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My Guide

The My Guide pilot is a collaborative project between Guide Dogs and local organisations, supporting blind and partially sighted people who may not have the confidence or support to get out and about. Through short term guiding partnerships it enables individuals to become more mobile, confident and engaged in their communities.

The Collaboration

Guide Dogs provides support and training to local organisations who deliver the programme day-to-day.

The Programme

A trained volunteer guides a service user for a few hours a week for 3-6 months. They agree aims and activities in advance, for example, attending social or leisure events. During their time together the My Guide volunteer and service user identify support which can be put in place at the end of the partnership, such as other local services or friends and family members who could be trained in sighted guiding.

An example

Jane lives in the countryside and has almost complete sight loss. She was matched with a My Guide volunteer who guided her to her local town twice a week, helping to familiarise her with the shops and cafes and the people who worked in them. Along with her volunteer, Jane attended a new social club. As a result of the partnership, Jane is now far more independent and fulfilled. With the support of the people she got to know, she now goes out regularly and has recently joined her local gym.

Contact

For more information on how to get involved, please call the My Guide Team on 0118 9838187 or email myguide@guidedogs.org.uk

For more information about the project see our website http://www.guidedogs.org.uk/services/my-guide/ or My Guide Blank Vol Leaflet



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