

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title:	Housing Support Worker (Mental Health)
Location:	South Dublin
Reporting to:	Project Lead, Dublin South Central Mental Health Service
Responsible to:	Assistant Project Leader and Creating Foundations Lead.
Primary Purpose:	The overall aim of the service is to provide a package of support which will enable individuals with mental health difficulties in South Dublin to live independently and become full participants in their communities.

This project is aligned with Service Reform Fund goals of CH07 specifically to implement the National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability.

Key Responsibilities

1. In line with the National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability, to assist residents in mental health accommodation to describe their housing preferences and identify their support needs.
2. To assist MH service users with housing readiness and provide necessary supports to ensure they are on appropriate Social Housing List.
3. To establish supportive and respectful relationships with a number of individuals to help them achieve their housing and housing support goals, as outlined in their support plans.
4. To support individuals to identify and overcome their fears around housing and social inclusion within a relationship of empathy and trust.
5. To assist with the sourcing of appropriate and suitable accommodation in conjunction with the individuals, assist them with the moving process and promote personal responsibility and self-advocacy.

6. To visit individuals in their new homes on a regular basis to provide support.
7. To assist with the carrying out of ongoing assessments and reviews. To develop and implement support plans with those referred to the service.
8. To make contact with and establish links as appropriate with local services and relevant community groups who can assist with integration and to work closely where appropriate with housing providers.
9. To build positive working relationships with Local Authorities and advocate appropriately for our clients housing needs.
10. To conduct regular client reviews with regard to wellbeing, social engagement and active citizenship etc.
11. Work within the framework of the overall objectives of Focus Ireland and the Creating Foundations Project.
12. To assist with the roll out of the Creating Foundations model within mental health services in Dublin South Central and Kildare.
13. To work with and under the supervision and direction of the line management within the project and engage in supervision sessions on a regular basis and attend Team, Section and Agency meetings, as required.
14. To be familiar with and comply with all relevant Focus Ireland policy e.g. Child Protection Policy, Confidentiality Policy, Customer Complaints Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Personnel Policy.
15. To maintain accurate records and statistics in accordance with Focus Ireland policy.
16. To provide regular concise written updates to the Mental Health Services regarding their clients, for their files.
17. To be vigilant to any Health, Safety and Welfare risks in the workplace and bring any concerns to the attention of your line manager or Health & Safety Representative
18. To participate in relevant training and development courses as agreed with the Project Lead and Services Manager.
19. To undertake such other duties as might be reasonably assigned from time to time in consultation with 'Creating Foundations' lead, Service Manager and the Project Leader.

Focus Ireland is an equal opportunities employer

Criteria: Project Worker

Essential Criteria

- Proven report writing skills.
- Willingness to develop professional skills as identified through supervision.
- A relevant Third Level qualification at degree level e.g. social care, social policy, psychology.
- Proven experience if working with vulnerable clients.
- Experience of case managing and community based work.
- Experience of working and liaising with other agencies.
- Experience of working in a multidisciplinary context.
- Clean driver's license and own transport.

Desirable Criteria

- A lived experience of a diagnosed mental health difficulty.
- Experience of supporting individuals with a mental health diagnosis.
- Ability to use a strengths-based approach in work with marginalized groups.