

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Independent Living Skills Coach
Service:	West Farm
Reports to:	Service Manager/Deputy Manager
Responsible for:	N/A
DBS check	Enhanced with Adults and Children Barring list check

Job Purpose:

This is a key post contributing to the delivery of Salvation Army Homes's support services to its residents at West Farm and associated training flats. Working within our corporate aims and objectives you will deliver a person centred, outcome focused service to the young people we work with.

You will be responsible for working in a strength based, trauma informed way to empower and enable young people to develop the skills to reach their full potential and move towards independence

Key Relationships:

- Reporting to the local management team
- Dorset Services Support teams
- Salvation Army Homes residents promoting their ability to sustain accommodation
- Housing teams
- Other local support providers
- Representing the organisation to the public

Main duties and responsibilities:

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Act as a keyworker to a caseload of young people, coproducing their personal "My Journey" plan and enabling them to achieve their goals and aspirations
- Work with young people using a coaching approach, addressing their physical, emotional, social and behavioural needs, supporting them to progress towards independence
- Build supportive relationships with the young people living in our services whilst maintaining professional boundaries
- Deal with challenging behaviour in a trauma informed way, keeping within the boundaries of policies and procedures.
- Keep records of support, and risk management plans, undertaking regular reviews to ensure goals are identified and achieved
- To ensure that young people who are ready to move on have an appropriate network of support and resources to enable a smooth transition to independent living

- Maintain a supportive relationship with young people for 6 months following move on to independent living ensuring they are able to access the services and support they need in the community
- To liaise and advocate with other agencies working with young people in the local area, maintaining positive relationships and accessing relevant services to meet the needs of the young people we work with
- To contribute to the quality development of the service
- To work with the rest of the team to ensure the smooth running of the project and to ensure a safe and secure environment for the young people we work with
- To work with the activities coordinator to take shared responsibility for identifying and delivering a range of support interventions and activities, including the delivery of AQA accredited programmes that provide learning and growth for the young people we work with
- To take shared responsibility for enabling young people to be involve in coproducing the way the service is delivered
- To co-work with multi-disciplinary teams and operational management in the management of crisis and prevention of homelessness to sustain tenancies in line with statutory obligations and homeless prevention plans.
- To work with you line manager to continuously develop the role and the service in line with Salvation Army Home's mission and values
- To participate in regular supervision and annual appraisal to help identify your own training and development needs
- To work within Salvation Army Homes's safeguarding policy and procedures, ensuring a person-centred and contextual approach to safeguarding and that appropriate action is taken in order to safeguard the wellbeing of children, young people and adults at risk, protecting them from harm whilst respecting their rights, wishes and feelings

Administration Duties

- Regularly record on Salvation Army Homes's IT reporting system to ensure all information is available to all staff.
- Adhere to the administrative systems in place and ensure that communication within your immediate team and the wider team is effective.
- Maintain accurate records on all interactions with residents and work effectively with the housing management teams to ensure a joined up and beneficial service to Salvation Army Homes's residents.

Related activities:

- To participate in essential training, role related training and to work in accordance with all relevant Salvation Army Homes regulations including, for example the Code of Conduct, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Safeguarding, Health and Safety and Information Security.
- To fulfil the role by being adaptable and flexible to the overall activity that is necessary to be successful and effective.
- To fully align with Salvation Army Homes values and behaviours and to adopt an 'advantaged thinking' perspective through language, conduct and behaviour.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

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Essential Qualifications / Memberships:

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Aptitudes / Abilities:

- Proactive and self-motivated with a can-do attitude
- Demonstrable empathy with the client group, specifically young people who may be care experienced and have complex needs
- Ability to work in a coaching style to enable young people to address their physical, emotional, social and behavioural needs, whilst empowering them to move towards independence
- Confident and capable communicator with the ability to inspire, engage and challenge
- Great verbal, written and influencing skills
- Ability to think outside the box and come up with creative problem-solving solutions
- Ability to motivate and coach young people to meet their goals and aspirations
- Ability to use a computer, e.g., Microsoft packages and capacity to successfully navigate support packages used by Salvation Army Homes
- Able to be flexible with working hours to accommodate a working rota in conjunction with the needs of the service and team members
- Willingness to take part in outdoor/residential activity on occasion
- Ability to plan forward, prepare and deliver life skills sessions
- Ability to demonstrate a clear understanding of safeguarding requirements and procedures
- Ability to assess and manage risk in the context of providing asset-based support to young people and empower young people to reduce/manage any risky behaviours

Experience / Interests:

- Experience of or knowledge related to working with young people
- Proven capacity to deal successfully with difficult and complex situations
- Understanding of wider support and funding opportunities available for engaging young people
- Experience of supporting vulnerable people or groups

Values and behaviours:

To be successful in this job you need to be fully aligned with our values and behaviours. They mean a lot to us. They help define how we should all work, and this helps us to stand out from other providers and employers. Please see overleaf.

