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Job Description: Health Care Assistant – Siúl le Programme

Venue: Good Shepherd Centre.

Report: Homeless Prevention Service Manager

Location: Tipperary

Contract: Part-Time, 15-20 hours per week

Introduction to the Model

Service Overview

Siúl Le simply means to walk with. The Good Shepherd Centre Clg are proposing a Pilot project in partnership with The Collective Sensory Group, supported by the HSE Disability Services.

It is the partners experience that there is a cohort of service users in homeless services and/or housed with a disability or undefined life challenges who struggle to exit homeless services and/or settle and sustain long term housing and life opportunities. They are in fact a group susceptible to long-term homelessness and its recurring vulnerabilities with high-risk behaviours. In the main they are distant and estranged from services. The ability to assess and use this information from a multi-disciplinary perspective with the service user and to access services is a priority. For many of that cohort accessing homeless services this is due to family breakdown, experiences of violence and other vulnerabilities.

In the south east the private rented sector has become unaffordable for social housing applicants. Housing supply is low, and the Housing Assistance Scheme (HAP) has a growing unpopularity among landlords. Individuals with sensory and development difficulties or with a disability in general can find this an impossible space to navigate to successful outcomes.

The Local Authority Housing Disability Strategy for People with Disabilities continues to seek to prioritise access to supports and quality housing for service users with mild to severe disabilities. The Good Shepherd Centre and HSE will seek to agree targets with each of the local authority steering groups for access to Siul Le Service and likewise access to emergency and suitable long-term accommodation.

The client group present with mild Intellectual disability, Autism, Attention Deficit Disorder, Dyslexia and a range of poor coping skills.

Many have experienced family breakdown and/or struggle to access and/or sustain accommodation. They are vulnerable. Some have a history of addiction and high-risk behaviours such as self-neglect and/or self-harm

Main Roles and Responsibilities:

1. Work within the framework of the overall objectives and Policies of the Good Shepherd Centre.

2. Provide assistance with daily activities such as personal care to service users in their own home ensuring client's dignity and wellbeing is promoted.
3. To implement support plans (recovery focused) with clients as directed by the project worker. This may include cleaning, shopping, general housekeeping and other tasks identified.
4. This contract is a specified purpose contract. Subject to ongoing Funding Support.
5. To ensure to support tenants in maintaining their homes and managing personal care.
6. To work as part of a team.
7. To remind service users to take their medication and monitor when a prescription may need to be refilled.
8. To provide relief care for a carer / colleague as required.
9. To report any concerns to the project worker / team leader and to be aware of the changing needs of the service user.
10. To support service users with life skills such as using household appliances, meal preparation, cleaning.
11. To be responsible for keeping up to date records such as daily logs / handovers.
12. To work to the service model and standards of best practice
13. To attend and participate in individual, team and GSCK training and meetings as required.
14. To support service users to appointment via the company car or public transport where necessary.
15. To participate in formal and informal supervision.
16. To work closely with the project worker in the co-ordination and implementation of the homecare support care plan.
17. To work a flexible roster over 5 days and occasional evenings / weekends to meet the objective of the service
18. To implement existing policies and procedures and to input into the development of new ones

19. To implement and evaluate the daily activities.
20. To ensure confidentiality in all matters concerning individuals using our service, this includes the safe storage of reports and records.
21. To undertake such other duties as might be reasonably assigned from time to time in consultation with the Team Leader.
22. 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
23. To promote the service user's safety, health and wellbeing.

Essential Criteria

- Level 5 QQI Healthcare or equivalent relevant qualification
- Minimum 1 year post qualification experience in a related field
- Full clean driving license and access to a car
- Good verbal and written skills
- Communication skills to support the service user
- Practical skills and willingness to complete tasks required
- Excellent problem-solving skills
- Candidates should demonstrate a caring and responsible attitude, ability to respect each service users dignity and sense of independence

Desirable

Experience of lone working in a healthcare setting

First Aid Training