

Young Persons Support Worker

Birmingham Youth Engagement Programme

An introduction to the project

Birmingham Youth Engagement programme supports young males aged between 11-17 across the whole of Birmingham. The aim of the project is to reduce youth violence and knife crime, by working both one to one and in group settings to raise awareness of the impacts of youth violence and to de-glamourize gang affiliation. The programme has two methods of intervention; Delivering 1:1 sessions out in the community through a detached youth work model, and an 8 week group delivery programme. Referrals are welcomed from all professionals along with self referrals from young people and their parents/carers.

The aims of the project

- To gain a greater insight into the realities of gang culture and youth violence.
- De-glamourise the media portrayal of being in a gang
- Reduce young people from entering into gangs and criminal exploitation, by offering positive opportunities for them to engage in.
- Focus on prevention and intervention
- Increase the awareness of the law around knife crime

Time commitments required for volunteering

Due to the nature of the service being run both day times and evenings, we have volunteering opportunities available throughout the week. A minimum of 2 hours per week is required. We are particularly interested in those available to volunteer evenings to support the delivery of the group programme.

Key roles and responsibilities

- To undertake detached work directly with young people in the community and a variety of settings, wherever young people meet and develop their social education by providing a programmes of activities, services and facilities
- Communicate effectively and build positive relationships by developing a rapport with young people enabling young people to work effectively on an individual basis and in groups.
- Support young people in their understanding of risk and challenge and in taking action to address key issues in their lives, whilst challenging risky behaviours.
- To utilise intelligence from statutory and voluntary partners, including the Police to work in areas recognised as "hot spots" and provide consistent and regular youth work support to encourage those involved to take part in new positive opportunities and experiences.

- To establish appropriate risk assessments, guidelines and procedures for detached work
- To promote and deliver Family Action's Youth Violence programmes to meet the needs of young people involved in criminal exploitation.
- To make a positive contribution to the working of local multi-agency partnerships.

The role would suit someone who:

- Has experience or an interest in working with young people
- Has a good understanding of the challenges facing young people in today's society
- Has a good understanding of criminal exploitation and youth violence
- Is passionate about supporting young people and helping them to achieve positive outcomes
- Is confident in communicating with both young people and multi agency professionals

What we can offer you

- The opportunity to gain front line experience in youth and community work
- A robust induction and training package and on going commitment to professional development
- Experience of working with both voluntary and statutory services
- The opportunity to be part of an exciting and dynamic team
- Regular supervision
- Travel expenses

Family Action is a safer recruitment employer. Candidates will require a DBS check (paid for by Family Action) and references. Family Action undertakes not to discriminate unfairly against any subject of a criminal record check on the basis of a conviction or other information revealed.

Please complete the volunteer application form and send it to: Hannah.Tubb@family-action.org.uk.

We welcome applications from all sections of the community.