

Job Description

Job Title: Clinical Support Worker (Suicide Bereavement)

Hours: Part time and Full Time available

Pay:

Please note: Ability to travel is an essential part of this role.

MAIN PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE JOB

- At the heart of our service is that hope and recovery is possible, and that with the right support and help life can get better. You will be part of a pathway that adheres, upholds and has faith with this ethos in all aspects of the operation.
- To provide a bereavement pathway support for individuals effected by the traumatic loss of a self-harm or suspected suicide death.
- To provide an early response (within 72 hours) of bereavement, making contact with the primary bereaved and informing them of our service.
- To distribute the Help is at Hand document to all bereaved families with whom we have contact and to undertake a preliminary assessment of need and risk.
- To offer, for those wishing to uptake, a short-term support service of individualised care in order to promote the health, hope and recovery amongst people impacted by suicide.
- To support and offer information relating to the inquest process.
- To work collaboratively with communities of need to promote health and recovery amongst individuals by using and demonstrating a range of non-clinical interventions that promote coping and resilience and that enable people to face and overcome their traumatic bereavement.
- To support the recovery of service users by engaging in activities and practical support that will improve the quality of life, for instance support employment, social engagement, advocacy and housing; to support clients to manage the very specific set of difficulties that can be faced when a traumatic bereavement through self-harm.
- To ensure that clients are engaged in the appropriate services to meet their longer-term support needs.

- To co-ordinate, where necessary a safeguarding response in line with local practices and services to ensure that an individual is safe and has a coordinated package of care to ensure they survive their crisis in the most helpful manner for them.
- To support the Clinical and Support services manager to uphold the short term, medium term and long term organisational and the clinical and support team's objectives.

Reports to: Bereavement Pathway Lead and Senior Management Team

Responsible For: Suicide Bereavement Support Work, No Managerial responsibilities

Budget Responsibilities: None

OTHER DUTIES AND KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

To undertake collaborative multidisciplinary work to uphold safety and support for the communities of need e.g. working with school staff, mental health staff or peers to ensure they are contained by well-informed communities.

- To uphold and assist referral pathways for service users and reduce stigma associated with seeking help for suicide bereavement and/or crisis and/or working with other services to promote the most effective care package for the individual.

Person Specification: Suicide Bereavement Support Worker

Skills and Abilities

- An ability to uphold personal and organisational Health and Safety, Equal Opportunities, Child Protection and Protection of Vulnerable Adults. (Essential)
- Ability to engage in thorough assessment of risk. (Essential)
- Demonstrate an ability to work within communities and/or a multidisciplinary environment where it is necessary to uphold and manage issues of safeguarding safely and appropriately (Essential)
- High standard of interpersonal skill, and effectiveness in building relationships with vulnerable people. (Essential)
- The ability to communicate effectively and empathically in a highly emotive atmosphere (Essential)
- The ability to deal with occasional emotional outbursts (Essential)
- High standard in spoken communication including the ability to talk eloquently and clearly to clients/referrers (Essential)
- High standard in written communication, including ability to write clear and concise records and letters to clients/referrers etc (Essential)
- Confident in advocating for the needs of service users. (Essential)
- An ability to manage conflicting demands and priorities and for meeting tight deadlines. (Essential)
- Be able to work responsively to people in crisis (Essential)
- Willingness to work integratively, working creatively with complex presentations. (Desirable)
- Computer literate including Microsoft (Essential)

Knowledge

- Understand mental health, self harm and suicide effectively (Desirable)
- Have a strong faith in the recovery model of mental distress. (Essential)
- Understand the importance of assertive outreach and early intervention for young people and adults. (Essential)

- An awareness or willingness to learn of current and emerging research and evidence base for work within the field of mental health, self harm and suicide. (Desirable)
- A strong working understanding of legislation and policy (including clinical governance, NICE guidance, ethical guidelines, child protection, equal opportunities, risk assessment and confidentiality). (Essential)
- A commitment to upholding legislation and policy (including clinical governance, NICE guidance, ethical guidelines, child protection, equal opportunities, risk assessment and confidentiality). (Essential)
- Knowledge of the range of services available for vulnerable people and referral pathways to these services. (Desirable)
- Knowledge of the Children Act. (Essential)
- An understanding of the particular constraints and pressure facing a Third Sector organisation (Desired)
- An understanding of the needs, difficulties, and risk presentation of people and / or communities bereaved or affected by suicide (Essential)
- An understanding of traumatic bereavement and complicated grief (Desirable)
- Knowledge of the updated suicide prevention strategy (DH,2017); and support to those bereaved or affected by suicide as a key area of action (Essential)
- An understanding of postvention as a key component of suicide prevention (Desirable)

Experience

- Experience of working supportively or therapeutically with vulnerable people experiencing a range of difficulties, that may include the experiences of anxiety, depression and self harm. (Essential)
- Experience of working with a range of clients including young people (11-21) and adults. (Desired)
- Experience of and/or an understanding of the needs of complex clients and/or vulnerable people. (Desired)
- Experience of implementing a safeguarding policy and procedures with respect to a range of complex needs and/or vulnerable young people and adults. (Desired)

- Experience of working with a multidisciplinary approach to achieve better outcomes for service users. (Desired)

Personal Attributes and other requirements.

- Ability to work independently, with a good use of initiative and also be able to work collaboratively and openly within a team. (Essential)
- Have a flexible approach to working with vulnerable children, young people and adults in a manner that suits their needs. (Essential)
- Be interpersonally effective and passionate about the needs of vulnerable people. (Essential)
- Be willing to share your own experience of stress and distress in keeping with Harmless' user-led ethos. (Desirable)
- Be open to feedback, support and the development of new skills within the clinical team. (Essential)
- A flexible approach to working hours (Essential)
- A commitment to the overarching aims of the organisation. (Essential)