

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title of Post:	Locum Substance Use Worker
Responsible to:	Manager of Substance Use Team
Location:	Any Projects
Grade:	Locum Specialist
pay:	£13.90 per hour

PURPOSE OF YOUR JOB

- To offer support, advice, assessment and information to residents with substance use problems
- To monitor the progress of referrals made to the Local Authority for Community Care Assessment, and all other referrals to relevant community service providers
- To liaise, and establish links with Statutory and Non-statutory community service providers, thereby raising the profile of St Mungo's Substance Use Team and the hostel within the area
- To offer support and advice to project staff working with residents with substance use problems
- To facilitate the progress of residents towards increased independence in living skills and/or accommodation, as appropriate
- To provide training for St Mungo's staff via St Mungo's central training, and within the project as required
- To co-operate with flexible work times, in accordance with the requirements of the hostel

CRITICAL DIMENSIONS

- Not applicable

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

- To assist in the assessment of residents with substance use problems, or a dual diagnosis, and provide appropriate interventions.
- To liaise with mental health workers regarding dual diagnosis.
- To assist other St Mungo's staff in providing a high standard of service to residents with substance use problems or a dual diagnosis and to give advice on good working practices.
- To be aware of the services being provided to residents, to identify any shortfalls and to recommend ways to alleviate these.
- To provide appropriate care for clients who have relapsed and to plan and implement an individual programme of re-introduction to service provision where appropriate.
- To develop, strengthen and maintain links between projects and community based voluntary and

statutory services to facilitate appropriate services for residents in crisis or on an ongoing basis to ensure that their needs are met

- To actively advocate on behalf of, and support the resident in relation to maintaining their tenancy in the hostel, and access to services
- To support and participate in the development of personal action plans for clients with substance use problems and in addressing immediate and longer term needs, particularly move on accommodation, together with keyworkers and resettlement workers
- To support project workers in assisting and advising residents on issues relating to good health practice, safer drug and alcohol use, and the reduction of drug and alcohol related risk and harm
- To compile information on substance use resources and developments, to disseminate this to project staff and the Substance Use Team as appropriate, and to act as a source of information and advice
- To provide in-house training to St Mungo's staff, to enable them to extend their knowledge and skills in caring for residents with substance use problems or dual diagnosis
- To facilitate the participation of the resident in Employment and Training Schemes, the resettlement process, day-care and other programmes, and to assist in the provision of life and social skills
- To actively participate in supervision with the line manager at least once a month
- To represent St Mungo's in meetings with statutory and voluntary organisations and to lobby for increased resources for services to residents
- To work within the guidelines set out in St Mungo's Drug Policy and recognise St Mungo's responsibilities as the landlord, and be aware of the Health and Safety procedures of St Mungo's
- To conduct research and provide statistics and other management information as required by the manager.
- To perform any other duties determined by the manager.
- To act at all times in the best interests of St Mungo's

GENERAL

- Adhere to St. Mungo's Equal Opportunities and Diversity policies at all times.
- Adhere to St. Mungo's Health & Safety and Confidentiality policies at all times.
- Adhere to St Mungo's Standing Orders and all financial regulations at all times.
- Adhere to St Mungo's No Smoking Policy at all times.

This job description covers the current range of duties and will be reviewed from time to time. It is St Mungo's aim to reach agreement on changes, but if agreement is not possible, St Mungo's reserves the right to change this job description.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Substance Use Worker

EXPERIENCE AND TRACK RECORD

Please use the job application form to demonstrate your experience and positive achievement in the following:

Essential

- 18 months' experience of working with people with substance misuse problems.
- The knowledge and understanding of the complex needs and problems that confront homeless people, particularly those with a history of problematic substance misuse.
- The knowledge, skills and ability to assess the needs of people with substance misuse problems and formulate action plans to identify how these can be met.
- A detailed knowledge of the services which are available to people who have substance misuse problems, the means to gain access to these services, and a good understanding of the Community Care Assessment process.
- The knowledge, skills and ability to provide drug and alcohol training to St Mungo's staff.
- An understanding and willingness to work with different theoretical models of substance misuse work.
- Ability to build a rapport and develop a good working relationship with clients who are using substances, some of whom may display challenging behaviour.
- A clear knowledge and understanding of harm minimisation, how it relates to substance misuse, and can be used as an intervention.
- An understanding of mental health and dual diagnosis issues.
- The skills and ability to establish effective working relationships with a range of people within St Mungo's, and the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors within the community.
- Enthusiasm and ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team.
- A knowledge and understanding of and a commitment to implementing an Equal Opportunities Policy, and an awareness of client's rights.
- Good verbal and communication skills.
- Ability to collate information and write reports.

Desirable

- Qualifications and training in the substance use field.
- Other relevant qualifications or training.
- Experience of providing training.
- Working knowledge of IT and computers.