Job Title: Senior Youth Group Worker

Reporting to: Head of Client Services, Research & Development

Salary:£14,676.48

Working hours**:** 24 hours per week (including evenings)

Location: Slynedales, Lancaster

Date updated: February 2024

**BACKGROUND**

After 5 years of Action Research with groups of young people who have been affected by cancer and bereavement, we have developed our own model of Peer Support which has now expanded to 3 nights a week at our Slynedales centre. Young people are at the core of this service, helping to shape our delivery and learning how to hold space for one another as they develop new skills in Peer Support.

Youth work is an important part of young people’s informal education. Through mentoring, group work and activities youth workers support young people to learn social and emotional skills, have a say on what is important to them, and grow in confidence to be the person they want to be.

**ABOUT YOU**

The ideal candidate will have experience of managing people and projects and will be passionate about promoting the interests of vulnerable young people, facilitating participation opportunities and creating inclusive environments.

You will be experienced in working with young people, including delivering activities to support emotional and social wellbeing. You may not be a senior youth worker right now, but your background and experience will have provided you with transferrable skills.

Ideally you will have a level 3 qualification (or above) in a relevant subject but if you haven’t, we will support you to achieve an NVQ level 3 in youth work alongside the role.

You will need to be able and willing to travel, holding a full UK driving licence and having access to your own transport to involve and engage young people.

**DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES**

The successful person will become an integral member of the CancerCare team working alongside our Young Persons Case Worker. The role involves delivering sessions from our Lancaster Centre to engage with existing and future young clients, and to support the creation and delivery of innovative inclusive opportunities during school holidays.

Sessions are usually in afternoons and evenings but will include daytime school holiday work and possibly occasional weekends, although weekend work is rare. Time will be built into monthly work patterns to evaluate and to co-create new work with colleagues and the young people. This evaluation forms the core substance of feedback that we use to shape and build on our services and has grown out of the Action Research Model we have developed.

**DUTIES INCLUDE**

1. To assist in planning, facilitating and delivering activities to young people at identified CancerCare Centres and outreach activity sessions.
2. To develop positive relationships with young people including facilitating 1-2-1 and group conversations about wellbeing and the issues that affect young people.
3. To signpost young people to other opportunities/support services and take part in local networking opportunities.
4. To link with local schools and other community providers of youth services to raise awareness of our offer to children and young people and to increase our client base.
5. To co-deliver sessions in schools with support when there has been a cancer related death of a pupil or unexpected death.
6. To support regular consultation and evaluation with young people who use our services and to evidence this in reports for our stakeholders, funders and Trustees.
7. To risk assess activities and contribute to the overall health and safety of the sessions.
8. To plan and evaluate work with colleagues and to contribute to reports for funders and the CancerCare Board of Trustees.
9. To report any concerns about the welfare or safety of young people using our safeguarding procedure and to attend monthly meetings with Line Manager.
10. To keep up to date records regarding attendance and specific 1-2-1 interventions with young people on our IMS system.

**The Candidate**

**Essential:**

* Be willing to apply yourself to a diverse range of activities
* Have several years experience of working with diverse groups of young people and have a good understanding of current issues that affect young people
* Be enthusiastic, motivated and committed to efficiency and effective working practices
* Be an integral team member and able to work on your own initiative
* Be able to provide safe, inclusive and nurturing environments for young people
* Be able to represent and promote the interests of vulnerable young people to maintain awareness of their needs amongst those planning, determining and implementing relevant services.
* To undertake training and professional development opportunities, develop relevant specialist knowledge and expertise and share this with colleagues.

This appointment is subject to a satisfactory DBS clearance and suitable references being received.

CancerCare is a dynamic organisation, which recognises the need to respond flexibly to changing demands and requirements. Whilst this job description provides a summary of the post, this may need to be adapted or adjusted to meet changing circumstances. Such changes would be commensurate with the grading of the post and would be subject to consultation.

All staff are required to conduct themselves in a professional manner and comply with the association’s Policies and Procedures in relation to Data Protection, Information Security, Confidentiality and Child Protection & Safeguarding

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

**Re-Fresh**

**Senior Youth Group Worker**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **CRITERIA** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Working with Young People** | * Previous experience of working with children and young people
 | x |  |
| * Able to develop effective working relationships with young people
 | x |  |
| * Youth work qualifications or equivalent
 |  | x |
| * Voluntary sector experience
 |  | x |
| * Young People’s group work experience
 |  | x |
| * First Aid training
 |  | x |
| **Activities** | * Experience of using a range of activities to engage and develop young people’s personal and social skills
 | x |  |
| * A specific skills set/speciality that could be utilised within a small group/facilities setting.
 |  | x |
| * Programme development & planning
 | x |  |
| **Current environment** | * Knowledge of current issues affecting young people
 | x |  |
| * Experience of delivering youth work related to identified needs of young people
 | x |  |
| **Team Work** | * A positive and active team member
 | x |  |
| * Able to enthuse and encourage
 | x |  |
| * Able to take the lead as required
 | x |  |
| * Previous experience of working in a ‘remote’ location as part of a wider organisation/Team, working with a range of agencies
 |  | x |
| **Communication** | * Ability to communicate effectively with young people, professionals and community members
 | x |  |
| * Effective IT communication-based skills
 | x |  |
| **Personal Qualities** | * Able to use your own initiative
 | x |  |
| * Enthusiastic and motivational
 | x |  |
| * Intuitive and creative
 | x |  |
| * Empathic to the needs of young people
 | x |  |
| * Flexibility to deliver a range of activities for young people
 |  | x |
| **Health & Safety** | * Understanding of your own general Health & Safety responsibilities
 | x |  |
| * Ability to work in a safe, practical way
 | x |  |
| * Completing risk assessments and accompanying records
 | x |  |
| **Child Protection** | * Knowledge of child protection and related issues
 | x |  |
| * Previous relevant experience and training
 | x |  |
| **Clearances** | * Able to satisfy an enhanced CRB check
 | x |  |
| * Able to provide 2 x positive references
 | x |  |
| **Driving** | * Full UK Driving Licence held for at least 2 years
 | x |  |
| * Willing and able to drive a larger vehicle
 | x |  |
| **Other** | * Able to work unsocial hours (evenings, weekends, school holidays, bank holidays)
 | x |  |