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| **Job Description** | |
| **Job Title** | Community Families Home Visitor (full-time permanent position; based in Rathkeale/Askeaton) |
| **Background** | Limerick Social Service Council provides dynamic and responsive services to individuals and families across Limerick City and County in the areas of parenting and family support, counselling and psychotherapy, early years services and services for older people.  The Child and Family Service is one of the core service areas within LSSC and includes the Community Social Work and Family Support Service, the Community Families Programme, the Young Parent Support Programme, the Southside CFC Family Support Service and the Family Advocacy Service. The team works collaboratively to provide client centred, quality supports that lead to positive outcomes for families. |
| **Purpose of post** | The Community Families Programme (formerly known as the Community Mothers Programme) is a home visiting service for families from the ante-natal period up to the age of three. Community Families home visitors visit parents in their home during the early years of their child’s life to support parents in the areas of parenting, positive parent/child relationships, infant mental health, child development and accessing local services and supports. Home visitors also facilitate Baby/Toddler/Parent Groups, ante-natal and post-natal workshops, weaning workshops, baby massage and baby reflexology programmes and Parenting Programmes (e.g. Parents Plus, Incredible Years, Circle of Security).  As part of the development of the Community Families Programme, the Limerick Project has been awarded funding by Tusla to establish a new project to cover the areas of Rathkeale and Askeaton. There is a dedicated team based in this area, but fully supported and managed by the service in Henry Street. |
| **Application** | Cover Letter detailing relevant experience and qualifications for the post and CV by e-mail to Margaret Mastriani (margaret.mastriani@lssc.ie), Child and Family Service Manager, LSSC. |
| **Closing Date for Applications** | 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3, 2025 |
| **Campaign Specific Selection Process** | Short listing and/or ranking may be carried out based on information supplied in your letter of application, C.V. and achievements to date.    The criteria for short listing and/or ranking are based on the requirements of the post as outlined this job specification. Therefore, it is very important that you think about your experience considering those requirements. Failure to include information regarding these requirements may result in you not being called forward to the next stage of the selection process.    Those successful at the short listing and/or ranking stage of this process (where applied) will be called forward to interview. |
| **Reporting to** | The successful candidates will report directly to the Community Families Coordinator |
| **Informal Enquiries** | Please contact Imelda Heffernan, Community Families Coordinator, on 061-314111 or Imelda.heffernan@lssc.ie |
| **Primary Duties and** Responsibilities | * To support clients in their parenting role and support positive parent/child relationships through the provision of one to one home visiting supports to families with children from 0-3 years and to parents in the ante-natal period * To support parents in the peri-natal period in terms of their own health and well-being and in supporting a positive relationship with their child * To provide opportunities for parents and children to socialise and develop natural supports through the provision of group supports including but not limited to parent/toddler groups, weaning, baby massage, baby reflexology, Incredible Years, Parents Plus and Health Food for all * To participate in ongoing training and development activities, particularly in the Community Families Programme and in other relevant areas such as infant mental health, child development and Meitheal * To comply with all reporting and data collection requirements, both in terms of internal LSSC requirements and the national Community Families Programme and to work with the Coordinator to ensure that all reporting requirements are met fully and on time * To work flexibly and in partnership with other LSSC staff and partner agencies to support families * To actively manage a caseload of parents and to take the role of lead practitioner in Meitheal * To support the implementation of recommendations from the national Community Families Programme * To attend meetings and all supervision sessions |
| **Qualifications and Experience** | * Relevant and recognised qualification in Social Work, Social Care, Early Childhood Care and Education or other related discipline (Level 7 degree) * Experience of working with vulnerable children and families * Experience of working in partnership with families and carers * Be a highly motivated, proactive individual with excellent communication and inter-personal skills * A working knowledge of Tusla Children First and Meitheal * Ability to engage and build positive relationships with parents/families * Candidates must hold a full Driving License and have a car at their disposal. |
| **Person Specification** | * Excellent communication skills * Knowledge and understanding of the issues facing children and families, particularly in disadvantaged communities * Knowledge and understanding of early child development and the needs of children and families during this period * Commitment to work creatively and flexibly to achieve better outcomes for children and families * Capacity to work with adaptability and sensitivity and to work flexible hours as required * Ability to identify and appropriately address child protection concerns * Capacity to self-motivate and work independently and in collaboration with a team and partner agencies * A commitment to his/her own continuing professional development |
| **Hours of work:** | Full-time position. Full time positions are 37.5 hours/week |
| **Terms and Conditions:** | * Permanent positions subject to 6 months’ probation, Garda Vetting and continued funding from funding agencies * Salary: Commensurate with Experience * Generous Annual Leave * Pension Scheme * Ongoing Continuous Professional Development |



*This job description is intended as a summary of the primary responsibilities of and qualifications for this position. The job description is not intended as inclusive of all duties an individual in this position might be asked to perform that may be required either now or in the future.*

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*Dated: May 2025*