Arun Volunteer Centre

CASE STUDY 1

May 2010

Maureen Jenkins

Home Visitor for 4Sight

Maureen retired 2 years ago, after working as a nurse consultant. She had helped with the charity Allergy UK for about 10 years, sitting on their board.

Maureen first became interested in helping with 4sight after her experience with her eldest son who lost his sight at the age of 18. She started volunteering for 4sight 2 years ago, and now helps with a range of activities. 4sight is a national charity which helps anyone who is partially sighted or blind.

4sight gives people an assessment with a support officer to see what support they need, gives information to people, and runs support clubs. They also run eye clinics at the local hospital and provide audio books.

Maureen started helping at 4sight fundraising events, and then became a home visitor. As a home visitor, she helps blind or partially sighted people in their own homes by talking with them, taking them on outings or to clubs, and generally assisting with their needs.

Maureen was later asked to help to train other home visitors, and the organisation has had an encouraging growth in new volunteers in the past year, although they could always do with more people to help with driving people to clubs. She also gives some assistance to the volunteer co-ordinator by contacting members and matching up volunteers with members.

Maureen said that she enjoys volunteering because she finds it interesting to work with people from all walks of life, likes to see the pleasure it can bring to isolated people, and likes feeling useful now that she is retired.

CONTACT

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