



Martine Kahwa

Branch Manager - Stourbridge

**Hello, my name is Martine,
Branch Manager for Stourbridge.**

About me

I am a mother to three children and two step children. I am married and enjoy spending quality time with my family and making lasting memories. I do enjoy floristry in my spare time and you will often find me creating arrangements and utilising any objects that I can. I like to walk and spend time walking along the local canal, especially in the summer months, with a picnic. I love being involved with community activities and over the last two years have had the privilege of being a volunteer for the charity Re-engage. This involves having group parties to my home and welcoming them with a lovely afternoon tea. I get so much enjoyment from this and listening to all of their stories of their past lives and present, even whilst they have me constantly at the kettle and getting through 12 pots of tea in two hours!

My experience and expertise

I've got personal experience in care when I assisted with the care on a daily basis for both my grandparents. My gran lived with Alzheimer's and grandad with vascular dementia and Parkinson's. I realised the importance of having the correct support network around both of my grandparents to enable them to remain at home together and be fulfilled with life. I do realise from this how daunting and overwhelming this can be, as well as some people not knowing what services are available and how best to support loved ones.

My professional career began 11 years ago when I joined the Helping Hands family. I started my journey as an hourly carer, then progressed to become a medication practitioner. After years with the Redditch and Bromsgrove branch, I transferred to Stourbridge to become a care and training practitioner and quickly progressed to a care coordinator. Having had years of hands-on experience and personal development, I felt that the time was right to engage as the branch manager role. It is my personal goal to ensure that all of our customers receive the care that they need whilst ensuring that we support them with their beliefs, values and expectations.

Why I chose Helping Hands

I decided to join Helping Hands because of their impeccable reputation within the care sector. I believe that as a company they achieve remarkable results with a person-centred approach to enable customers to remain safely in their own homes. I am proud to be part of such an amazing organisation who not only focus on their customers, but their carers, too. I am looking forward to continuing supporting customers in the community.