

# Volunteer Services: Falls Prevention for patients, residents and visitors

**As a volunteer for to St. Joseph's, you can help us ensure the safety for our patients, residents and visitors and reduce the risk of falls.**

## Notify staff if you find any of the following

- A spill that requires clean up
- A light that is not working
- Or if you notice anything else that may cause a person to slip, trip or fall.



## Outpatient/Ambulatory/Visitor areas

- Please try to use the shortest (most direct) route when helping a person with finding their way.
- Provide a wheelchair, if one is requested.
- Ask staff for help if you are worried about a person's safety (call Security at ext. 44555, if you are unsure).

## Inpatient/Resident areas

- Visit the nursing station and ask the staff if there is anything you need to know about the patient/resident before taking them off the unit.
- If you notice cords, or furniture that limit movement or are in the way please ask staff for help.
- If the patient/resident has a sign outside of their room or at their bedside with the falls symbol, this means the patient/resident is at high risk for falls. Always request staffs help to get the person up, if they are not already up and ready to go.

## What to do if you witness a fall or find someone who has fallen

- Do not attempt to help the person up, they may be injured and must be assessed before being moved.
- Call for help
  - Alert a staff member if one is present or
  - Call Security at ext. 55555 and let them know what happened and where to find you.

CARING FOR THE BODY, MIND & SPIRIT SINCE 1869

Renowned for compassionate care, St. Joseph's is one of the best academic health care organizations in Canada dedicated to helping people live to their fullest by minimizing the effects of injury, disease and disability through excellence in care, teaching and research.



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