



**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

**Children Activity Support– Care for Children while on Dialysis**

Do you want to support kidney patients and their families? Do you want to be part of a large team of volunteers, within a national charity? Do you want to make a difference in the lives of Welsh kidney patients and their families?

“I draw on my personal experience of kidney disease to support others during their kidney journey; providing information, advice and emotional support to anyone affected by kidney disease” – *Paul Popham Fund Volunteer*

Organisation	Paul Popham Fund, Renal Support Wales
<p>Organisation Overview</p>	<p>The Paul Popham Fund, Renal Support Wales aims to help renal patients in Wales lead a better quality of life. The charity provides various support services to improve the financial, physical and emotional wellbeing of all kidney patients and family members, and seeks to improve knowledge and awareness of kidney disease through education projects.</p> <p>Kidney Disease is a chronic illness resulting in the loss of kidney function. There is no cure for kidney disease, however treatments such as dialysis and kidney transplant can help ease symptoms and in some cases, ease progression of the disease. Kidney Disease is more common in older people, however, can affect people of all ages.</p> <p>Paul Popham was a kidney patient for over half his life. Throughout his kidney journey, Paul was on dialysis, as well as received two kidney transplants. Despite his ill health, he led a positive and active life, encouraging others to believe in themselves and enjoy their lives. It is with this ethos that the Paul Popham Fund was founded, with Paul’s inspirational attitude continuing to underpin the charity’s work.</p> <p>The Paul Popham Fund provides various services to support kidney patients and families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer Support Service – emotional support, information and advice, provided by trained Peer Mentors.</li> <li>• Counselling Service – free, confidential counselling.</li> <li>• Careline - a telephone support service for patients and families.</li> <li>• Kidney Café support groups – support groups for patients and family members, with monthly meetings/sessions (virtual and face-to-face).</li> <li>• Online Kidney Café Community Groups – online platforms/forums for each associated Kidney Café.</li> <li>• Patient grants – welfare assistance for patients and families in financial hardship.</li> <li>• Hospital grants – funding for equipment and projects that benefit patients and NHS services.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walk for Health group – a walking group to assist patients and families to improve/maintain their physical health.</li> <li>• Transplant Games – Support patients and donors to enter and compete in the Transplant Games.</li> <li>• Educational initiatives – educational Kidney Cafes, Q&amp;A sessions, informational leaflets and newsletters.</li> <li>• Wellbeing projects - family Christmas day out, activity weekends for children and youths</li> </ul> <p>The Paul Popham Fund also regularly collaborate with the Kidney Community in Wales on projects such as collaborative newsletters and patient conferences. The charity is also committed to supporting the Children’s Kidney Centre by raising £132k to commence refurbishment of the outpatient department. This project will provide a warm, welcoming environment for children and families, as they attend for their regular outpatient renal appointments, and will provide a more comfortable environment during what can be a highly anxious time.</p> <p>The charity raises funds through various activities such as organised sporting events, sponsorship, donations and grants &amp; trusts.</p>
Role Title	<b>Children Activity Support</b>
Location of Position	Puffin Unit – Upper Ground Floor of Noah’s Ark Children’s Hospital for Wales, Cardiff
Responsible to	Anna Powell, Volunteer Co-ordinator
Purpose/Summary of Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are looking for a volunteer to support two Paediatric Dialysis patients aged 5 and 2 respectively every Monday 12pm-4pm (these hours may change slightly depending on the needs of the service, but the volunteer would be given advanced notice) whilst they undergo Haemodialysis treatment.</li> </ul>
Description of Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The volunteer would be supporting the patients through play and educational activities whilst they undergo haemodialysis treatment</li> <li>• The volunteer would not be responsible for the medical care of the two patients because they would have two qualified staff nurses present at all times</li> <li>• The volunteer would not be left unsupervised with the patients</li> <li>• The volunteer would not be required to provide transport to and from the patients’ home and Children’s Kidney Centre.</li> <li>• The volunteer would be required to develop a rapport with the parents and update them on their children’s welfare on the handover.</li> <li>• Report any safeguarding/health concerns to the Specialist Nurses in the Unit</li> </ul>
Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your commitment</li> </ul>



Time Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every Monday 12pm-4pm (the hours may slightly change due to the needs of the service but the volunteer would be given advanced notice).</li> <li>• All Volunteers must complete a training session (either face to face or virtually)</li> </ul>
Skills and Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of working with children with specific medical needs</li> <li>• Childcare Qualification (desirable but not essential)</li> <li>• Knowledge of kidney disease (desirable but not essential)</li> </ul>
Training and Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Induction will be provided (with the support of the Haemodialysis Team at the Children's Kidney Centre)</li> <li>• Full support from the Volunteer Coordinator</li> </ul>
Reimbursement of Expenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel expenses</li> <li>• Subsistence expenses</li> </ul>
Benefits to Volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A chance to meet like-minded individuals and be part of a close support network of volunteers</li> <li>• To make a difference to Kidney Patients lives</li> <li>• Support in developing communication and interpersonal skills</li> <li>• We will provide you with detailed information about kidney disease, Name of Charity and Peer Support Service</li> </ul>
Application Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application Form</li> <li>• Successful Applicants will be subject to reference checks and would be required to complete an Enhanced DBS check prior to commencing their volunteer role.</li> </ul>
Contact Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please contact <a href="mailto:anna@paulpophamfund.co.uk">anna@paulpophamfund.co.uk</a></li> </ul>