



Volunteer Role: Care and Repair

Our Organisation

Age Action supports and advocates for equality and human rights for all older people. Everything we do is based on a recognition of the diversity of identity and situation among older people and a concern for equality for all older people. In addressing ageing, our work includes a concern to influence perspectives on and responses to ageing. Our work is driven by an organisation that is professional in its operations and lives out its values of **dignity, participation, diversity, social justice, and professionalism.**

About Care and Repair

Care and Repair is a service that helps to keep people living in their own homes in increased safety and comfort. Age Action's volunteer teams provide small DIY jobs in older people's homes free of charge to help them maintain their homes and their independence. The most common services required by older people are: changing light bulbs; installing security locks and chains; moving furniture, minor home decorating (e.g. hanging pictures), minor gardening (e.g. trimming small hedges); tuning in TVs, and installing domestic smoke alarms.

Age Action's Care and Repair prioritises carrying out jobs in the homes of older people who are being discharged or have recently been discharged from hospital.

The most common services required by older people who have been recently discharged from hospital are; moving a bed downstairs, moving other furniture,

January 2023

installing grab rails, clearing clutter and completing other small repairs or installations that make the home environment safer.

Tasks:

- To communicate with Age Action staff and accept client requests by phone or email.
- To make contact with clients and/or their representatives and arrange for visits.
- To carry out small repairs, maintenance, furniture moving and other DIY type tasks for older people in their homes.
- To complete relevant paperwork and return to Age Action.
- To adhere to Age Action's health and safety protocols.

What's required for this role:

- An interest in helping older people in their community.
- A helpful, friendly and respectful attitude when dealing with clients.
- A reasonable level of basic DIY skills. A tradesman level is not required.
- Access to transport.
- Basic tools to attend to jobs.
- Intermediate level of English.
- A commitment to Age Action's Values.

Location:

Your tasks will be based on the needs of older people within your local community.

Application process:

- Complete volunteer application form.
- Volunteer team calls for an Informal interview.
- Development Officer gets in touch (this person will be your main point of contact and Supervisor during your time with us as a Volunteer).
- Reference check completed.
- Garda vetting processed.
- Volunteer training completed on our ELearning platform.
- You're ready to start volunteering!

You will receive the following supports:

- Initial induction and training about the role.
- Ongoing support and check ins.
- Insurance cover.
- Flexibility to adapt the role if your situation changes.
- A monthly Age Action Newsletter.
- Invitations to Age Action Monthly Volunteer zoom meetings which offer training and upskilling opportunities.

Benefits you will receive as a volunteer:

- The opportunity to make a real impact to the lives of older people.
- Initial and ongoing training.
- Gain skills in communication and working as part of a team.
- Opportunity to progress into other roles in Age Action.
- A chance to be part of the Age Action volunteer community.