

# Somerset Volunteering for Health Programme

## At a glance

In partnership with:



**Volunteering for Health** supports local health systems by strengthening volunteering infrastructure and community collaboration, enabling people to improve health and wellbeing locally while helping deliver better healthcare for everyone.



### The Vision

**A more:**

- Connected system
- Inclusive opportunities
- People-centred experience
- Cross-sector approach

**Goal:** Sustainable volunteering rooted in community

### Place-Based Pilots: Frome PCN & Rural Practice Network



**What's happening:**

- "Get Involved" local sessions
- Volunteer roles in health & care
- Befriending & community support
- Mental health peer support

**Growing focus:**

- Youth roles & mentoring
- Inclusive volunteering
- New recruitment approaches in community

### The Insight

- Strong, loyal volunteer base
- Volunteering boosts wellbeing & connection
- System under pressure:
  - Time & emotional strain
  - Recruitment & retention challenges
  - Ageing base, limited capacity



**Opportunity:** Collaborate more, diversify participation, innovate

### Investment & Innovation

- Grants fund for local ideas
- Community-led solutions
- Health-focused volunteering projects
- Targeted support (e.g. hospital discharge)



### Impact & Learning

**We're measuring:**

- Health & wellbeing outcomes
- Volunteer experience & confidence
- System integration



**Learning will shape future county-wide strategy**

**The Ambition:** A volunteering system that is:

Inclusive

Connected

Sustainable

Impactful