

Suicide Bereavement Practitioner

Job Description and Person
Specification

Suicide Bereavement Practitioner

Hours	Part-time 30 hours per week
Leeds Mind Grade	Grade 3
Contract	Fixed Term 12 months
Location	Clarence House, Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 4LB with occasional travel across Wakefield, Leeds and surrounding areas
Annual Leave	28 days a year plus 8 Statutory holidays, rising to 31 days after 3 years
Pension	3% employer contribution, 5% employee contribution, enhanced by salary exchange
Probationary Period	4 months
Reporting to	Team Leader
DBS Check Level	Enhanced

Introduction

We have faith and optimism in the people who access our services and so delivery is built around their needs. We support the people of Leeds West Yorkshire to discover their own resources to 'recover' from periods of poor mental health, and to live life independently with their mental health difficulties. Our values of Being Open, Supportive, Brave, Connected and Resourceful are pivotal to the work we do.

Belonging at Leeds Mind

Leeds Mind is committed to creating an inclusive environment – equity, diversity and inclusion are at the heart of everything that we do.

We are committed to ensuring that our colleagues, volunteers and people who access our services feel a sense of belonging at Leeds Mind that gives them the confidence to share their unique perspectives and experience.

By creating an inclusive environment that fosters belonging, we aspire to attract colleagues and volunteers who offer diversity of experience and thought. We believe this will ultimately improve the service we provide as well as the employee and volunteer experience.

To find out more about how we are developing this you can click [here](#).

Purpose of the role

West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (WY ICB) and Public Health in Leeds commission the delivery of 'Postvention' services to support people bereaved by suicide across West Yorkshire. The services support people in the immediate aftermath of a suicide as well as historical losses. Postvention is an internationally evidenced way of reducing risk of suicide in people who have been affected in this manner. Interventions offered within this service include peer led support for individuals, within groups and for families with children, and memorial events.

The Suicide Bereavement Service covers the following areas; Bradford, Keighly & Craven, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield and the post holder will cover specific locations.

The post holder will be employed by Leeds Mind and part of the regional team, based at different locations offering a range of interventions to people who have been bereaved by suicide. These include:

1. **Assessment of need** to identify the appropriate intervention to meet their needs
2. **1:1 support** for up to 6 sessions including practical, advocacy and emotional support
3. **Group support** including skills course and peer support groups

You will carry a caseload of people referred to the service and will need access to a vehicle to carry out this role. Your main focus will be to offer a service across Wakefield.

Main Tasks and Responsibilities

- Undertake assessment of need with people who have referred into the service.
- To feedback assessment information at weekly team meetings, for allocation of people to the most appropriate part of the service.
- Deliver appropriate support interventions to caseload of users accessing the service including 1:1, group, children, young people and family support.
- To liaise with other organisations on behalf of the people you are supporting – (e.g. the coroner, police, housing provider, employer, benefits agency).
- To make referrals or signpost to other services on behalf of people you are supporting.
- To facilitate a range of peer support groups.
- To ensure volunteer support group facilitators are well supported and feel valued in their role.
- To encourage people you are supporting to complete questionnaires and reviews to ensure the project is compassionate, respectful and effective.
- Travel across the region to deliver a high quality Postvention support service.

Promotion, Outreach and Liaison

- Develop and maintain links with potential referrers and to promote the service.
- To attend national conferences, steering group meetings and networking events as requested.
- To contribute to the development of publicity and promotion materials.

Organisation

- Participate in 1:1s, performance and development, including Leeds Mind compulsory training programme
- Attend and participate in service/team meetings
- Work within the framework of Leeds Mind's policies and procedures
- Promote the values, behaviours and ethos of Leeds Mind
- Respond and report on safeguarding concerns in line with the Leeds Mind safeguarding policy and procedure
- Undertake any other reasonable duties as and when required

Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge/Qualifications	• The impact of being bereaved by suicide • Theories of grief • The principles, philosophy and practical applications of the Peer Support and the Person-Centred Approach • Knowledge and awareness of your own support needs when sharing your own lived experience of being affected by suicide. • Knowledge of services in Wakefield	
Skills/Ability	• Excellent organisational, time management and administration skills • Able to use a wide range of IT skills effectively • Able to work effectively with people who have experienced traumatic grief • Able to work calmly with people who have suicidal thoughts and feelings and to sensitively assess risk • Able to provide person centred one to one support to people in acute distress. • Able to refer to appropriate services and liaise effectively with professionals • Able to support volunteer facilitators • Able to reflect on your own attitudes towards mental health and your own practice • Able to mediate and negotiate both internally and externally • Able to work as part of a team and to provide support to colleagues	• Car Driver with access to a vehicle and the means to travel across the region

	Able facilitate and deliver peer support groups	
Experience	• Personal experience of being affected by a suicide and in a place where using this experience daily is manageable and non-detrimental to yourself. • Experience of supporting people who have experienced trauma/emotional distress, including children, young people and families • Experience of facilitation of peer led groups	
Behavioural	• Motivated, confident and resilient. • Lives our values every day – Being Open, Supportive, Brave, Connected, and Resourceful. • Open to change and able to work flexibly in line with the needs of the service/organisation. • Commitment to working in partnership with service users, management, and staff. • Understanding of the challenges faced by people experiencing mental health difficulties. • Demonstrate a commitment to equality and diversity in the workplace. • Commitment to safeguarding clients and others you may come into contact with as part of your role.	