



Rehabilitation Support Worker

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Rehabilitation Support Worker role. We recognise that a job description cannot give you all of the information you may wish to know and so this document aims to give you some background information about Sight Support Derbyshire and about the work we do.

About Sight Support Derbyshire (SSD)

Sight Support Derbyshire is the only Derbyshire based sight loss charity, providing a range of services to visually impaired people. As well as our own services, we provide services on contract to Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group and to the County Council. Our skilled and experienced staff and volunteers pride themselves on the high quality services that we have provided for over 100 years throughout Derbyshire. Over this time, we have learned a lot about the needs of people living with sight loss and how services help in reducing isolation and promoting independence.

SSD is a Registered Charity and we rely on fundraising for over half of our total income. We have a dedicated fundraising team and work with individuals as well as local and national groups to raise our money.

We are a small, friendly, team of twenty staff working from our main office in Derby, our sub-office in Chesterfield and in the two main hospitals in Derby and Chesterfield. The majority of our staff had not worked with people with sight loss before starting work with us, they learned from training and from doing the work. The most important skill to bring to our direct services is to be outgoing and good with people – we can teach you the more technical knowledge you'll need to know.

About our Rehabilitation Support Services

Sight loss is more common than you may think. Every day, 250 people in the UK begin to lose their sight. Age is a factor: 1 in 5 people aged 75 years and over, and 1 in 2 aged 90 years and over are living with sight loss. However, it can affect people of all ages and can be caused by a number of factors, such as a progressive eye condition, a head injury, or another medical condition such as a stroke or diabetes.

There are estimated to be around 35,590 people in Derbyshire County and Derby City who experience significant sight loss. Approximately 4,730 of these people are living with severe sight loss (blindness).

Here at Sight Support Derbyshire we work with people from the point of diagnosis and through their sight loss journey. We are able to offer support and advice to the

person with sight loss, to their family and friends and to professionals who may work with them.

"I am so grateful for the support that Sight Support Derbyshire has given me. When the doctor told me that there was nothing more they could do, and I'd carry on losing vision, I thought my life was over. Sight Support Derbyshire has shown me that I can still do a lot of the things I love doing, I just have to learn a new way of achieving my goals. I can't thank their staff enough."

Service user

A key part of our service offer is through rehabilitation support. This involves visiting people in their own home, finding out the things they are struggling with and then offering suitable support. That support may be a piece of specialist equipment, help with the layout of their kitchen, providing magnifiers or referring on to other agencies that can help.

As a Rehabilitation Support Worker, no two days at work are the same. You may be in the office answering calls and taking referrals; you may be out on the road visiting people in their own homes; you may be helping out at an information day somewhere in Derbyshire; or you may be at a staff training session, learning about some new equipment. Whatever you're doing you can be assured that you are part of a committed team and that other staff and volunteers will be there to help and support you in your work.

What next?

If you're still reading and are still interested, then have a look at the full job description and person specification and complete the application form and get it back to us by the closing date. We'd love to hear from you.

Kind regards

Sight Support Derbyshire