



Student/Volunteer Counsellor Placement Role Description & Person Specification

Hours: 4 hours a week (Hours to be negotiated), Tuesdays 10am-3pm

Location: In person, Bede House

Responsible to: Service Manager

This is an unpaid position

Main responsibilities:

1. To work within the counselling team, delivering age and culturally appropriate counselling to service users aged 17 plus who are experiencing or have experienced domestic violence and/or sexual violence, who present with mental health, depression, emotional distress and trauma.
2. To work with clients using integrative/person-centred therapy models.
3. To provide a minimum of three counselling hours per week, with adult clients.

Legal, Ethical and procedural Framework:

1. To provide therapy/counselling in accordance with one of the three bodies recognised by the Health Professional Body (HPC) BACP Code of ethics and practice The British Association for Counselling (BACP), The United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP) and The British Association of Psychotherapy (BAP)
2. To ensure all client case notes, assessments and any other documentation are completed in accordance with the policies and procedures of Bede.
3. To attend training sessions provided within Bede.
4. To attend monthly Bede Team and case meetings.
5. To act at all times within the ethos, policies and procedures of Bede House Starfish Domestic abuse Project. This includes the Confidentiality Policy, Child Protection Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Equal Opportunity Policy and Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures.

Essential requirements:

1. Be confirmed as 'fit to practice' by a Counselling Diploma course tutor prior to starting counselling. Be cleared to work with medium risk clients.
2. Demonstrate understanding of confidentiality and ethical boundaries as defined by the BACP.
3. Have a qualification or be working towards a qualification in counselling / psychotherapy with supervised client hours within the BACP/ UKCP framework, with a minimum requirement of being in the 2nd year of a diploma course preferably having already had face to face experience.

4. Demonstrate excellent communication skills.
5. Ability to communicate effectively in English, both verbally and in writing.
6. Active listening and counselling skills.
7. Knowledge of integrative/person-centred therapy models.
8. Be committed to continuous personal and professional development.
9. Be open to change and new challenges, adaptable, flexible in approach and working hours; prepared to explore new ways of working.
10. Be committed to the aims and values of Bede Starfish Domestic abuse service.
11. Be a current student member of the BACP/UKCP.
12. Demonstrate a working knowledge and understanding of the dynamics of Domestic Abuse and the impact on adult service users
13. Demonstrate ability to work as part of a team as well as independently.
14. Knowledge of statutory social work legislation including Children Act 1989, Children Act 2004, Child Protection Procedures

Desirable requirements:

1. Minimum of 2 A levels or equivalent.
2. Have a working knowledge of Microsoft Office packages and client databases.
3. Experience of working with diverse communities.

Awareness of Domestic Abuse:

1. An understanding of the issues effecting women and girls affected by domestic abuse.
2. An understanding of issues effecting men and LGBTQ+ affected by domestic abuse.
3. An understanding of harmful practices and the impact on women and communities.
4. An understanding of the impact of discrimination on the lives of women and girls from minority ethnic communities.
5. An understanding of the aims and objectives of the organisation and a commitment to them being carried out.

NB: An Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check will be undertaken.