

# Pears iwill peers – tips for engaging stakeholders

## Engaging with the Board, executives and Governors – try...

- **Volunteering award to recognise achievements** that volunteers have made
- **Concise reporting** using a mixture of narratives and infographics (e.g. Venngage, Piktochart)

## Engaging with hospital staff – try...

- **Running regular sessions during the corporate inductions** for new Trust members, outlining the benefits that young volunteers can bring to the Trust.
- **Including young volunteer in staff inductions.**
- Providing **opportunities for feedback** and listen to any arising concerns.
- **Mixing 25+ volunteers with younger volunteers.** For example, allocate pairs between younger volunteers and 25+ volunteers.
- **Laminated posters of the jobs that volunteers can do;** create a sign in sheet for volunteers on the ward
- **'Top 10 Tips'** list for the ward and outpatient areas.
- **Creating roles for ward staff to supervise a young volunteer** and to work with Peer Support Volunteers when a new volunteer joins the ward.
- **Running briefings for ward staff** so they know who to contact about volunteering support and what volunteer roles do/don't include.
- **Weekly emails from the volunteer manager** to ward staff with updates about the volunteering and the opportunity to give feedback.
- **Working closely with the patient experience team** – they are likely to have useful data to inform volunteering opportunities
- **Promoting positive examples of volunteering on hospital wards.** If staff see how well it can work on other wards then are more likely to become involved.
- **A recognition programme** for staff members who have been engaged with young volunteers.

## Engaging your local community – try...

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- **Identifying local education establishments** and community projects – start focused and small and then build up.
- **Asking young volunteers to accompany the Voluntary services manager** to meetings about how the Trust interacts with the local community.