

SCCCC

Registered Charity No. 1168077

Background to the Organisation

SCCCC is a local charity that co-ordinates a broad range of services, largely provided by its staff and city-wide team of volunteers, giving older people and their families a helping hand when they need it most.

The type of help offered by SCCCC is varied but always targeted. In many cases, the support of SCCCC ensures that older people are able to leave hospital sooner. SCCCC volunteers very often provide a lifeline to isolated older people who may have nobody else to turn to for practical or friendly support.

SCCCC thrives on its strong links with the community and enjoys a unique position in the city, working in partnership with the statutory and voluntary sector, whilst being supported by the churches and other faith based groups.

Our main funding contract comes through Sheffield City Council for the provision of the schemes listed. We also rely on donations from individuals, churches and other organisations and fundraising events.

SCCCC is a multi-award winning charity and has been honoured with The Queens Award for Voluntary Service, the highest honour for a volunteer organisation in the UK, carrying the equivalent status of an MBE.

SCCCC has three main schemes:

- The Good Neighbour Scheme (including Friendly Visiting)
- The Hospital to Home Scheme
- The Accident and Emergency to Home Scheme

These schemes support older people wherever they need us - in hospital, during discharge from hospital and in their own homes. At a time when there is so much concern about the ageing population and the economic crisis, SCCCC is still at the frontline, listening and responding practically to what people tell us they need.

- **The Good Neighbour Scheme**

Many of the older people that SCCCC helps when they come home from hospital are then supported by the Good Neighbour Scheme. This scheme will find a "friendly visitor": a volunteer who will call for a chat on a regular basis. Volunteers help the scheme both as visitors and by offering to help in an emergency. This can mean shopping for someone who suddenly can't get to the shops or perhaps sitting with someone who is housebound whilst their husband or wife goes to an urgent hospital appointment. SCCCC has around 100 active volunteers visiting elderly people on a regular basis.

- **The Hospital to Home Scheme**

SCCCC's Hospital After Care Scheme serves the Royal Hallamshire, Northern General and Weston Park Hospitals and deals with over 150 cases every month. We make sure that each of these cases reaches a satisfactory conclusion for the patient and their carers. Staff and volunteers can be called on to carry out a wide range of tasks: shopping for a patient who is being discharged, fitting a temporary key safe to enable carers to access the patient's home, bringing a patient's belongings into hospital or delivering small pieces of equipment to the patients' homes. It is obvious that this practical and responsive way of working with patients is very useful to all our colleagues in the hospitals. Our services continue to be well regarded by everyone who uses them.

Some referrals are simple and easily fixed, but many more are quite complex. The scheme coordinators take a detailed history, noting when the patient has a disabling injury, altered mobility or a sensory impairment. Some of those referred are living with a serious illness. Many find themselves alone, unsupported and uncared for. These days the help we provide to the patient also helps relatives and friends who are part of the unpaid multitude of people who devote themselves to caring for a loved one, often to the detriment of their own health and wellbeing.

- **The Accident & Emergency to Home Scheme**

Sometimes people are taken into A&E but are unable to get home again without some support. In these cases, SCCC has a bank of volunteers who are able to go to the A&E department, collect the patient, take them home and settle them back in. Our volunteer can transform the upset of a visit to hospital to an opportunity for a cup of tea and some friendly reassurance.

Please see our website for further information: www.scccc.co.uk