The Diamond Youth Justice Team

Project Worker Role

Information for Applicants

Belvedere Youth Club (BYC)

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**Background Information**

Belvedere Youth Club, CLG will work in conjunction with the Probation Service and other stakeholders to deliver The Diamond Youth Justice programme to clients referred through existing pathways.

The Joint Agency Response to Crime programme (JARC) was established in 2014 as a multi-agency response to offender management between An Garda Síochána, the Probation Service and Irish Prison Service.. The strategic objectives of the programme are to:

* Develop and further strengthen a multi-agency approach to the management of crime.
* Prioritise offenders in order to develop programmes which will address their behaviour.
* Reduce crime and increase public safety in local communities.

The aims of Y-JARC are to:

* Develop and further strengthen a multi-agency approach to the management of crime.
* Prioritise offenders in order to develop initiatives which will address their behaviour.
* Reduce crime and increase public safety in local communities.

The Probation Service and An Garda Síochána were tasked by the Department of Justice with developing targeted proposals to address offending by young people in the Dublin North Inner City (NIC).

The central premise of the model is that improved communication and collaboration between respective agencies will help young people who have offended desist from further offending behaviour and will reduce offending behaviour in the area identified.

**Participant Target Group:**

A Youth-Joint Agency Response to Crime (Y-JARC) to support those aged 12-18 years is being developed in addition to a Joint Agency Response to Crime (JARC) to support those aged 18-24 years in the NIC.

**Outputs**

It is expected that clients will be seen in the community and within the preferred partner’s premises, in additions to JARC and Y-JARC meetings being held on site. In addition, the programme provided will include the following:

* Induction for the young person./Young adult.
* BYC to identifies action points for the participant, potentially including need for referral
* Small group session being held with young people involved in pre-court settings
* One to one session with young person in post-court session
* Support for young person in accessing training opportunity
* Planning session with full team to liaise with other JARC teams to examine lessons from evaluation work
* Therapy sessions organised for young people and family members
* Peer support group facilitated with participants
* External supervision accessed by team leader

**Job Description**

The *Project Worker* will work as part of the team to deliver this service. The core team consists of two project workers, a full time family therapist and a part time facilitation role to support the steering group.

The focus of the *Project Worker* role will be working with children/young people typically in the 12 to 18 years and 18 to 24 years, supporting participation, delivering programmes and case management.

It involves providing a high level of support to vulnerable young people, challenging behaviours and building a positive working relationship with each individual in meeting their needs.

The main interventions provided are key working & care planning, offending behaviour modules, educational modules, arts based activities, developmental activities and lifestyle education, outreach to existing participants, supported referral to other agencies, and work with Parents/Guardians. Upon referral, each young person is assessed and an individualised plan and programme of activities is developed, taking into account their needs and the requirements of the Probation Order. The array and level of modules are set to best meet individual needs and engage the young person. An important part of the work is working together with other agencies (Operations Group), especially the Probation Service, to best meet the young person’s needs. This programme operates in the context of the Children Act 2001 .

**Candidate Profile**

**The *ideal* candidate will desirably have the following:**

* A minimum of 3 years relevant experience working with vulnerable and at risk young people.
* A relevant qualification in social work, social care, youth/community work, education or a related discipline.
* Ability to build a rapport with, sometimes challenging, young people and to build and maintain a constructive working relationship.
* The ability to support young people in crisis or instability.
* Experience of delivering creative and innovative programmes which support young people in their development and their transition away from offending to a pro-social lifestyle.
* Key-working/care-planning skills and experience.
* An understanding of offending behaviour among young people and strategies to change such behaviour.
* Ability to work with children at risk within good practice guidelines.
* Ability to liaise effectively with appropriate agencies.
* Be an enthusiastic self-starter and team player who works well with others.
* A Flexible and creative approach.
* Ability to maintain records and write reports.
* Previous experience of working with Parents/Guardians.
* Hold a driving licence.
* Have an ability to implement specific projects and initiatives and oversee their successful completion from start to finish
* Have an ability to handle challenging behaviour
* Be able to work as part of a team and to encourage team working
* Be able to form and maintain good working relationships with colleagues and clients
* Have the belief in the ability of individuals to develop, change and reach their potential

**Job Title: Project Worker**

**Summary of Post**

The Project Worker will work with the team in devising and implementing appropriate interventions for young people which reduce risk taking and offending behaviour, facilitate stability, promote personal development and support transition to safe and successful lives in their communities. It involves working in close collaboration with the Probation Service, parents/guardians, and the steering group made up of various statutory, local and community agencies.

**Duties**

* Act as a positive role model and maintain an appropriate, safe atmosphere within the service
* Engage young people and build their motivation, supporting them in setting and achieving goals
* Manage a Key-working/Care-Planning caseload
* Identify and develop progression routes in conjunction with the young person and the steering group
* Facilitate Group Work and deliver modules as appropriate
* Organise activities and supervise young people inside and outside the centre
* Recruit and assess potential participants
* Work in collaboration with the young person and their Probation officer in assisting the young person to meet the requirements/conditions of court orders
* To liaise with families and other relevant agencies/services as required
* On-going support and advocacy for young people around a range of issues, e.g. access to relevant support services
* Contribute to programme design, development, delivery and review
* Administrative tasks arising from the role (e.g. statistical records, reports, correspondence, participant files etc.)
* Participate in team meetings
* Partake in line supervision and relevant training
* Fulfil any other duties and responsibilities required to ensure the smooth running of the service on a daily basis
* To work collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary team and in an inter-agency context
* Collaborate with other local probation projects to share resources to maximise outcomes for the participants

**Terms and Conditions of Employment**

**Salary Scale:** The starting salary for this post will be dependent on qualifications, experience, skills and attributes. The salary scale will be in line with CDYS youth worker salary scales

**Contractual basis:** The post is offered on a One-year fixed term contract basis and is subject to a probationary period of six months. Staff are directly employed by Belvedere Youth Club CLG.

**Holiday entitlement:** 23 days per annum, Good Friday and Christmas Eve concession days.

**Application Process**

Application is by way of Curriculum Vitae (3 pages max) and a one to two page covering letter outlining suitability for the post. Please do not submit any additional material. All applications should be addressed to the CEO Belvedere Youth Club.

Applications can be posted to Belvedere Youth Club CLG (BYC), 41 Lower Buckingham Street, Dublin 1, D01KR99 or sent by e-mail to careers@belvedereyouthclub.ie

All applications must be received **by 5pm 3rd May 2024.** Late applications will not be considered.

Applications will be shortlisted and Interview will be held end of May 2024. Belvedere Youth Club CLG. (BYC) is an equal opportunities employer.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this post further, please do not hesitate to contact Jenny at 0873447184