

A Q&A with our Carers

Why be a care professional?

The best way to answer this is to ask our care professional themselves, many of which have worked for us for over 15 years. Each year we complete a staff survey and one of the questions we always ask is 'What is the best thing about working in social care?'

Here is a selection of actual responses from our December 2017 staff survey.

'I just get a good sense of satisfaction from my job and enjoy doing something for others.'

'The feeling of accomplishment and achievement in making a difference to peoples lives. Knowing that you put a smile on peoples faces and reassure them that they are special and important, and deserve to be treated with love, dignity and respect just like anybody else. This means a great deal to a lot of our service users. Just being reassured that they do matter and that regardless of their disabilities or inabilities they can live as normal life as is important and special to them.'

'Meeting difference people and knowing my work does make a difference.'

'Helping people and meeting their needs.'

'For me the hours and regular clients.'

'Rewarding knowing that we help people to stay at home with their families.'

'Flexibility.'

Is there career progression?

Even though people would like to come into care they are concerned to because they may have heard that there are few options for career choices or progression. This is a really a bit of a myth. Our Registered Manager, Tracie Scholes started work for us in 2000 as a carer, was then promoted to senior carer, then to supervisor and is now our Registered Manager and is responsible for all the day to day activities we have including the management of office staff, most of which were prompted from carer.

Many of our care professionals have gone into other areas of care for example nursing, the medical profession, health or have used their time with us to springboard onto other careers.

We are delighted to have contributed to their personal and professional success, success which is felt across health and social care. If your CV shows that you have worked in social care for at least twelve months and have gained qualifications, experience and have completed induction training, the Care Certificate and specialist training in Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's, Visual Impairments, End of Life, Dementia, Acquired Brain Injury, Spinal Injury, Epilepsy, Motor Neuron Disease, Advanced Care Planning, Advanced Risk Assessments and Medication Assessments, then your CV should stand out amongst the many others that an employer will have to sort through.

You can achieve all this and more with Choice Care.

A Q&A with our Carers

Can I become a care professional without any experience or qualifications?

Yes. If you have the right values and attitude we will train and supervise you. In 2017 our carer, Minnie Patel, won Carer of the Year at the Great British Care Awards, and he came to us with no experience or qualifications, he is now Britain's top carer.

We also work with the local College employing apprentices and take people for work trials where they gain pre employment training and experience.

Can I complete any pre-employment training?

You can complete our induction training to find out more before committing yourself to employment. Both the Job Centre and College run excellent training courses to provide this type of training, and we accept their certification of the training completed.

What job roles do you have?

In addition to care professionals we have Supervisors who are responsible for an area or patch. They complete assessments of new service users and support the carers of all levels in their area. They also have Senior Carer to assist them with many day to day tasks for example

carrying out a wide variety of reviews of service users and carers. Coordinators are office based both managing and maintaining rotas and care plans which care professionals access via their smartphones. The Registered Manager has overall control and responsibility for all day to day activities. The care sector is growing and we would expect to need additional staff for all our roles as we grow and expand.

What are the working terms like?

Working terms are excellent as we offer both full and part time vacancies, our carers have shifts either in the mornings, lunchtimes, evenings, mid morning to mid afternoon, or any combination. Weekend working is an essential part of the mix as the service users still need the care at the weekends, so our care professionals work weekends on a rotational basis.

We also offer zero hours and guaranteed hours contracts, and can offer either weekly, two weekly or four weekly pay, regular and consistent rotas. Our employment package also includes paid annual leave, pensions, paid mileage and travel, paid training, training bonuses, a long service bonus, a recruitment bonus and our free annual awards dinner when we celebrate our achievements during the year and present awards to our staff for Long Service, Special Recognition, Service

A Q&A with our Carers

Users Choice, End of Life Carer and Carer of the Year, the winner of which wins a £500 cash prize and automatic entry to the Great British Care Awards.

All excellent reasons to work for Choice Care.

What training would I receive?

Your training starts with your Induction and includes moving and handling, safeguarding, administering medications, you then complete the Care Certificate and go onto specialist areas which may include Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's, Visual Impairments, End of Life, Dementia, Acquired Brain Injury, Spinal Injury, Epilepsy, Motor Neuron Disease, Advanced Care Planning, Advanced Risk Assessments and Medication Assessments.

We encourage and support all our care professionals to gain their NVQ/Diploma in Care.

How much support will I receive?

As much as is needed. We invest much of our time to supervise, support and review our care professionals and the work they do. You will always have someone to support you. When we ask our service users what is most important to them they tell us that its having regular carers, so we work hard to promote long service and support is an essential part of the mix.

Can I work as a volunteer?

Yes, just contact us to discuss the opportunities we have.

How to get in Touch

Join the team today and kickstart your career in care

 01254 504905

 07825 066152

 www.choicecare.co.uk

 choicecareuk@yahoo.co.uk