

Job Description

Job title: Perinatal Support Worker

Location: Leicester

Hours: 30 hours per week

Grade: Grade 2pt 11 – 2pt 15

Reports to: Perinatal Support Coordinator

Function: To support the Perinatal Support Co-ordinator to deliver the Family Action Perinatal Support Service in Leicestershire. The service is an early intervention, low intensity service for those with mild to moderate perinatal mental health issues or those who are at risk of developing mental health issues in the perinatal period. It will promote infant-parent attachment and relationships within the family unit, and will provide a range of interventions that respond proportionately to varying levels of need.

Principal Accountabilities:

1. To help manage referrals to the service and signpost as appropriate, assisting 'parents to be' and new parents to access other universal services
2. To make comprehensive assessments in line with Family Action standards, and match trained befrienders to 'parents to be' and new parents.
3. To assist the Perinatal Support Co-ordinator to facilitate the provision of drop in and one to one support during the ante and postnatal periods for referred and self-referred 'parents to be' and new parents and their babies, and help provide group support as directed by the Perinatal Support Co-ordinator.
4. To support new parents to understand the emotional needs of their baby and promote secure attachment.
5. To ensure that any safeguarding concerns are referred promptly to the Perinatal Support Co-ordinator.
6. To work alongside colleagues and with other agencies to support the delivery of workshops to promote bonding as and when required.
7. To supervise befrienders, and assist with befriender recruitment and the delivery of befriender training.
8. To develop and maintain effective liaison with other professionals and services, attending relevant meetings if required to do so by the Perinatal Support Co-ordinator to help ensure service users receive co-ordinated help and support.

9. To record activity on Inform, Family Action's case management system, and elsewhere as directed by the Perinatal Support Co-ordinator (who will be responsible for the provision of data to commissioners).
10. To work within the project budget as determined by the Perinatal Support Co-ordinator.
11. To be able to evidence Family Action's values at all times, which underpin Family Action's mission of 'building stronger families' by:
 - a) Being **people** focused
 - b) Reflecting a '**can do**' approach
 - c) Striving for **excellence** in everything we do
 - d) Having **mutual respect** for everyone we work with, work for and support through our services
12. To ensure you have an understanding (appropriate to your role) of, and comply with Family Action's procedures for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.
13. To ensure the implementation of Family Action's Equality & Diversity Policy and Ethical Policy in every aspect of your work and positively promote the principles of these policies amongst colleagues, service users and other members of the community.
14. To comply with Family Action's Health and Safety Policy, Data Protection Policy and to protect your own and others' health, safety and welfare.
15. To work flexibly as may be required by the needs of the service and carry out any other reasonable duties as required.

Person Specification

1. An appropriate social care, early years or health qualification (Level three or above), and evidence of a commitment to continuing learning and professional development.
2. Ability to plan and deliver an agreed programme of support for vulnerable 'parents to be' and new parents that promotes attachment to the child and develops parenting skills.
3. An understanding of infant-parent attachment, and how mental health issues can affect relationships in a family setting.
4. An understanding of child and adult safeguarding issues.
5. A confident and professional approach to working with parents, colleagues and professionals, and excellent verbal and listening skills.
6. A good level of knowledge about the services available in the area and the professionals working with 'parents to be' and new parents.
7. Experience of training, supervising, motivating and developing volunteers.
8. Excellent assessment and record keeping skills.
9. Knowledge of health and safety issues.
10. A commitment to equal opportunities.
11. A commitment to Family Action's values: people focus; 'can do'; excellence; and mutual respect.
12. A full driving license and access to vehicle for work purposes.
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