



# MARGARET'S VOLUNTEERING STORY

## What happened?

Margaret volunteers as a Family Hub Champion with Salford CVS, supporting at the Baby Social at Winton every week. Margaret had taken a break from volunteering and work, and felt she wanted to get back into a professional and responsible role. A Worker at the Broughton Trust suggested Margaret came to Salford CVS to look into volunteering.

Margaret made an appointment with the Volunteer Centre at Salford CVS. Salford CVS made the process really straight forward. Her appointment was really casual and informative. She mentioned she'd previously worked with children, and the Family Hub Champion role was suggested, which sounded exactly like what Margaret wanted!

**"When you get good feedback it makes you feel 10 feet tall. It's been very good for my health."**

 **Volunteer Centre**  
Salford



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### What did you do?

Margaret was passed onto the Family Hub Worker and set up as a volunteer. She now volunteers once a week at the Baby Social in Winton. Week to week activities include setting up the room with toys and books for the babies. Once the session starts Margaret and Early Help Workers interact and play with the children and talk to the parents, offering support and advice. Margaret then helps tidy away at the end of the session.

### How has volunteering benefitted you?

Margaret felt before volunteering she'd lost confidence in her abilities due to COVID and personal circumstances. She says she put herself in a box where she'd struggle to get work. Volunteering pushed her beyond her boundaries and opened that box for her. It helped her get out and have a routine, she now does even more volunteering on top of being a Family Hub Champion.

## Support received

INDUCTION

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

DBS

ONGOING SUPPORT FROM ELLA

OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES



## How is it going?

Margaret really enjoys interacting with so many different people, and giving her time freely. She feels that while she is doing a service and giving her time, she gets as much back as she gives. She likes interacting with the children, and parents. She's met so many interesting people and heard their stories.

Margaret said it's so nice that parents come to the group, and they get so much from it. Margaret was able to help a mother access courses at Broughton Trust, and the mother was really grateful.

It gives Margaret a really good feeling to be able to give extra support to a mother to access services.

## Would you recommend it to a friend?

200%! Margaret absolutely loves it. She would encourage everyone to do it, people might not think it's for them or they can't do it, but we all support and talk to others every day without thinking about it, and volunteering helps so many people.

**For more information** about Baby Socials at the Family Hubs, go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/BabySocials>

## MARGARET ON VOLUNTEERING:

"Just do it because you will get so much more out of it than you realise."

