The Good Shepherd Centre
Church Lane, Kilkenny, R95 PP3F
056 7722566

KILKENNY VOLUNTARY HOUSING ASSOCIATION
KVHA

Job Description: Siúl Le Project Worker
Location: Tipperary
Number of Hours: 39
Report: Homeless Prevention Service Manager

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:

- Work within the framework of the overall objectives and Policies of the Good Shepherd Centre.
- Ascertaining and supporting the service users' preferences in relation to fuller participation in their local and wider communities
- To ensure to support tenants in accessing recovery focused training, education and employment opportunities.
- To work as part of a multi-disciplinary team and service.
- To maintain a caseload of clients and offer clients ongoing support until cases are handed over to the appropriate support services.
- To supervise in conjunction with the manager the health care workers role and duties.
- To accompany and provide support to clients with appointments to other services, where appropriate
- To be responsible for keeping up to date casework records, daily logs and written assessments.
- To work in close liaison and co-operation with other teams across mental health and community-based services, in particular other Statutory and Voluntary Agencies as deemed appropriate
- To work to the service model and standards of best practice
- To meet regularly for supervision of work with your assigned Supervisor
- To attend all nominated training by your line manager
- To supervise students or volunteers as requested by assigned supervisor or senior manager.
- To work closely with the homecare support worker in the co-ordination and implementation of the homecare support care plan.

- To work a flexible roster over 5 days and occasional evenings to meet the objective of the service
- To implement existing policies and procedures and to input into the development of new ones
- To provide an on-call role within the organisation on a rostered basis.
- To plan, implement and evaluate the daily activities.
- To undertake such other duties as might be reasonably assigned from time to time in consultation with the Team Leader.
- 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
- To engage with the identified service users with a view to facilitating them in defining and attaining their own housing and recovery goals, based on the 'recovery principles' of hope, control and opportunity. The worker will use a strengths-based approach in:
- Conducting needs assessments, which will inform agreed care plans: This will involve identifying and agreeing how the service user would like to be supported by the worker and a discussion about the needs and actions written into the service user's mental health care plan/clinical file.
- Assisting the service user to navigate processes required by the Local Authority
- Ascertaining and supporting the service users' preferences in relation to fuller participation in their local and wider communities
- Supporting the service user in developing life skills which will foster independence and autonomy; this may involve assistance with practical tasks
- Communicating with the service user's treating team to review their needs and/or care plan; this will involve direct contact with key MDT members who will have been named in the referral.
- Facilitating peer support of those with lived experience when appropriate
- Supporting the service user in sustaining his or her tenancy by addressing the key issues and planning for risk management when required.
- Supporting the service user to self-advocate when required or advocating on his or her behalf as agreed. S/he may be supporting the service user to engage with the approved advocacy organizations when appropriate.
- Case managing their referrals to optimize tenancy sustainment and independent living.
- Promoting the service user's safety, health and wellbeing.

The GSCK are an equal opportunities employer
Essential Criteria:

- Level 7 or above in social care
- Full clean driving licence and access to a car
- Good verbal, Verbal and written skills
- Excellent problem-solving skills