

Family Support Worker

Company: Living On Bereavement Service (registered Charity)

Location: Chelsfield Village

Reports to : The Board of Trustees

Hours: 18 hours per week

Pay: £32,087 pro-rata

About the Role:

We are looking to appoint a Family Support Worker, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, who has a professional qualification in Health, Social Care or Education and has experience in working with Children and Young People. It would be desirable that the applicant has experience of working with bereavement.

You will need to be comfortable working independently as well as within a team. The ability to work on your own initiative without supervision is essential. Dealing with matters of a sensitive and confidential nature, this role demands strict confidentiality both internally and externally at all times.

We require someone with an approachable manner who is able to think on their feet and deal with enquiries that come in on a day to day basis.

You will be responsible for managing a caseload, keeping notes, liaising with other professionals, services and schools as well as involved in supporting training workshops for other professionals.

Excellent use of English language (both written and verbal) alongside patience, resilience and good listening skills.

Key Tasks and Responsibilities:

To work with the Lead Family Support Worker and Clinical team to support and provide a bereavement psychosocial support service for children, young people and families when someone they love has died

To collaborate with relevant Health and Social Care and other professionals to provide guidelines/protocols and pathways. To provide a psycho-social and flexible needs-led support service for bereaved children and families. To include assessment of needs and provision of relevant support, information and advice. This will include some evening and weekend work.

To be involved with the planning and running of family events.

To liaise with GPs, primary care teams, schools, Children's Services and other partners to provide a cohesive package of care for these families.

To receive referrals and assess the needs of children and their families, working flexibly, collaboratively and in way that recognises their strengths and maximises these.

To offer individual and family sessions matching the form of intervention to the identified need. To see children, young people and parents individually and in small groups to provide emotional support in helping them build resilience, self-esteem, coping mechanisms and in being able to express and communicate their feelings.

To prepare families for the dramatherapeutic grief groups for children and families and contribute to the running of these groups.

To develop and facilitate self help groups for parents and young people.

To work alongside and support the volunteer 'buddies' on the project.

To raise awareness of the service, establishing and developing key networks, and relationships with local schools, services and professionals.

To undertake supervision on a regular basis provided by Living On

To facilitate training sessions in Childhood Bereavement and in grief and loss to schools, services and professionals.

To record and keep clinical notes of all contact and sessions with families, children and young people, following Data Protection and GDPR regulations and guidelines.

To work within the policies of Living On and safeguarding regulations. Children's Act (1989, 2004), Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2018

To have a fully enhanced DBS

A commitment to further Childhood Bereavement training if this has not already been gained.

To Evaluate and audit your work within the clinical service

About you:

- Experience of working with Children and Young People
- Experience and knowledge of working with Bereaved children, YP and families
- Knowledge/qualifications in bereavement and working with loss and change
- Experience of working within a charity or children's service
- Experience of working with children and young people one to one.
- Exceptional Listening skills
- Exceptional written and oral communication
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Sensitivity and being able to talk about death and dying
- Team player
- Patience
- A therapeutic or counselling qualification would be desirable

If you are interested in finding out more about this role please contact us. If you wish to apply for the position please email your CV and covering letter to: admin@livingon.org.uk. To find out a bit more about us please visit our website www.livingon.org.uk