



Department of Health
Government of **Western Australia**
South Metropolitan Area Health Service

May 2008

Volunteer Drivers Needed for Hospital transport service

Bentley Hospital is looking for community minded, friendly, caring people to become volunteer drivers for their rehabilitation patients.

Volunteer drivers transport rehabilitation patients to and from the hospital for treatment.

The drivers are asked to fill one shift per week, from 8am to 2pm, however volunteers are able to take on more shifts.

Patients are transported from their homes to the Aged Care Therapy Unit- a multidisciplinary outpatient rehabilitation unit at Bentley Hospital.

Bentley Hospital Aged Care Therapy Unit Coordinator Roger Sykes said the unit treated patients who had been discharged from the hospital but who required ongoing rehabilitation treatment. The transport service ensures patients have access to this treatment.

"The unit also sees patients from the community who have been assessed and found to need some rehabilitation in order to continue to live at home," Mr Sykes said.

"Our drivers transport the same patients over several weeks, which means they have the opportunity to develop a good rapport with the patients which is beneficial to both parties," he said.

Drivers will need to have a current standard 'C' class driver license. Bentley Hospital will cover the costs of a police clearance and a safe driver assessment for prospective volunteer drivers.

Drivers are able to use a hospital vehicle, and allocated mobile phone for their shift. The only expense to volunteers is their time and the costs of getting to and from the hospital at the start and end of their shift.

Comprehensive orientation and training is given to all drivers.

For more information on becoming a volunteer driver please contact Roger Sykes on 9334 3666.

ENDS

Photo opportunity available.

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