

Support work in REACH... What's that?



What's your job really like?

"I work in someone else's home"

"Oh, doing what?"

"I help people do the things they want to do, at home and out and about, in a way that keeps them safe and well."

"What time do you start?"

"If I'm on an early shift, it can be as early as 7.00 in the morning. If I'm on a late shift, around 2.30 in the afternoon."

"When do you get home?"

"If I'm on an early, about 3.00 pm, if I'm on a late sometimes I don't; I do a sleep in."

"What's a sleep in?"

"You sleep in the person's house. A room is provided for you to sleep in and you are there in case anyone has anyone problems. You get paid for each night that you sleep in."

"What about weekends, do you have to work them?"

"Yes I work some, but I get days off during the week instead."

"This stuff you help people with, what's that then?"

"Depends, could be anything from personal hygiene in the bathroom to helping people get their dinner."

"Oh, care work you mean."

"Might be, or then again could be supporting someone when they're planning a holiday or getting engaged."

“Sounds exciting.”

“It can be, but it has to be done properly, because you could be helping someone to take the right medicines at the right time or manage their money, and keeping accurate records of important stuff.”

“What else do you have to do?”

“Treat people with dignity and respect.”

“What, talk to them as equals?”

“Better still, listen to them as equals.”

“Some of them have got a tale to tell, I bet!”

“Respect their confidentiality and if they’ve got a complaint, take it seriously.”

“Anything else they need “

“Great lives!”

“Is the work full or part time?”

“The jobs can be either....Their lives are full time!”