

Thank you for considering The Infants' Home (TIH) as a place to volunteer.

Our Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) centres operate Monday to Friday, from 7am to 6pm. Most days there are around 300 children being cared for on-site. Volunteering at TIH provides a great team building activity for you, and helps keep our grounds and centres in top shape! It's also a chance for your team to see, first hand, the work we do to give each child every opportunity.

We are located at 17 Henry Street, Ashfield. Wednesday is our scheduled volunteer day. Sometimes we also need help on other week days or Saturdays, depending on The Infants' Home's annual calendar of events, or for fundraising BBQs at Bunnings Ashfield.

## WHAT'S INVOLVED?

Volunteering at TIH usually involves a mix of physical indoor and outdoor activities to help maintain and support our operations. We have 10 playgrounds, 5 day care centres and extensive gardens that require regular maintenance as well as a schedule of annual events and regular staff/fundraising BBQs etc. We appreciate your help!

**SAMPLE TASKS:** gardening, leaf-blowing, washing toys, cleaning out sheds, painting, constructing shelving, mowing lawns, covering books in contact, helping set up/pack up for events, cooking and serving BBQs, craft, administration etc.

## ON THE DAY

- **Arrive**/park by 8.50am for a 9.00am start, **Finish** between 3pm and 3.30pm
- Breaks: Morning tea (provided) 11-11.30am, Lunch (DIY or catered) 1-1.45pm
- Minimum group size is 5, maximum group size: 15

## WHAT TO WEAR / BRING

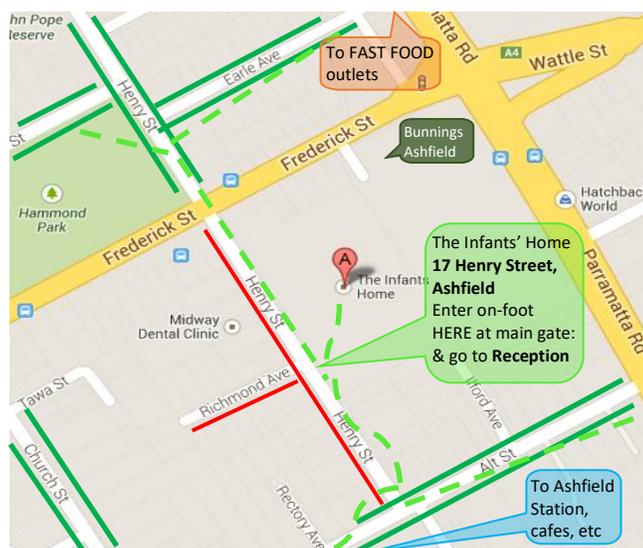
- Clothes for outdoor/gardening work: closed toed, comfortable shoes; hat and sunglasses
- Corporate t-shirt or hat if available (volunteers must be clearly identified for child protection reasons)
- We ask that volunteers bring their own water bottles and some sunscreen

## FOOD

- The Infants' Home provide complimentary tea, coffee and morning tea
- For lunch: there are local take away outlets (Subway, KFC, Nandos, McDonalds) as well as cafes etc in Ashfield
- TIH can order at tray of sandwiches at a cost of \$12/pp. This must be arranged and paid for prior to the day.

## TRANSPORT: PARKING AND ENTRY

- Please park on **Alt Street, Earl Avenue** and other surrounding streets (see map)
- **Avoid parking on Henry Street, Richmond Avenue, & the TIH car park:** please keep free for parent pick-ups/drop-offs.
- **Train and bus:** TIH is a 15 minute from Ashfield Station and close to local bus stops. Please see 131500.com.au



**—** Park on **Alt Street, Earl Avenue** and others marked in green (all a short walk away)

**- - -** Walk to the main entry gate and proceed to Reception

**—** **Avoid parking on Henry Street or Richmond Avenue and please don't park in TIH's car park:** (these are priority spots for meeting guests, delivery vehicles and **parents**, as children under 5 must be escorted in to day care, ie parents must park and walk their child in)

For further information please call:  
Ondria Portelli on 8719 5012

## About The Infants' Home

**Our mission** is to provide 'each child every opportunity' in early childhood to develop their abilities to meet life's challenges and opportunities and to reach their unique potential –regardless of circumstance.

The Infants' Home (TIH) is the largest provider of integrated early childhood services in NSW, and is nationally recognised for excellence\*. Operating for over 142 years, TIH currently provides integrated early childhood education and care, early intervention and clinical health support services to over 2,600 children (from birth to school age) and their families each year. 30% of our onsite services are targeted to support children at risk, including from neglect, domestic violence, economic hardship, physical disability, mental health challenges, relationship breakdown, complex nutritional needs and other vulnerabilities.

The Infants' Home is a proven agent of positive social change. By integrating services we address complex issues in a coordinated manner to improve long-term educational and social outcomes for both children and families. Our service is unique in NSW.

TIH's service delivery model is evidence-based and grounded in contemporary research and best practice to respond to the changing needs of children, their families and our communities, and is comprised of:

- Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) – Early Learning Centres and Family Day Care
- Early Intervention (Therapy services, family support, playgroups and parent education)
- Specialist health services (GP clinic, Allied health clinics, postnatal early childhood health clinics)

Our Family Day Care Sydney Wide network provides services for families from Pittwater and Mosman in the north to Hurstville and St George in the south, Randwick and south Sydney in the east and many suburbs of Sydney's Inner West.

\*In 2016 TIH won the Excellence in Building Inclusion award at the HESTA Early Childhood Education and Care Awards, in recognition of our innovation to promote and embed inclusion across the organisation.

## Over 140 years of helping Children and Families

The Infants' Home began as a rescue operation for abandoned babies in 1874. Our early operations encompassed an orphanage, kindergarten and a women's shelter.

Since our inception over 140 years ago we have challenged conventional wisdom to protect children at risk and strengthen families living with vulnerabilities, so they can break the cycles of hardship, fear and hopelessness that affects so many lives. We were one of the first in New South Wales to pioneer a range of care options to meet the needs of young children and their families.

Over time, we have supported more than 190,000 children and families to build new futures for themselves. We have achieved this by providing physical and emotional environments that are socially just and equitable, free of any stigma, and that value the rights of children and families.

Our integrated service delivery model has been widely researched and is compared favorably with other international models as discussed in "The Art of Integration" reports, published 2012, 2013 and 2016 by Charles Sturt University. We focus on empowerment and building resilience.