

ESCAPE Discovery Garden Project Worker, Norfolk and Suffolk Projects
Based Discovery Garden at the Discovery Centre in King's Lynn (with occasional cover at the allotment at Tumbler Hill, Swaffham)
12 hours per week (part-time), with opportunities for overtime
Grade 1 point 7-10: £18,278 - £19,666 FTE (£5,928.00 - £6,378.16 per annum)
Temporary Contract until March 31st 2023

Are you a self-motivated team player with a can-do attitude, who is solution focused and passionate about making a difference? If so, we want to hear from you.

At Family Action we transform lives by providing practical, emotional and financial support to those who are experiencing poverty, disadvantage and social isolation. We have been building stronger families since 1869 and today we work with more than 60,000 families in over 150 community based services, as well as supporting thousands more through national programmes and grants.

We are looking for a new member of staff to join the team delivering our innovative therapeutic horticulture project. Based at our Discovery Garden at the Discovery Centre in King's Lynn and occasionally supporting delivery at Tumbler Hill Allotments in Swaffham

The ESCAPE Community Allotment project started almost 12 years ago and was extended to include the Discovery Garden in 2019. The project aims to support mental health and wellbeing by encouraging and supporting the '5 Ways to Wellbeing':

- **To Connect** – with other people, to socialise and to make friends
- **Be Active** – taking part in horticultural activities outside in the fresh air
- **To Take Notice** – of the world around you, of plants and wildlife
- **To Learn** – informally about horticulture - about growing food and cooking fresh vegetables – learning new skills such as pruning and willow weaving. There are opportunities for formal learning by taking our City & Guilds Level 2 Horticulture Skills Certificate and Diploma
- **To Give** – by becoming a volunteer and helping others as well as helping to maintain the allotment site

Your impact

As Project Worker you will support the rest of the team – the Co-ordinator, the Teacher/Support Worker and the Sessional Workers – to deliver the project.

- You will encourage new and existing participants to take part, to feel comfortable and to be occupied. Many people who come to the project for the first time are anxious and many have poor social skills and low self-esteem, so it is important that time is taken to help them to integrate. You will need an understanding of mental health, Learning Disability and of Autism and ADHD.
- It is important that the site is maintained and this will also be a significant element of this Project Worker role so a love of gardening and being outdoors in all weathers is essential.

- Finally, you will be involved with the planning and development of the service with the team. You will also need IT skills to be able to record data, contribute to funding reports and to respond to emails.

Your skills

You will need to enjoy working with people and have an understanding of mental health, Learning Disability and Neurodevelopmental Differences. Some experience of working with vulnerable adults in a community setting as a volunteer or a paid worker is essential. You will also need to have a love of gardening and some basic horticultural skills and a relevant qualification would be desirable but not essential. Finally, you need to be able to work as part of a team – staff, volunteers and service users – and understand the benefits of co-production in a project such as this.

We are committed to Equality, Diversity & Inclusion in all that we do and welcome applications from all sections of the community. We particularly welcome applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnic candidates, LGBTQIA+ candidates and candidates with disabilities because we are committed to increasing the representation of these groups at Family Action. We know that greater diversity will lead to even greater results for families and children and strive for our workforce to be truly representative of the diverse communities we support. We offer a guaranteed interview scheme for disabled applicants and will reimburse your travel cost if you attend an interview.

What will we offer you?

We'll offer you a generous pension scheme and leave entitlements, eye care vouchers, a cycle to work scheme and other great benefits. We are happy to talk flexible working. All roles in Family Action are open to a discussion about possible flexible working options, subject to business needs, and all new starters will have the right to make a flexible working request from day one of employment. We have an excellent wellbeing offer and we will invest in your professional development with on-going quality training and career development opportunities. You'll join an established, supportive and high-performing service and have the opportunity to thrive in an innovative organisation that values your opinion, encourages learning and has the needs of children and families at its core.

We are forward looking, ambitious and committed to continuous improvement. We are a **people focused, can-do** organisation, which strives for **excellence** in all we do and operates with **mutual respect**. If you share these values and behaviours and have the necessary skills then we look forward to hearing from you.

If you would like to talk to someone about this post to find out more, please call Karen Bek on 07785752761 or Clare Peak on 07944609655

For an application pack and further information please visit:

www.family-action.org.uk/get-involved/work-us/current-vacancies/

Please email completed applications to: completed.application9@family-action.org.uk

Closing date: Wednesday 20th July 2022 at 17:00

Interview date: Week commencing 1st August 2022



Appointments are subject to Family Action receiving a satisfactory disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service.

ID: 440