

Volunteer Role Description

Four Square is a dedicated Edinburgh charity committed to supporting individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Through the Edinburgh Furniture Initiative (EFI), we generate essential funding that enables us to provide vital support while also making a positive environmental impact by diverting 28 000 items from landfill each year. Across the organisation, we proudly offer over 4,000 volunteer hours annually, with a range of rewarding opportunities available within EFI.

Volunteer role: East Edinburgh site - Female volunteers only (Occupational Requirement)

Commitment: Flexible

Supported by: Volunteering Officer and Four Square Services Team

Role purpose: The purpose of this role is to help maintain the outdoor spaces at one of our residential buildings, creating a welcoming and peaceful environment for residents and visitors. This includes gardening, weeding, tidying, and light outdoor maintenance to support the wellbeing of those accessing our homelessness services. You do not have to be an experienced gardener, an interest in gardening and a willingness to learn are the only requirements.

Key Responsibilities

- Weed and tidy garden areas and pathways.
- Plant and maintain flowers, shrubs, or vegetables (optional/seasonal).
- Keep outdoor spaces clean, safe, and inviting.
- Support with light maintenance such as sweeping, litter picking, and watering.
- Report any hazards or issues to staff.
- Engage respectfully with residents and staff when on site.

Essential Qualities

We're looking for volunteers who:

- Enjoy working outdoors in all seasons.
- Are physically able to carry out light gardening tasks.
- Work well independently and take initiative.
- Are reliable and punctual.
- Have a positive attitude and respect for others.
- Are passionate about creating welcoming spaces.

Commitment & Expectations

We ask volunteers to commit to a six-month period of volunteering to ensure consistency and support within the service. Volunteers are expected to attend their assigned shifts and provide at least two weeks' notice if they are unable to attend. In cases of illness, we appreciate 24+ hours' notice whenever possible.

Volunteers should be willing to follow Four Square's policies, make use of support systems, and actively engage in tasks and ongoing training.

Support & Training

There will be an induction to familiarise you with the organisation, role and environment. You will be supported by the Volunteer Officer and will have regular reviews to ensure you are comfortable in the role.

What's in it for you?

- Enhance your CV and receive written references (after 3 months).
- Enjoy the therapeutic benefits of gardening and outdoor work.
- Help create a welcoming space for people in our services.
- Give back to the community in a meaningful way.

If you are passionate about making a difference and enjoy working outdoors, we'd love to hear from you!

How to apply:

For more information or to express your interest, please contact fundraising@foursquare.org.uk