

Project Worker (Alternative Justice Team)

Job Description

To lead the provision of relationship-based support delivered to young people and families in the community and to promote positive outcomes in line with the values and principles of includem.

Purpose & Context of Role

The postholder will manage their own caseload ensuring support plans are developed with the young person to respond to their individual needs and supporting them to improve outcomes in line with GIRFEC principles and Includem's model of support.

A project worker will demonstrate leadership and ownership over effective service delivery to young people by managing outcomes for young people through use of line managers, colleagues and organisational tools, processes, policies and procedures.

Service Delivery

- To build relationships and deliver outcome based support to young people and families, involving all key stakeholders.
- To be available for young people and families at critical times
- To explore values and attitudes with young people in a supportive manner, to affirm and validate their feelings and ideas, and nurture and confirm their learning
- To ensure a focus on regular and appropriate case progression to help young people and families recognise progress.
- To assess and respond appropriately to situations where young people and/or families may be at risk of harm.
- To actively participate in the delivery of the Includem Helpline evening and night service so support is available for young people and families 24/7
- To support with crisis management and generate solutions for young people and families using the Helpline, with risk enablement being at the heart of professional judgement and decision making

People

- To understand the different coping mechanisms that young people and their families use to deal with stress and high emotions, and to respond appropriately
- To demonstrate professional resilience when providing support with sensitive or challenging issues
- To use a strengths-based approach to empower individuals facing adversity to find solutions and make positive changes, ensuring resources are in place to sustain these changes
- To establish mutually trusting, open and non-judgemental relationship with young people and their families

- To encourage and lead collaborative team work to provide a ‘scaffolding of support’ around each young person and their family
- Offer support to young people within their own communities and support them to access resources locally
- To respect and value the contribution of wider stakeholders and the delivery of Includem services
- Where opportunity allows experience of directing, supporting and mentoring Assistant Project Workers/Sessional staff
- Any other duties as designated by your line manager

Influence

- To gain commitment from other stakeholders with varying demands and priorities
- To ensure young people and families are empowered to make informed choices
- To support young people and families to effectively communicate with others
- To work with young people to identify goals aligned to wellbeing indicators and to positively influence progression towards these goals.
- To reflect on practice, share learning and promote continuous practice improvement within a team setting.
- To articulate and endorse the includem framework of intervention and the key aspects of the service delivery model to a wide audience.
- To role model appropriate practice standards and professional boundaries to others
- To ensure a high-quality service is delivered to young people and families
- Demonstrate understanding of your impact on people and how they might see you.

Resources

- To deploy time effectively to meet the needs of young people and families to ensure the service is available 24/7, 365 days per year.
- To maintain and produce accurate and timely records and reports.
- To ensure support is delivered in line with Includem’s Policies Procedures, SSSC Codes of Practice & National Guidelines.

Quality Assurance

- To be accountable for the quality of your work and responsible for any work delegated to others within the includem support and be able to evidence this work effectively.
- To actively participate in formal supervision and continuous professional development.
- To have an overview of the work delegated to other includem workers involved in delivering individualised support to your young people.
- To generate creative and new solutions to issues faced by young people and families.

Project Worker - Person Specification

Essential Criteria	Method of Assessment		
	Application	Group Stage Interview	Individual Interview
Skills & Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of effectively engaging vulnerable young people and families who are likely to have faced challenging life circumstances, and supporting them to achieve positive change • Experience of managing caseloads & influencing decision making for young people and families • Direct experience of responding to difficult circumstances where people may be in crisis or engaged in risk taking behaviour, using appropriate interventions • Ability to respond flexibly to changing situations led by the needs of young people and families • Excellent organisational and planning skills • Effective team player who is also confident working independently • Self-motivated and flexible • Ability to provide emotional, practical and social support to young people and families • Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal • Ability to routinely evidence practice, including completion of formal reports • Reliability and commitment to deliver the relationship-based model of intervention. • Ability to drive and have access to your own car for work purposes 	✓	✓	✓
Education/Qualifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willing to work towards SVQ Level 3/appropriate professional qualifications for SSSC registration. 	✓		

Values & Behaviours Ability to demonstrate, understand and apply our workplace values which are clearly aligned to the SSSC Codes of Practice. These are embedded in all roles and applicants must evidence their attitudes/behaviours as part of the application process: - <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respect• Collaboration• Participation and Dignity• Empowerment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have a passion to support young people to reach their full potential	√	√	√
Desirable Criteria			
Experience of working with young people who have been in conflict with the law	√	√	√
Experience of working with a range of professionals such as courts/lawyers/local authority Youth Justice and Criminal Justice/Police	√	√	√
SVQ Level 3 within a relevant discipline (recognised by SSSC)	√		