

Volunteer Newsletter

May 2026

News from our CEO Liz Cuddy



This year has been a defining one for Evora Hospice as we moved from launching our new identity to truly living it. Now, one year on, Evora has become firmly established as the modern, compassionate and community-rooted organisation we set out to be. Our refreshed brand has strengthened how people recognise and connect with us, but more importantly, it has helped us communicate with greater clarity the care, dignity and expertise that underpin everything we do.

As we look to the future, our commitment to developing a new hospice facility in Newry remains a central priority. Over the past year, we have taken important steps forward — listening to our supporters, engaging with families who have used our services, and beginning conversations with those who want to help shape the future of palliative care in our region. Their voices are essential as we plan a facility that will meet the evolving needs of people across Armagh, Down and Tyrone for generations to come. This is a long-term ambition, and it will require partnership, collaboration and the continued support of our incredible community. But together, we are laying the foundations for a hospice service that is resilient, responsive and ready for the future.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated Evora team. Their compassion, professionalism and unwavering commitment continue to define the experience of every patient and family we support. One family recently shared with us: “The care our mother received was exceptional. Every member of staff treated her with dignity and kindness, and they supported us as a family through every moment.” It is this standard of care — person-centred, holistic and deeply human — that guides our work every day.

This year we have continued to strengthen our services, enhance how people access support, and invest in our people and our strategic direction. It has been a year of progress, learning and meaningful impact — and one we can all be proud of.

To everyone who supports us: thank you. Your generosity, trust and belief in our mission sustain us. We cannot do what we do without you, and we look forward to continuing this journey together as we shape the next chapter of hospice care in our community.



Volunteer Celebration Event

We're delighted to be hosting this special event as part of National Volunteers' Week, and we would love you to join us.

Please come along and help us celebrate the incredible difference you make to our Hospice – with plenty of fun along the way too!

We're extremely grateful to the Universal Meat Company, who have fully funded the event.

To make it as easy as possible for everyone to attend, free transport will be provided: buses will run from Newry for volunteers in the Newry & Mourne area, and from Dungannon for those living nearby, with all costs covered through funding received.

We hope you can join us for what promises to be a relaxed and enjoyable way to say thank you for everything you do.



Please join us for our
Volunteer Celebration
on
Thursday 4th June 2026
For some fun, a light lunch
& update information
in
Seagoe Hotel, Portadown
12.00 - 2.30pm
RSVP Friday 22nd May 2026
028 302 67711 (Rosie or Andrea Forbes)

**If you wish to avail of the free transport,
please let us know when you RSVP by 22nd May 2026**

Update Training - New Web Portal

The new web portal launched at the beginning of this year on our website for the completion of our mandatory annual update training and it has proven to be very successful - with approximately 90% of volunteers completing their training on it.



Whilst there were a few hiccups with some of you getting logged in, overall the majority of feedback is that it is easy to use and simple to navigate. Thank you all for your co-operation with this new initiative. This will be running each January - details will be sent out in December.

Impact Measurement

Each year our volunteers make an extraordinary difference to our organisation. Together, you contributed an amazing 7,267 volunteer hours in 2025/2026, up from 4,264 the previous year. A huge increase that truly shows the heart and commitment of our volunteer community.



Every hour you give, helps support our patients and their families. We are deeply grateful for your time, compassion, and dedication. Thank you for every moment of your support.

Volunteering Opportunities

We are currently seeking volunteers to support our services in the following roles:

Administrative Support Volunteer

Based in Newry within our Community Services Department, we are seeking someone for 2-3 hours per week to support the team with filing, some phone calls and basic office tasks. Ideally some previous experience in admin role.

Qualified Volunteer Reflexologists

2-3 hours per week. We are looking for one reflexologist in Newry and one in Dungannon. Must be qualified to Level 4 in reflexology.

If you, or someone you know, may be interested, we would love to hear from you. Contact details at the bottom of this page.

Policy Documents

To help reduce paper use, all relevant policy documents are now available on our website. These include the Volunteer Policy, Privacy Policy, and the Safeguarding Booklet for Volunteers. You can view these documents at: <https://evorahospice.org/volunteering> (scroll to the bottom of the page).

Stay Connected

If you've changed your address, phone number, or email recently (or just set up an email account), please let us know.

Keeping your details current means we can keep you in the loop with all the latest news and activities. You'll find our contact details below.

Contact
us

☎ Main Reception - 028 3026 7711

☎ Voluntary Services Calls - 07436 800438

💬 Voluntary Services Texts - 079843 86827

✉ Email- vs@evorahospice.org

Visit our website:
www.evorahospice.org

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