Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health celebrates its volunteers

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service’s (SCHHS) Executive Team is celebrating International Volunteers Day (December 5) by volunteering their services throughout the health service!

SCHHS has more than 260 active volunteers who contribute more than 5000 hours of their time to the health service each month. Volunteers include Hospital Chaplains, Justice of the Peace (JP) and ‘Sunshiners’.

SCHHS Senior Coordinator of Volunteer Services Michelle Acworth says the executive team volunteering their services on 5 December highlights how valued our volunteers are within the health service.

“The Volunteer Service plays a vital role within the health service, providing practical assistance, support and comfort to patients and visitors in each facility. The team are easy to recognise and are often the first people visitors encounter at the hospital. They enjoy escorting families, patients and carers through the facility to ensure their experience is smooth,” Ms Acworth said.

Volunteer Angela has been coming into Sunshine Coast University Hospital three days a week since its opening, volunteering in the Emergency Department and the Main Entrance. She relishes the interaction with people.

“Particularly some of our elderly visitors. The hospital is an amazing facility but its size can be overwhelming when you don’t know your way around. It’s always lovely to see the relief on their face when I say, ‘Don’t worry, I’ll take you where you need to go’.

Susan volunteers two days per week in Women’s and Family services and the Main Entrance.

“I honestly believe volunteering is a two-way street, I get a lot of self-satisfaction from it. It is lovely to be recognised on International Volunteers Day and it’s great the Health Service are putting on an afternoon tea to acknowledge the team. It also gives us a chance to catch up as a group,” Susan said.

If you’re considering volunteering at SCHHS, you can phone Volunteering Sunshine Coast on 5443 8256 or visit www.volunteeringsunshinecoast.com.au

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Media opportunity
Senior Coordinator of Volunteer Services Michelle Acworth and Sunshiner Angela Dark and Susan Rose available for interview on request.

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