

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

<b>Post Title:</b>	<b>Mental Health Advocate (Crisis Intervention Project)</b>
<b>Salary:</b>	<b>£19,817 pro rata</b>
<b>Hours:</b>	<b>Part-Time, 20 Hours per Week Flexible from 8:30 am - 4: 00 pm, Monday - Friday</b>
<b>Responsible To:</b>	<b>The Project Manager of STAMP Revisited</b>

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### **Location:**

The post holder will be based at STAMP Revisited's office within Roseberry Park, Middlesbrough but will be expected to travel across Teesside.

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### **Job Purpose:**

To provide independent one-to-one advocacy support to adults experiencing mental health problems working within the Advocacy Charter Principles using a non-discriminating and non-judgemental manner.

The post holder will advocate for and empower individuals with varying needs and complexities within the community and with inpatients on the wards of Roseberry Park Hospital in Middlesbrough.

The post holder will work three days within a working week supporting adults to have their voices and opinions heard, promote and defend their rights and to promote equality, social justice and inclusion.

The post holder will work with adults from different age groups and different cultural backgrounds recognise and respect diversity and be committed to equal opportunities.

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### **Main Duties and Responsibilities:**

#### **ADVOCACY**

- Accept referrals via agreed protocols within the service. To make decisions on the suitability of the new referral and referring clients onto a more suitable service.
- Undertake person centred interviews to establish client issues to determine the need for support and to explore client options and choices.
- To offer one-to-one advocacy to those with mental health issues living within the community, in hospital or a residential setting, delivering a strong outcome focused service that achieves a high level of positive impact for service users.
- Work alongside services users to ensure their individual issues and needs are clearly represented and that their views form a key part of decision-making processes.
- Liaise with key health care and other professionals on behalf of service users, attending key meetings when required.
- Promote self-advocacy as a strategy to build confidence and independence for service users, encouraging them to play a fuller role in their community.

- Promote the rights, equality, diversity and needs of service users by ensuring they are respected and valued as individuals.
- Undertake accurate and ongoing assessment of risk to self and others.
- Manage a client case load in a professional and effective manner.
- To keep coherent records of all advocacy activity, update client records including monitoring and evaluation data using the agreed systems and protocols.
- To work collaboratively within the advocacy process adhering to agreed client targets.
- Produce written reports and other formal written communications as required.
- Network with other agencies in order to maintain effective communication and joint working for the benefit of service users whilst retaining the independence of the advocacy role.
- Provide advocacy awareness sessions and presentations to service users and other agencies.
- Promote and attend regular meetings of service users to share information about services, air and discuss ideas and concerns.

### **TRAINING AND SUPERVISION**

- To attend ongoing training and professional development opportunities required of the post and to apply training to the role.
- To receive supervision from the Project Manager in relation to client case load, case management, safeguarding, risk management and performance related targets.
- To participate in regular team meetings and provide feedback to the Project Manager to help shape future business strategy.

### **PROFESSIONAL**

- Ensure the maintenance of standards of practice according to the Advocacy Code of Practice and Principles, keeping up to date on new recommendations, guidelines and social policy.
- Ensure client confidentiality is protected at all times.
- Ensure clear objectives are identified, discussed and reviewed with the Project Manager.
- Participate in individual performance review and respond to agreed objectives.
- Attend relevant conference/workshops in line with identified professional objectives.

### **GENERAL**

- To contribute to the development of best practice within the service.
- To maintain up to date knowledge of legislation, national and local policy and procedures in relation to Mental Health Services.
- All employees have a duty and responsibilities for their own Health and Safety and of their colleagues, clients, patients and the general public.
- All employees have a responsibility and legal obligation to ensure that information held for clients, patients and staff is kept accurate, confidential, secure and in line with the Data Protection Act (1998) and Security and Confidentiality Policies.
- It is the responsibility of all staff that they do not abuse their official position for personal gain, to seek advantage of further private business or other interests in the course of their official duties.
- This job description does not provide an exhaustive list of duties and may be reviewed in conjunction with the post holder in light of service development.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

This post is deemed to require a Disclosure check via the Disclosure and Barring Service. Therefore it will be necessary before the appointment to contact the DBS to check on any relevant criminal background.