

NORTH DEVON AND NORTH CORNWALL BRANCH

Registered Charity No 261807

2 Summerland Street
Barnstaple, Devon EX32 8JJ
Telephone 01271 374343

SAMARITANS

Email: Sams_nd@yahoo.co.uk

Website: www.samaritans.org/barnstaple

Dear Visitor

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for Samaritans.

By volunteering with Samaritans you will help to make a real difference to others and you will make a real difference to yourself.

Samaritans have been part of the local community in England, Guernsey, Jersey, Ireland, Isle of Man, Scotland and Wales for over 50 years, with over 202 branches across United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. In 2008, our own branch (North Devon & North Cornwall), based here in Barnstaple, celebrated its 40th Anniversary.

Each branch is a mini business, with every role in the branch carried out by volunteers. Because of this there are many ways to volunteer with Samaritans. Volunteers give their time by fundraising, publicity, administration and actively listening on the telephone, face to face, or by email, text messaging and letters.

Samaritans vision is for a society in which

- Fewer people die by suicide
- People are able to explore their feelings
- People are able to acknowledge and respect the feelings of others.

To be a Samaritan volunteer you won't need to have previous experience or qualifications but need to be open minded and non-judgemental.

All Samaritan volunteers are trained in the skills needed to equip them for their role, whether as support or listening volunteers and are assigned a mentor. The training will help you gain an increased self-awareness that you will be able to use in other aspects of your life.

Listening volunteers complete a training course of eight modules, which takes place over several weeks.

Support volunteers attend one module and then receive specific skills training, depending on the role.

If you are interested in volunteering, please attend one of our selection days, as this will give you the opportunity to see if Samaritans is for you. These days are relaxed and informative, refreshments are provided, and you will have the chance to have an in depth look at what we do. There is plenty of opportunity for discussion, and once you have reviewed the commitment all Samaritans make, you may be invited to join our training programme. The dates for selection and training are enclosed in this information pack.

We will look forward to meeting you. In the meanwhile, please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries

Best wishes

Jenny 215 (New Volunteer Secretary)

NORTH DEVON AND NORTH CORNWALL BRANCH

Registered Charity No 261807

2 Summerland Street
Barnstaple, Devon EX32 8JJ
Telephone 01271 374343

SAMARITANS

Positions:	Support Volunteers (as many as possible!)
Hours:	Approximately 3 or 4 hours per week (negotiable)
Salary:	£0.00 per annum + benefits (tea/coffee, biscuits, office facilities and masses of support (priceless!))
Job Description	To join a team that are prepared to carry out fundraising activities in our local community to ensure that sufficient funds are raised each year to enable us to continue to provide emotional support to callers that are experiencing feelings of distress and despair.

You may have, or may be considered volunteering your valuable time to a local charity, and indeed though briefly of Samaritans, but suddenly felt that being available to answer calls from people that are experiencing feelings of distress and despair is not for you.

That's OK, it's definitely not everybody's cup of tea, however, please read on because there many ways in which YOU can help us.

Whether you are happy to face members of the public or prefer to work behind the scenes, as a **support volunteer** there are many ways in which you can help our branch. To run our busy branch we need clerical & computing skills, gardening, DIY and fundraising.

How many times have we all attended some kind of fundraising event for other charities, schools, organisations etc. and thought, "that was a good day or evening out"?

Yes, we need good ideas for fundraising events, but we also need our **support volunteers** to help with the organisation and running of those events, carrying out research, finding out who we need to talk to, contacting local authorities for entry forms, permissions etc., networking with the right people, making telephone calls, typing etc., in short, **fundraising!**

Ok, we agree that the salary won't help with the cost of next year's holiday, nor will it pay for a new car or even contribute to the next vets' bill, however, the position itself will enable you to share your knowledge and experiences with other **support volunteers**, meet new people, have fun AND provide a vital service to our community, now that's some package!

Just like you, we also value and respect our colleagues.

So if you are ready to volunteer your time, please give Samaritans a second thought.

Please take the next step to becoming a support volunteer by and printing off our Information Pack and filling in and returning the application form or ring Jenny on 01271 374343.

SAMARITANS Your Questions Answered

Q. Who can become a Volunteer?

A. Anyone who:

- Is a good listener
- Has some spare time
- Is able to be non-judgemental
- Is at least 18 years of age

If you have answered 'yes' to the above statements then **you** could become a volunteer.

Q. How do I become a volunteer?

- A.**
1. Complete the application form and return it to us.
 2. Attend an Information and Selection day.
 3. Complete the Preparation Programme.
 4. Work in our Centre alongside an experienced volunteer.
 5. Become a Samaritan Volunteer.

