



OTAGO WELFARE GUARDIANSHIP TRUST

PO Box 803, Dunedin 9054. Phone 022 069-4651. Email: wgtotago@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM

Thank you for your interest in applying to be a volunteer Welfare Guardian with the Otago Welfare Guardianship Trust.

Before completing this application form, please read page 3 to ensure you are comfortable with the role you are about to volunteer for. For more information, visit the Otago Welfare Guardianship website at www.welfareguardians.nz or contact the Trusts Co-ordinator at wgtotago@gmail.com or (027)273-8749.

Application Date: _____

Full Name: _____
(Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, Dr) First Names Surname

Address: _____

Phone: Daytime _____ Evening _____
Cell Phone _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Languages Spoken: _____

Ethnicity: _____ Iwi/Island Group if Applicable: _____

Occupation: _____
(If retired please put previous occupation)

Reasons for wanting to be a voluntary Welfare Guardian:

Have you ever been a Welfare Guardian or held an Enduring Power of Attorney? Yes No

If Yes, please briefly describe: _____

The Otago Welfare Guardianship Trust requires all its members to pass a police safety check. Do you consent to having a police safety check? Yes No

(If you are, please complete the attached Police Check Authority Form and include a copy of your ID document verified by one of the specified Trusted Referees.)

Have you attended any relevant training courses or seminars? If so, please state what it was and when you attended:

Do you have access to a computer that will allow you to record your decisions in the Otago Welfare Guardianship Trust's web-based database?

Yes No

Are you willing to undertake initial training, as well as a refresher course each year.

Yes No

(If not, the Trust may be able to offer assistance to access our database)

Please supply the names and contact details of two appropriate people (not family) that we can contact to provide a reference for you.

1. Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Mobile _____

_____ Postcode _____

Email Address _____ Relationship to you: _____

2. Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Mobile _____

_____ Postcode _____

Email Address _____ Relationship to you: _____

I acknowledge with my signature, the right of the Otago Welfare Guardianship Trust to:

1. Contact the referees I have named above;
2. Submit the Police Check authority form to the NZ Police for a safety check;
3. Keep this information on file.
4. I also confirm that I am not a discharged bankrupt or under a Mental Health Order;

Signature _____ Date _____

Please tick and attach Police Check Form and ID Document

Please note: In accordance with the Privacy Act 1993, the contents of this form are confidential to the Otago Welfare Guardianship Trust.



Otago Welfare Guardianship Trust

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Overview

The Otago Welfare Guardianship Trust is a charitable trust established to recruit, approve and train volunteers to apply to be court-appointed Welfare Guardians for persons who have been assessed as being unable to make, or communicate decisions relating to their welfare. Common reasons that a Welfare Guardian (WG) is appointed are because the Subject Person has dementia or long-term brain damage.

Approved volunteers are required when the subject person lacks any suitable local relatives or friends willing to apply to become their WG.

The WG is appointed by the court and works in consultation with as far as practical the Subject Person, relevant professionals or competent individuals involved in the care of that person.

Welfare Guardians have **no authority** over the property or assets of the person they are appointed for, their powers are legally limited to care and welfare decisions.

Once appointed by the Family Court, the WG is the only person legally able to make decisions about the day-to-day care and welfare of their Subject Person. These may include decisions about non-urgent medical treatments, accommodation and any day-to-day matters that the person would normally make for themselves but, who the Court have ruled, lack the capacity to do so.

The Trust consists of a Board who bring various fields of expertise in social work, aged care representation, family court processes and health and disability issues. They will train and support volunteers.

Criteria for becoming a Welfare Guardian:

The applicant must be Aged 20 or older and capable of carrying out a welfare guardian's duties, they must act in the Subject person's best interests, have no conflict of interest and provide a written consent to their appointment. Suggested aptitudes include: empathy, honesty competent verbal and written communication, computer literacy/access to email, own means of transport preferable, physically active, availability sometimes at short notice

Thereafter, a volunteer application form is to be submitted to wgtotago@gmail.com (or posted) including two referees. As part of the selection process there is an interview with members of the trust and a clear NZ Police check before approval.

Approved Volunteers will undergo training to ensure the legislative and practical requirements of guardianship are fulfilled. Volunteers will be fully supported by the Trust members and ongoing refresher training will be provided. Training will be tailored to the needs of particular volunteers, depending on their past experience and will cover the essential legal and medical information needed to perform the task. Training will be held at a mutually accepted time and location.

Trustee members will match volunteers with applicant's requests for a WG.

The extent of involvement will vary according to the needs of the Subject Person. It is likely that on first being appointed there may be a higher commitment (fulfilling the needs that were identified when asking for a Welfare Guardian).

This is a 3 year appointment, that may have periods where no assistance is required by the Subject Person, however the commencement period is likely to be more intense in terms of a time commitment.

Further Information

Please refer to the website for additional information <http://welfareguardians.nz>.

If you have any questions or would like to become a trained volunteer please contact us by email at wgtotago@gmail.com or by phone on 022 069-4651.

Form created January 2020