

Being a Home-Start Volunteer requires a high level of commitment and reliability. A Volunteer is supported by Home-Start Co-ordinators.

A Home-Start Volunteer is expected to:

- be a parent or have parenting experience
- have a positive attitude to working with people of any gender, family status or sexual identity, or who are from any ethnic origin, culture or religion, or who may have a disability
- demonstrate a sensitive and caring attitude towards others
- have a non-judgemental attitude
- be clear about confidentiality
- be reliable and understand the importance of reliability to the family
- have good communication skills including an ability to listen
- have a warm and open personality and a sense of humour
- have time and enthusiasm for Home-Start
- be able to work as a member of a team
- be prepared to keep records as requested by the scheme

A Volunteers role is to:

- offer support, friendship and practical help
- visit families in their own homes, where the dignity and identity of each individual can be respected and protected
- reassure families that difficulties in bringing up children are not unusual
- emphasise the positive aspects of family life
- develop a relationship with the family in which time can be shared and an understanding developed
- encourage parents' strengths and emotional well-being for the ultimate benefit of their own children
- encourage families to widen their network of relationships and to use effectively the support and services available in the community

Hours of work

include an initial one day a week course of preparation, usually lasting 8-10 weeks

a minimum of three hours per week according to the family's needs

attend regular support/supervision

ideally a commitment of 6 - 12 months or more

What can Home-Start offer you?

As a Home-Start Volunteer we offer:

- ✓ good training and support
- ✓ expenses reimbursed
- ✓ enhanced career prospects
- ✓ opportunities for self-development

Home-Start is committed to a policy of Equal Opportunities that respects the identity, rights and values of each individual.

If you are interested in becoming a valuable member of the HSHH and WF Scheme and would like an interview please contact either:

Fatmata Bah (Director of Operations)
Joan Kirungi (Volunteer Co-ordinator)



INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL VOLUNTEERS

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