



Volunteer Cuddler Service Description

Supervisor: Charge Nurse

Title: Brigid's Path Volunteer Cuddler

General Summary: The volunteer cuddler position is to assist the nursing staff to enable the nurses to focus more directly with patient clinical care. Volunteers will be expected to assist with the therapeutic handling aspect of baby care such as holding, cuddling, and soothing. They also provide a welcoming environment for families and visitors.

❖ Qualifications

- Age 18 and older
- Ability to relate easily to babies, families and staff
- Love of babies
- Calm attitude, polite and dependable
- Maintain confidentiality of children, families and staff
- Remain patient and non-judgmental
- Ability to process information accurately, work with the public, possess excellent communication and listening skills
- Be able to walk and carry unassisted
- Be able to bend down and pick up 10-15 lbs
- Assist with laundry
- Good health and cleanliness is essential
- Willingness to be flexible and assist in a variety of capacities
- The volunteer cuddler will commit to provide at least 100 hours per year of service.
- Be in compliance with all requirements and guidelines of Brigid's Path, and role specific orientation training. Abide by the Brigid's Path volunteer code of ethics and dress code.

❖ **Service Activities**

- Receives report and delegation from nursing staff assigned to baby.
- Provide companionship and comfort to babies.
- Assist by bottle feeding babies after Bottle Feed Training as delegated by nursing staff.
- Communicates with nursing staff and other volunteers to optimize care of babies.
- Be welcoming to families and visitors during their time at Brigid's Path.
- Maintain environmental cleanliness and safety of babies' patient rooms, unit and equipment.
- Assist in creating the ideal baby healing experience by being respectful and compassionate with each family, which will support moms and caregivers in bonding with the baby.
- Report babies and families' concerns to the nursing staff.
- Always follow proper handwashing techniques and isolation procedures.

❖ **Activities Volunteer Cuddlers do not do:**

- Diaper changes
- Bathing
- Sterile or non-sterile procedures
- Complete clinical only Finnegan scoring
- Phone physician or take/transcribe physician orders
- Administer medications
- Perform any type of test
- Dressing changes/apply dressings
- Perform patient teaching to family
- Provide a Nursing report (hand-off)
- Participate in emergency situations
- Suctioning
- Counsel families

**If any action is performed out of volunteer cuddler's scope,
dismissal will occur immediately.**

Volunteer Signature: _____

Date: _____