

## Outreach Worker x 2 - 21hrs per week 2 x Temporary Positions for 1 year each

CORE Youth Service is currently inviting applicants for the position of Part-Time Outreach worker for a one-year fixed term pilot programme.

CORE Youth Service is a Youth Work organisation working for the welfare, well-being and development of all 10 to 24 year olds in Inchicore. We believe that constructive relationships with young people are the heart of youth well-being and development.

CORE Youth Service's mission is to build trusting and positive relationships with the young people of Inchicore by listening and responding to their needs for safety, trust, engagement and creativity. We strive for spaces for young people to explore their identity, self-worth and potential.

The post is funded for 21 hours a week. This post requires and facilitates flexibility in working the allocated hours over the working week and may include occasional weekend work. There are two positions.

## **Background to Role**

Research has indicated that there are large numbers of people misusing drugs or engaging in activities which are deemed socially unacceptable along the corridor of the Grand Canal and Luas line in Dublin 8/Dublin 12. This has had problematic effects on the communities situated along this corridor. Due to capacity issues and funding constraints, youth work teams and drug teams are currently restricted in what they can offer. Under the auspices of the Canal Communities Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force, and with Core as the lead agency, several of these organisations have now come together to implement a joint response. We believe that a dedicated outreach team that can move along the canal and Luas line will have a positive effect both on those who are misusing substances and the local communities in general, through the provision of information and also through the ability to move and refer to appropriate local services, using harm reduction methodologies when engaging with people when necessary.

The Outreach Workers are to be employed by CORE Youth Service, with line management provided by the Core Manager. Their work will be guided by a Steering Group, which will meet monthly. As well as the Core Manager, the Steering Group will include representatives of local addiction, youth and community services. The Outreach Workers will undertake duties ensuring the values and mission of Core Youth Service are upheld.

The outreach will take place in the Canal Communities area on a part time basis working the areas of Inchicore, Bluebell, and Rialto, along the canal and Luas corridor line, but also in surrounding areas. Operating on the street, in other public places or through home visits, the workers will make contact with people aged 16 years and over who are misusing drugs and alcohol or who are at risk of doing so.

The workers will have two principal aims:

- (1) to encourage the people they meet to come to the premises of local addiction, youth and other services, and to engage with those services there;
- (2) to engage with people in locations away from projects' premises in order to:



- a) provide them with information, advice, and support, and/or
- b) promote and support harm reduction, and/or
- c) involve them in youth work activities.

## **Duties and Responsibilities**

The outreach team will work as part of the larger CORE Youth service team to carry out outreach work in the Canal Communities area, working with people on the street aged 16+ and also, when necessary, referring them to appropriate organisations and supporting them in linking in with those organisations.

## The principal duties of each Outreach Worker will be as follows.

## **Programme Delivery and Development**

- To Proactively engage and build positive relationships with the target group identified in the community through street work, one-to-one work, workshops and outreach work.
- To aim to act and be seen as a role model for the younger members of the target group.
- To encourage and motivate the target group to become more involved in healthy positive activities.
- To support people to make positive lifestyle choices which will address the complex issues impacting on their lives
- To enlist the support of parents, family members, community groups and other volunteers to provide on-going support to the target group.
- To accompany people to the premises of addiction, youth and other services, introducing them to workers in these services, and remaining in contact with both the person referred and with the relevant service, to try and ensure that the person benefits as much as possible from the referral.
- To attend drop-in sessions throughout the community, to build up relationships with service users and staff, and to act as a means of communication between the service providers and people who occasionally attend but are generally harder to reach.
- Upon referral from local services, to visit people in their own homes who are affected by substance misuse problems.
- To perform joint outreach with staff from other organisations
- To build up close links with the HSE Addiction Services Outreach Worker in the area, and to liaise with that worker in order to ensure that prompt needle exchange and the provision of paraphernalia such as crack pipes is available to people met during outreach who needed these services.
- To develop and maintain a presence on social media, including 'Snapchat', 'Instagram' and 'Facebook' in order to:
  - $\circ$   $\;$  publicise their own work, e.g., the areas they will be visiting on a particular day.
  - o advertise local services and events to people they come in contact through outreach.
  - encourage 'hard-to-reach' people who are not leaving their homes due to problems with mental health, addiction, gaming, the aftermath of the COVID pandemic etc.
  - To attend meetings of the Outreach Steering Group as requested.

## **General and administrative duties**

- To complete accurately and on time performance reports, annual plans, any standard clerical records of expenses, etc.
- To operate efficient office procedures in line with data protection requirements e.g. filing, keeping records etc.



- To be familiar with and abide by the project's policies and procedures, including child protection and health and safety guidelines.
- To assist with the running of any of the other project's programmes or activities as required.
- To engage in training and development opportunities and actively participate with the supervision process.
- To contribute to the strategic development of the organisation by playing an active role in the wider team.
- To participate actively within the CORE Youth service team, including attending team meetings/training, and preparing written reports as required by management.

## Target Group

- People aged 16 and over who are misusing drugs, including alcohol.
- People aged under 16 whom the workers meet while performing outreach.
- People along the Grand Canal/Luas corridor and elsewhere in the communities of Inchicore, Rialto and Bluebell as deemed necessary.

## Hours of work

21 hours per week, usually working with the other Outreach Worker. The exact working times will be determined through a needs assessment conducted by the Outreach Workers, the Core Manager and the Steering Group; they will involve at least some unsocial hours, e.g. in the evenings and weekends.

## **Role Requirements**

Essential:

- Minimum of one year's experience of supporting young people impacted by social disadvantage.
- Significant experience of outreach work.
- Good knowledge of issues related to addiction and substance misuse.
- Excellent inter-personal skills, in both one-to-one and group settings
- Inclusive team player with a strong recognition of professional approach and values.

Desirable:

- A recognised qualification in: Youth Work, Social Care, Addiction, Criminology or related discipline.
- Experience of working in the field of substance misuse
- Experience of the not-for-profit sector in a disadvantage context
- Innovative approach with the ability to identify and develop new and fresh ways to expand the
  programme that will further the Project's mission.
- Excellent organisational and IT skills and ability to manage commitments
- Self-starter with a good team ethos and have ability to work on own
- Experience of collaboration and building relationships with key stakeholders (e.g. community services, health services, Probation Service, Gardai etc).
- Experience of implementing and reviewing programmes involving young people i.e. personal development, music / sports etc.



#### To apply please send cover letter and CV to:

Carol Hyland, project leader, CORE Youth Service, St. Vincents Street West, Inchicore, Dublin 8. D08T104 or to <u>carol@core-ys.com</u>.

Closing date for applications 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 @5pm and Interviews will take place the week of the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Youth Worker Salary: CDETB youth work salary scale in line with experience

CORE Youth Service is an equal opportunities employer. This position is funded through the Canals Communities Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force

