



**Samantha Atkins**  
**Regional Clinical Lead - Central**

## Meet Samantha, Regional Clinical Lead for the central area

### About me

“I have been with Helping Hands for some time and love the work we do. Enabling customers to stay in their own home with tailored care to suit their individual needs is incredibly important to me. Currently, I’m looking at writing a book specifically around single carer manual handling.”

### Career Pathway and Professional Development

My first nursing role was in 2008 as a staff nurse in intermediate care services, as part of a multi-disciplinary team which included nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, psychologists, dieticians, speech and language therapists and carers. I was based in a rehabilitation unit where patients were often admitted to facilitate early hospital discharge and in the community working to prevent hospital admission.

In 2009, I began to do some work with a training company providing training to both care workers and student nurses on a range of subjects including manual handling, safeguarding, infection control, health & safety and palliative care. I later moved to a role in a GP out of hour’s service in 2010, primarily working with a team of nurses triaging patients in order to direct them to the most appropriate service.

In 2012 I moved back into community care, supporting people who required wound care, palliative care and care related to long-term conditions. I later made the move to the private sector and a nursing home as a senior nurse and the trainer for the home, where I was responsible for both the day to day running of a unit and providing training to staff working in the home.



My most recent experience has been as the clinical lead/deputy manager in a nursing home, where I was responsible for clinical governance, auditing, and quality assurance. I assessed residents of a wide age range to ensure the facility was able to safely meet their needs. Additionally, I was involved in supervising approximately 30 clinical nurses covering areas such as palliative care, dementia care, and chronic conditions such as COPD, Parkinson's disease and heart failure whilst also providing emotional support to the residents' families. I now work very closely within the Helping Hands clinical care team, carrying out assessments and making sure we meet our customers' needs.

Aside from working in intermediate care I also worked as a nurse for a company who provided medical cover for events including Leeds and Download music festivals, karting events and horse racing.

