

Friends of the Elderly and Triangle Community Services







About Us

Triangle Community Services

- Friends of the Elderly (FotE) and Triangle Community Services (Triangle) form the Friends of the Elderly Charitable Group
- FotE has been in operation since 1905 and Triangle Community Services was created in 2015
- FotE provide care home services for older people, and own 14 care homes
- Triangle provides care at home services across London, Surrey, Essex, Dorset and Worcestershire
- The charity also provides a number of befriending and volunteer services to support older people and has a grant-giving function









Our Mission

Our Group aspires to a society where all older people are treated with dignity and respect.

We support older people, especially those in need due to physical or mental frailty, isolation or poverty and we do this by providing high-quality caring services, personalised to the needs of the individual and integrated with local communities.







Triangle Community Services



- Launched in 2015 following merger between FotE and TLC
- Focussed on personalisation. We have worked with Helen Sanderson Associates to develop person centred tools where we match service users and staff
- Triangle works across the South East in London,
 Surrey and Essex and we also operate in Malvern and Bournemouth
- Committed to tackling loneliness and isolation. We have launched coffee morning across our locations in order to engage with our local community







Our Volunteers



- A Friends of the Elderly volunteer is somebody who:
- Has an interest in the issues affecting older people
- Believes in our vision
- Is committed to making a difference
- Volunteer opportunities across all of our services, for example supporting our Day Care service users with activities
- Telephone befriending, which is a national scheme
- We are always looking for new volunteers and would be delighted to work with you to raise awareness of our vacancies through your networks







Our Be a Friend campaign

Friends of the Elderly is calling on everyone to *Be a Friend* and help change the future of loneliness.

Loneliness has a devastating impact on the lives of older people and it's on the rise. Over five million older people are affected by loneliness, more than one million say they are often lonely, and this number is predicted to increase 40 per cent by 2030

We are urging everyone to connect with older neighbours and members of their

"With no one to talk to, no one to share my thoughts with, I just feel so alone.

Alone... and scared."





The Campaign so far

Triangle Community Services

- 2822 people have signed up to our Friends Wall to pledge how they will make a difference to lonely older people in their area. This ranges from arranging a tea to popping into a neighbour to ask if they need any shopping
- We have developed a range of resources and guidance to help people to reach out to lonely older people in their communities
- We have run a successful programme with Community Christmas urging people to spend time with older neighbours at Christmas
- We will shortly be celebrating our patron the Queen on the occasion of her 90th Birthday and many people have signed up to run garden parties and events that include older neighbours







Doyin and Yewande's story

Triangle Community Services

Being sisters, we know how lucky we are to have each other, and that we are surrounded by friends, family and colleagues.

Knowing how fortunate we are made us turn our thoughts to older people who might not have anyone to turn to.

We wanted to bring friends and family together in a social setting to learn about supporting older people who are living lonely and isolated lives and how we can all *Be A Friend*.

We're delighted that more than 70 people attended our fundraising event and the whole gathering was a great success. Not only did we raise more than £750 to help fund Friends of the Elderly's befriending services, we also raised awareness of the issue of loneliness.

New friends were made and lots of people left our event thinking about how they can <u>Be a Friend</u> in their own neighbourhood, which is exactly what we were hoping for.





Our Ask

- Sign your organisation up to pledge to combat loneliness
- Make an individual promise about how you will befriend an isolated older person
- Promote the campaign to your clients and customers
- Become a campaign partner
- Train your staff to recognise the signs of loneliness
- Volunteer your time to befriend lonely older people









Questions

 Contact Jessica Stone, Head of Business Development, with any queries, <u>Jessica.Stone@fote.org.uk</u>





