Volunteer Barber/Hairdresser at The Elms

About DENS:

Most people know DENS as the homeless charity for people in Dacorum. In fact, DENS does so much more than just provide a roof and a bed. Our aim is to be the first port of call for local people who are facing homelessness, poverty and social exclusion; to support and empower them to take the next positive step in their lives.

About The Elms:

The Elms, our 44-bed hostel provides emergency and short-term accommodation for single homeless adults who have a local connection. Residents are allocated a Key Worker who supports them with their specific issues, as well as providing basic life and employment skills and supporting them to identify more long-term accommodation. Many residents improve their confidence, self-esteem and communication skills whilst at The Elms.

About the opportunity:

We're looking for a reliable barber/hairdresser who would be willing to come to The Elms approximately every six to eight weeks to cut our residents' hair.

We are flexible on timings, but we would prefer someone to come in on a weekday daytime or a weekend for at least an hour. We are unsure how many residents would require your services, but we will advise on the numbers closer to the time.

Most of our residents are men, so you must be confident cutting men's hair, either wet or dry. There may also be some women who would like to have their hair cut too.

What you will be doing:

- Attending The Elms approx. every 6-8 weeks for at least an hour to cut residents' hair
- You must bring all your own equipment - all electrical items must be PAT tested prior to your visit
- Maintaining a professional and respectful working relationship with everyone you interact with

What you will gain:

- The satisfaction of using your existing skills to make a real difference to people
- New friendships and a sense of belonging in a caring team
- Additional interpersonal skills and communication

Person Specification:

		Essential	Desirable
Be over the age of 25 (for insurance purposes)		X	
Be confident in cutting men and women's hair, wet and dry		X	
Be a welcoming, friendly face to all residents, staff and visitors		X	
Be discreet, empathetic, and considerate		X	
Be aware of the need for confidentiality, relating to both residents and the charity		X	
Be supportive of the work of DENS paid staff		X	
Be willing to undertake an enhanced DBS check		X	
Be willing to follow Standard DENS policies and procedures		X	
Be aware of, and comply with, DENS no alcohol or drugs policy		X	
Be reliable and committed		X	
Be an ambassador for DENS in the community		X	
Be able to maintain professional boundaries with residents		X	
Be able to work individually, but ask for help when needed		X	
Have good communication and interpersonal skills		X	

Please contact volunteering@dens.org.uk for further information on how to apply.