



#proudtocare

Change your life | **Change their life**

Working as a home carer puts you at the centre of improving people's lives and provides you with a wealth of opportunities.



Change your life

We are looking for talented, compassionate, people to join our care teams and provide help to those who need it. By becoming a home carer you could transform someone's life, as well as your own. Anyone can work in the care sector, regardless of age or gender, and there are lots of great opportunities to further your career.

Opportunity to gain professional qualifications

There are lots of opportunities for people who work in the care sector. Take **William, Caroline** and **Stephanie** for example: all three work as home carers and have gone on to gain their SVQ certificates whilst at work.

When **William** applied to be a home carer he had no previous experience of working in a care environment, but he was drawn to the role by the variety that it was able to offer him.

It wasn't until he attended an interview that he discovered the range of opportunities, training and diversity that a career in care could offer. He got offered the job, and happily accepted, before going on to tell his friend Caroline all about his new career.

Caroline quickly realised that this was exactly the challenge she was looking for and also applied for a position. Both have been working as carers for a number of years and haven't looked back since.

Stephanie's story is slightly different, but again highlights the diversity of working as a home carer. Stephanie had family and friends who were carers and she recognised the sense of reward and achievement it gave them. She was looking for a job whilst at college and thought that working in care would be perfect.



Jade used her experience as a carer to learn new skills

"I started working as a home carer in 2013 to gain skills and experience of working in a caring environment. It was a job I'd never thought about doing before and I didn't quite realise the level of responsibility involved. With training and support from my manager at the time, my knowledge and confidence grew and I quickly realised that this was a role that came naturally to me."

"It suited me because I could work independently and the hours could be flexible. It also helped me during my application to the police because I was gaining essential skills required for moving forward. You have to learn to quickly adapt to the different environments and this is something I use every day now as a police officer."

The benefits of working in the care sector

- Flexible hours to suit you
- Work independently
- Regular training and the opportunity to gain professional qualifications
- Learning experiences that can set you on the right path for a number of other professions

Change their life

Home carers have a huge impact on the lives of the people they look after and their families. Many of those who receive care are unable to leave their own home and quite often the only person they see all day is their home carer. Simply having a chat with a friendly face is enough to make a positive difference to both their physical and mental wellbeing and helps provide them with a vital lifeline.



Having a home carer changed Bill's life

Bill was only 52 when he suffered a stroke and started receiving home care.

"I can't emphasise the difference having a carer has made," he said. "I'd always been very active but my stroke left me weak down one side and I suddenly found myself struggling with everyday tasks. I convinced myself I'd have to go into a care home and this had a huge impact on my mental health - I was too young."

"My doctor referred me for home care and this changed my life. John, my carer, is like a brother to me. My family don't live locally so quite often John's the only person I see all day. He helps get me out of bed every morning, makes my meals, and helps me do the housework. I really look forward to his visits - I don't think carers quite realise the difference they make to people's lives. I for one am truly grateful."

Carers gave Roslyn peace of mind

When Roslyn's mum became unwell and developed dementia, looking after her was difficult.

"I work full-time so I found it really hard trying to balance my work life with making sure my mum was okay," she said. "That's when I decided to look into the possibility of a home carer. I wasn't sure at first. I felt a sense of responsibility, like I should be looking after her myself, but it just wasn't physically possible with trying to hold down a job at the same time. I knew it was the best thing to do for my mum but I was still a bit apprehensive. I needn't have worried though - the home carers were an absolute godsend. They created a bespoke plan for my mum, and the carers that visited her on a daily basis catered for her every need."

"They treated my mum like she was their own, and it gave me a great peace of mind knowing that she was being looked after while I was at work. To the home carers it might feel like they're just doing their job, but to me and my mum they had a massive impact on our lives and I am eternally grateful to the whole team."



We provide homecare services across Argyll and Bute. To find out about opportunities in your area, please find our contact details below. We will be pleased to hear from you!

If you would like to register interest in working in care, please visit:

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/careathome

Telephone 01546 605517

If you would like more information about opportunities in particular areas, please use the following contact details:

Cowalcommissioning@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Butecommissioning@argyll-bute.gov.uk

HLCommissioning@argyll-bute.gov.uk (*Helensburgh and Lomond*)

ObanCommissioning@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Kintyre-Commission@argyll-bute.gov.uk

MidArgyll-Commission@argyll-bute.gov.uk

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