. Volunteers are also helping specific departments throughout the Trust including outpatient clinics, chaplaincy, pharmacy, the Trust’s charity, the main entrance, the Macmillan cancer information and support service and more.

Volunteers also continue to support the Trust in many ways and in addition to their normal roles as volunteers, they have supported our charity with fundraising activities, at nurse recruitment days and several national awareness events such as the Nutrition and Hydration Week.

The Trust also works with partner organisations, including RVS (formally the Women’s Royal Voluntary Service), Bliss (support for families with premature babies) and Breast Feeding Peer Supporters.

For further information on volunteering at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, please contact the Voluntary Service Office on 01709 424329.
For over five years, the Trust’s annual PROUD Awards has provided us with a great opportunity to highlight, recognise and thank exceptional individuals and teams within the organisation who have made a really positive contribution to delivering high quality care to patients.

In 2014, the Trust was delighted to introduce a new Public Recognition Award. The Public Recognition Award provides a fantastic opportunity for members of the public to nominate individuals and/or teams who have made a real difference. We invite and encourage members of the public to nominate health care professionals and/or support staff who they have found to have delivered exceptional services to patients, their families, friends and loved ones.

At the annual Awards ceremony, winners and runners up are recognised in over 10 categories and in addition, a Chief Executive’s Award and a Chairman’s Award are presented.

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