

Job Description

Section:	Youth Hub
Project:	Focus Ireland's Supported Temporary Accommodation (Georges Hill STA)
Job Title:	Contact Worker
Responsible to:	Team Leader
Location:	George's Hill, Dublin 7

Primary Purpose of Role:

The STA provides low threshold, supported temporary accommodation for young adults (aged 18 to 26 years) with complex needs. Stability in the young adult's accommodation is achieved with resilience building and principles of harm reduction with the primary goal of securing and maintaining long term accommodation.

Main Duties and Methodologies:

1. To work within the framework of the overall objectives of Focus Ireland
2. To work within the overall policies and procedures of Focus Ireland, inclusive of Health and Safety Policy and ensure their implementation
3. To work to the Focus Ireland model and standards of best practice
4. To work a flexible rota over 7 days, including sleepovers, to meet the objective of the service
5. To provide a safe, welcoming environment for young adults that are out of home, including the provision of basic social care and support
6. To maintain and monitor safety in the project and facilitate conditions which reduce or remove incidents and/or harmful behaviours of young adults through agreed risk management plans as advised by line manager and /or relevant case management service
7. To work in conjunction with relevant case managers in the formulation of assessments and referrals for residents and the implementation of agreed support and resettlement plans
8. To undertake individual contact work with young adults that are out of home as outlined in the support plan
9. To report child protection concerns in line with Focus Ireland 's Child Protection Policy
10. To assist in the daily cleaning of the service to ensure homely and comfortable living spaces
11. To interact with the residents including observing their behaviour, supporting the young adults to manage their own behaviour and regulate their emotions, dealing with young adult's

emergencies in accordance with guidelines, and reporting incidents to appropriate staff and recording observations for communication to other staff

12. To accompany and provide support to young adult on appointments to other services i.e. doctors, counsellors, court etc. as appropriate
13. To be responsible for keeping up to date contact records, daily logs, written assessments, and inputting information on the Focus Ireland database
14. To provide advice and practical support across a range of issues including Housing, Health, Safety, Addiction and Social Welfare and to ensure that pamphlets and other written materials are available and up-to-date
15. To assist with assessing entitlement to and applying for Social Welfare and with completing forms
16. To assist in the preparation, provision and delivery of food, and that these are maintained safely and in accordance with HACCP food safety management system
17. To work in close liaison and co-operation with other teams within Focus Ireland and other Statutory and Voluntary Agencies as deemed appropriate
18. To attend Team, Section, Divisional, Organisational and external organisational meetings and training as required
19. To implement existing policies and procedures and to input into the development of new policies and procedures
20. To engage in clinical supervision sessions on a regular basis with the Team Leader
21. To participate in relevant training and development courses as agreed with your Team Leader
22. In conjunction with your Line Manager continuously develop the role to ensure that all tasks are being undertaken in an effective and appropriate manner to meet the strategic aims and objectives of the Focus Ireland.
23. To undertake such other duties as might be reasonably assigned from time to time in consultation with the Team Leader
24. 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

Essential criteria

- Relevant third level degree in the area of social care i.e. youth work, social studies, addiction, psychology
- Experience in the social care field working with marginalised young adults with high risk and challenging behaviour.

- Ability to cope with and manage lone working.
- A working knowledge of issues affecting young adults out-of-home and their impact on young adults and their physical, emotional and psychological development.
- Ability to work well in a team environment.

Desirable criteria

- A working knowledge of services in the homeless sector.
- Knowledge of the National Quality Standards Framework for Youth Work 2011