Q. When can I begin to take these steps?

A. See the 'Selection and Training Dates' calendar attached.

Q. How much time will I need to give if I become a volunteer?

A. The usual commitment is:

- 1 Daytime duty during each week of 3 hours duration
- 1 Overnight duty approximately every 6 weeks (of 6 hours duration)

If work or family commitments make this difficult then please let us look at alternative possibilities together.

Rota Hours

Our duty times are variable daily and you will have the opportunity to discuss with your Mentor what times you are available to fulfil your commitment to the Branch.

If you wish to discuss any other aspect of becoming a volunteer before filling in the application form then please call the branch on 01271 374343 and ask to speak to the New Volunteer Secretary who will be pleased to deal with your enquiries.

Branch: _____

Thank you for your interest in Samaritans.

(Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other) Family name: _____

Other names: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code _____

Home tel (if any) _____ Work tel: (if convenient) _____

Mobile no: _____ E-mail address: _____

How did you hear about volunteering opportunities with Samaritans?

- Newspaper advert
- Local branch event
- Personal contact
- College/university
- Other (please specify)

For which volunteer role are you applying? (you can tick more than one)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Listening | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Night owl | <input type="checkbox"/> Shop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer recruitment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative support | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance of branch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Rota |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee/branch committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state) |

Samaritans operate a 24 hour listening service. Listening volunteers will be asked to fulfil a commitment to regular shifts, which will usually include some anti-social hours. Bearing in mind your commitments and the needs of our callers, will this be possible for you? Yes No

Have you ever volunteered with Samaritans before? Yes No

Where and what dates _____

Reasons for leaving? _____

What assistance can we provide to enable your volunteering?

Are there any access requirements or special needs with which you would like support to facilitate your volunteering with us? Yes No

Do you have any health issues/problems that we need to be aware of? Yes No

Please specify

References

Please give the names and addresses of two people you would like to act as referees to support your application. They should have known you well for at least two years, and be able to make a sound assessment of your qualities.

i. Name _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

How do they know you? _____

ii. Name _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

How do they know you? _____

In case of an emergency (for example becoming ill during training) please give us the name and number of the person you would like us to contact.

Name _____ Phone number _____

Relationship to you _____

We thank you for your interest in our work and will contact you as soon as possible to discuss your application.

By filling in this form you agree to us holding this information for the purposes of your volunteering with Samaritans

CONFIDENTIAL

This question is subject to the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (1974). You are legally entitled to withhold information about convictions which may, under the Act, be regarded as spent.

Important: A criminal record will not necessarily stop you becoming a Samaritans volunteer. This will depend on the circumstances of your offences. Certain volunteer roles require a Criminals Records Check with the Criminal Records Bureau.

Do you have any prosecutions pending or have you ever been convicted at a court or cautioned by the police for any offence? Yes No

If yes, please give full details of all pending prosecutions, convictions, cautions or bind over orders including the nature of the offence, court and date of convictions and sentence

NAME (in full) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please return this form to _____

Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form **SAMARITANS**

To help ensure that Samaritans' recruitment procedure operates in such a way as to provide genuine equal opportunities, please complete and return this sheet with the application form. This information is held separately and is not part of the selection process.

Branch: _____

Volunteer Role Applied for _____

Name _____

Ethnic origin

White
 British
 Irish
 Other
 please state

Mixed
 Black Caribbean and White
 Black African and White
 Asian and White
 Other
 please state

Asian or British Asian
 Indian
 Pakistani
 Bangladeshi
 Other
 please state

Black or Black British
 Caribbean
 African
 Other
 please state

Chinese or other ethnic
 Chinese
 Other
 please state

Country of Birth _____

Educational Level _____

this information is held separately and is not part of the selection process

Gender _____

Do you consider yourself to have any disabilities? Yes No

Date of birth _____

Samaritans is committed to eliminating unjustifiable discrimination against anyone for any reason including their race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion, sex or sexual orientation, working pattern, marital status, gender reassignment, disability, age, political opinion or family status.

RESPONSE FORM

If applicable, please fill in your name and address and either Section 1 or 2 of this form, and then return it to Samaritans, New Volunteer Secretary, 2 Summerland Street, Barnstaple, Devon. EX32 8JJ

Name	
Address	
Post code	
Phone number(s)	
E-mail	

Section 1

- I am still interested in finding out more about becoming a Samaritan volunteer but cannot make the next Information Session. Please send me further dates.

Section 2

- I am no longer interested in becoming a Samaritan volunteer but would like to receive more information on other ways of supporting Samaritans in the future
- I am no longer interested in becoming a Samaritan volunteer and enclose a donation to help support people who are in need of emotional support from Samaritans
- I am no longer interested in becoming a Samaritan volunteer and do not want to receive any more information.
-