



Job Description - Headstart Kernow Community Facilitator

Purpose:

Community Facilitators will be the “glue” that link everything together and have a clear, shared vision of the services provided. A focus on building capacity of communities and creating or strengthening networks for young people and parents to improve access to the right support at the right time in the right place.

Main Responsibilities:

- Have a thorough knowledge of their ‘patch’ – what services, issues, assets are available, building on and linking to asset register and work under Your Way Community Development programme
- Develop community provision based on young people’s needs – clear links and working together with Your Way community development teams and other Headstart operatives in their area
- Support communities to develop their provision, for example sharing good practice, networking events, awareness raising, volunteering opportunities
- Provide training and support to community groups and VCSE providers (including uniformed groups, sports clubs etc) – to build their capacity to support young people experiencing difficulty with their mental health and also to develop activities and provision to promote positive mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Deliver HSK training + additional mental health training to – parents/carers, community groups (as above) VCSE providers, schools/colleges, other professionals working with young people, volunteers.
- Work on developing Youth Information Advice and Counselling (YIACS) in their area as part of the Your Way partnership. Each might look slightly different depending on their ‘patch’. Include IAG, health – GP, nurse, youth work, CAMHS, parents’ drop-in. We see this as being a model to address integration and co-ordination in localities whilst being mindful of the possible development of multi-agency locality models similar to Bloom ‘Getting Help’ for each locality.
- Support professionals to use community spaces, e.g. primary mental health workers, counsellors, psychologists delivering input to young people.
- Manage a small team of voluntary mentoring staff, supporting young people to access this service at an appropriate time for them according to need, tasks include;
 - To assist with the recruitment and training of volunteers; work with Your Way teams to develop and deliver a training programme appropriate for volunteers working in Cornwall and wider community projects
 - To assess the needs and suitability of young people wishing to use the mentoring scheme
 - To work within the relevant policies, procedures and guideline of the mentoring scheme
 - To develop networks with other service providers so that the personal and social development needs of mentees can be enhanced



*Building resilience
and mental wellbeing for
children and young people*



- To advocate on behalf of the mentees with appropriate and relevant services
- Develop and maintain strong working relationship with school Headstart facilitator in secondary schools and participate in any cluster meetings etc involving primary schools
- Support parents to access local and easily accessible training on relevant topics including adolescent development and mental health and wellbeing as well as other locally available services

Working Contacts:

- Create Your Way - Community Development Managers and Community Development and Participation Workers
- TIS UK
- Schools (direct secondary, indirect primary)
- Locality teams
- Relevant agencies operating in localities, e.g. VCSE organisations, GPs, area based mental health organisations, Addaction
- Your Way partners and strands
- Marketing & Communications Worker
- Headstart Community Lead



*Building resilience
and mental wellbeing for
children and young people*



Person Specification - Headstart Kernow Community Facilitator

Skills, Experience and Attitude	Essential	Desirable
Degree level qualification and/or 2 years + experience in a relevant role – e.g. youth work, social work, health or education	x	
Good knowledge and understanding of children and young people’s mental health and experience of working with young people with mental health difficulties and/or complex needs	X	
Experience of collaborative and multi-agency working		X
Experience of safeguarding and child protection, and awareness of the issues facing vulnerable young people including exploitation and abuse	X	
Knowledge and experience of evaluation, monitoring and reporting		X
Knowledge of the processes that empower young people and experience of the participation and involvement of young people in service development	X	
Experience of working as part of a team, and also managing your own work in often isolated situations	X	
Willingness and ability to work outside of normal office hours to meet the needs of young people, volunteers, families and professionals	X	
Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to communicate effectively with young people, parents/carers and professionals	X	
Understanding of confidentiality, data protection, information sharing and safeguarding.	X	
Able to effectively engage young people and parents/carers from a range of backgrounds who may be experiencing difficulties	X	
Able to present sensitive information clearly to young people, parents/carers, schools and other agencies, and to advocate for young people	X	
A positive outlook, able to relate well to young people and families and show an understanding of the main issues that affect their lives	X	
A flexible, resourceful ‘can do’ attitude, responsive to the needs of young people and communities	X	
A positive non-judgemental attitude to young people’s mental health and an understanding of the importance of emotional well-being	X	
A commitment to the rights of young people, and to collaborative working with young people.	X	
An understanding of and commitment to equal opportunities, and anti-discriminatory practice	X	



*Building resilience
and mental wellbeing for
children and young people*



Recognise and value young people's skills, assets and abilities	X	
Self-awareness and an understanding of professional and personal boundaries and limitations	X	
Approachable, trustworthy, reliable and fair towards all staff and volunteers	X	
Able and willing to travel	X	



*Building resilience
and mental wellbeing for
children and young people*

