

Gardener Role Description

'Gardener': Noun; a person who tends or cultivates a garden as a pastime

About Waverley Care

Scotland is on track to be one of the first countries in the world to achieve zero HIV transmissions, and Waverley Care will play an essential role in getting us there.

A positive HIV diagnosis still has the power to knock people off their feet and impact every part of their lives. People living with HIV still carry the burden of decades of discrimination and misinformation about HIV. HIV is treatable, but the stigma and shame surrounding HIV holds people back and makes it different to other life-long conditions. Stigma and the fear of an HIV diagnosis still prevents many people at risk getting a test and knowing their status.

Our vision is for a Scotland where no one faces HIV alone, we will achieve this by fighting stigma and empowering people living with HIV to live full and healthy lives.

Waverley Care is Scotland's leading HIV and hepatitis C charity, and everything we do is guided by the experiences of the people we work with – this ranges from shaping the services we deliver through to how we influence national policy around sexual health and blood borne viruses (BBVs).

We are at an exciting point in our history as we strive to reach the goal of zero transmissions by 2030. There is much work to be done, but as an organisation we are driven to create lasting change for everyone in Scotland living with, or at risk of HIV or hepatitis C.

You can find out more about the work we do at our website www.waverleycare.org.

About the role

Gardeners are volunteers who possess a keen interest or passion for cultivating and designing gardens and grounds, aiming to create beautiful and inspiring outdoor spaces. The grounds at our residential facility at Milestone are extensive, encompassing woodlands, more formal gardens and flower beds, lawns and communal areas.

Cultivating beautiful gardens and inspiring outdoor spaces is more than just a role; it's a passion. You can tell a Gardener by their green fingers and enthusiasm!

About the person

Gardeners come equipped with specific skills, knowledge, or a profound interest in the appreciation of gardens. They have the ability to impart their expertise or knowledge to others in a positive and appropriate manner. Alternatively, they may choose to work independently on maintenance or creative garden projects. They are confident in delivering workshops or sharing their skills with others and exhibit a friendly and engaging manner. Gardeners also possess self-awareness.

Key strengths

- **Enthusiasm:** Gardeners are enthusiastic volunteers who can work independently, in groups, or with service users to create relaxing and inspiring spaces at our residential care facility at Milestone.
- **Skill or Knowledge:** Gardeners can impart unique experiences to service users in group or one-to-one sessions. As a result, they contribute to the emotional and social development of the people we work with.
- **Communicators:** They possess excellent communication and presentation skills, enabling them to share their expertise with others in an informative and entertaining manner.
- **Positive Impact:** Gardeners get involved because they aspire to drive positive social change. Their goal is to craft spaces that enhance people's life experiences and overall enjoyment of life.

Responsibilities and duties

- **Carrying Out Routine Garden Maintenance:** Performing regular garden maintenance tasks to keep the grounds in top condition.
- **Initiating and Executing Creative Gardening Projects:** Proactively conceiving and completing imaginative gardening projects.
- **Working Independently or in Group or One-to-One Settings:** Being capable of working autonomously, in one-on-one situations, or within a group environment.
- **Providing Opportunities to Collaborate with Service Users and Share Skills and Knowledge:** Creating chances for service users to collaborate, learn, and gain skills and knowledge from gardening experiences.
- **Facilitating Social Interaction for Service Users:** Fostering an environment that encourages service users to engage in social interaction.
- **Engaging in General Conversation with Service Users:** Actively participating in conversations with service users on various topics.
- **Exploring the Full Potential of the Gardens at Milestone:** Continuously seeking ways to unlock and utilise the gardens' full potential at Milestone.

Support and training

- Volunteers will have a designated member of staff as their back up support.
- Volunteers will receive regular one to one support to minimise the risk of secondary trauma and to discuss any concerns. This can be tailored to suit your individual needs (over coffee, phone call, in person etc.).
- Support is available via an “open door policy”; scheduled catchups will also be provided.
- Comprehensive volunteer training will be provided and updated appropriately.