**Benefice of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle**

**Anna Chaplain to Older People (P/T 8hrs per week)**

The Anna Chaplaincy is a post promoting the spiritual welfare of older people. It is a pioneering role offering spiritual support to Older people, especially, though not exclusively, to those living in residential and nursing homes and to their relatives and the people who care for them.

The Anna Chaplain also has a wider role within the community as an advocate, and champion of the contribution older people make to society. This is an opportunity to draw alongside people of strong, little or no faith, and in encouraging the wider church to celebrate and cherish older members of their congregations.

The applicant would be part of a growing network of such chaplains, developing links with our national partners, the Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF), through the Gift of Years - “resourcing the spiritual journey of older people.”

*It is an occupational requirement for the person appointed to be a professing and practicing Christian (Equality Act 2010).*

Applicants should be ordained or a recognised/accredited lay minister in a church affiliated to the Council of Churches in England and Wales.

The role is a part-time one of 8 hours per week. Enhanced DBS and reference will be required.

To apply, please send a copy of your CV accompanied by a short letter telling us why you would like to be considered for this post to: Hannah Dubreuil, St Mary’s church, Church Lane, Bentley, GU10 5NA or alternatively, email these to: admin@benbinfro.org

Closing date for applications is Monday 7th January 11th, 2019.

Shortlisting - Tuesday 8th January 2019.

Interviews to be held Friday 11th January 2019.

**Job Description**

**Job Title: Anna Chaplain**

**Purpose**

To offer spiritual support, working with the Benefice of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle, to older people primarily, but not exclusively, living in care homes in the Benefice - Pax Hill and Bentley Lodge; their relatives and the staff who look after them. To promote the spiritual welfare of older people in the wider community, particularly those facing the challenges of living independently.

**Main Duties and Responsibilities**

**To older people**

1. To help older people reflect on their spiritual journey, including the healing of memories and to provide pastoral help with outstanding issues.
2. To offer spiritual support so older people can better live peacefully in their later years, and to help them prepare to face the end of their earthly life.
3. To act as an advocate for the needs of older people in the church and the wider community.

**To relatives of older people**

1. To help and support relatives to understand better the spiritual issues older people face in the latter stages of their lives.
2. To help and support relatives with their task of caring for older people in their family.

**To staff working with older people**

1. To help staff understand better the spiritual issues older people face in the latter stages of their life.
2. To offer spiritual support to staff dealing with the demanding, but often rewarding, circumstances that they may encounter in their care of older people.
3. To help staff and managers in the formulation and implementation of the values underlying the care they offer.

**To the churches**

1. To help inform the churches’ work with older people.
2. To help churches identify, use and recognise the contribution that older people can make to church life.
3. To encourage the churches to recognise the changing needs of older people and support the work undertaken with them.
4. To encourage and enable younger generations to consider what constitutes ‘ageing well’ and so prepare for more positive experience in older age.

**Other duties**

1. To collaborate with others within the ministry teams of the Benefice, especially the Pastoral Care team, and occasionally attend relevant Joint PCC meetings when appropriate. To liaise with other Anna chaplains locally and further afield through the Gift of Years’ national network, and others engaged in similar ways of ministering.
2. Ti keep up to date with research into issues relevant to the spirituality of ageing. To attend appropriate training courses for ministerial development and personal spiritual growth.
3. To keep records of work undertaken and to write annual reports. To log data which contributes to evaluation of the impact of such ministry, and use The Gift of Years’ Reflective4 Evaluation Tool to aid theological reflection.
4. To take part in, and contribute to, Benefice worship as and when appropriate.
5. To undertake other duties that may arise in connection with the main purpose of the post.

**Person Specification**

**Job Title: Anna Chaplain**

**Essential**

1. Be an ordained minister or a recognised/accredited lay minister, local preacher or lay church worker in a church affiliated to the Council of Churches in England and Wales.
2. Be a good listener able to engage well with people’s stories.
3. Have a commitment to, and an understanding of the needs of older people in the later stages of their lives and participate in end of life Ministry.
4. Be willing to work ecumenically as a member of a mission and ministry team in the benefice.
5. Be able to work creatively, cultivating a range of liturgical styles suitable for people of different cognitive abilities.
6. Be able to act as a liaison between the older people, their relatives, the Benefice, the management of care homes, and their staff.
7. To be comfortable with being a visible and approachable at voluntary groups for older area.
8. Be able to develop and supervise volunteers working with older peopler.

**Desirable**

1. An understanding of the nature and provision of residential care.
2. Be able to conduct a funeral ministry.
3. Appreciate the role of an advocate, and be willing to engage with the local media.
4. Be ICT literate in order to communicate by email, do research on the Internet and use Word and PowerPoint or their equivalent.
5. Hold a full driving license and be a car owner.

**Summary of terms and conditions**

The post is for a fixed term of three years from the commencement of the appointment. Subject to funding this post may continue beyond the initial three years. There will be a three month probationary period.

Pay: £6,516 which includes a £1,200 housing allowance.

Hours of work: 8 hours per week.

Job location: Bentley, Binsted and Froyle and the surrounding hamlets. The nursing homes are based in Bentley as is the Benefice office. There is flexibility for working from home on occasions.

Holidays: 25 days p.a. pro rata, plus public holidays.