**Job Title: Young People’s Action Research Officer**

**Reporting to: Head of Client Services & Development**

**Salary: £ 16,461 ( £25,720 ft equivalent)**

**Working hours: 24 hours per week: Tues-Thurs**

**Location: Slynedales, Lancaster**

**Closing Date: 16th June 2023**

**Interview: 22nd June 2023**

**Overview**

The post holder will work with teenagers in our Refresh group to co-design, deliver and evaluate the service. There will also be a small Case Worker element to the role which will require delivering targeted support for identified young people working alongside other service providers, including supporting and signposting families to access services from other providers. This role will involve co-working with the Young Persons Case Worker.

**The Action Research Role**

Many aspects of the Re-Fresh project have been developed or identified over the last 3 years. To date the young people have made the following changes to service delivery.

* Introduced the ability for young people to provide their own consent to receive a service.
* Introduced a Peer Support Group element to our service offer.
* Received agreement for a young people’s sub-brand to be introduced (Re-Fresh).
* Enabled young people to receive service transport without a chaperone.
* Extended our provision of Peer Support Group and activities across our geographical locations.
* Introduced the role of Case Worker to offer additional support to individual young people.

The post holder will continue to trial and evaluate our service delivery with the Refresh group.

**Main Duties and Responsibilities**

**Design:**

* Understand the consultation and development work that has taken place with young people to date.
* Support a Refresh steering group to help develop the service.
* Work with young people as co-designers of the broader service and ensure that their voice is heard.
* Recruit other service providers, as required, to support the delivery of a range of additional activities.

**Delivery:**

* Develop and deliver the peer support programme to run across Lancaster, Morecambe, Carnforth and Heysham and our wider area (Kendal and Barrow).
* Work on a schools programme to promote the service across all secondary schools.
* Explore new ways of reaching young people using safe social media outlets, focus groups, and support groups to extend Cancer Care’s reach.
* Ensure the safety of young people accessing the service and keep up to date with safeguarding legislation and training.
* Identify and offer a bespoke support package for the young people who need additional support from Case Workers.

**Evaluation:**

* Ensure all clients who are young people complete an outcomes tool and the data from these is analysed.
* Collect and collate quantitative data about the number of people who have been involved in the project.
* Evaluate each element of the project before rolling it out to additional locations.

**The Case Worker Role**

We currently employ a Young Persons Caseworker who works with young people in our service to enable us to offer additional support to those whose families are experiencing complex issues.

This work is tailored to the specific needs of the young person and can involve attending multi-agency safeguarding meetings, attending or setting up TAF meetings, visiting parents/guardians at home, support with making health appointments, advocating, support with hardship grant applications, liaising with schools and other agencies.

We are now ready to expand this work to be able to offer it to more young people and this post will enable us to do this.

The Case Worker element of this role will involve offering specialized support to 4 -5 young people as needed.

**Partnership:**

* Liaise with other providers e.g. CAMHS, schools, health and social care partners, charities.
* Attend the Children & Young People Multi Agency Forum and the Young People’s Mental Health Champion forum.
* Signpost to other services and organisations in line with processes and protocols.

**Additional Duties and Responsibilities:**

* Produce reports as required for the Head of Client Services, CEO, Trustees and funders.
* Promote the aims and vision of CancerCare and safeguard its good name and reputation at every opportunity.
* To manage own workload and time.
* To carry out the duties of the post in accordance with CancerCare policies and procedures.
* Flexible approach to work patterns with hours to suit the needs of the role.

To undertake any other duties as may be required from time to time by the Head of Client Services & Development