**Job Description**

**Title:**  Youth Worker with responsibilities towards Young Parent Support

**Location:** The Link, 10 West Street, Newtownards, BT23 4EN

**Salary:** £9.80 per hour

**Expenses:** A mileage allowance is paid in respect of agreed mileage undertaken in the course of business.

**Hours of work:** 21 hours per week

**Leave**: 25 days pro rata plus 12 statutory days pro rata

**Contract:** Temp to cover maternity (approx. 10 – 12 months)

**JOB OUTLINE:** The worker will provide support and advice to young parents up to 25 years old on a range of issues in relation to parenthood. The project works with young people who have just discovered that they will be parents, who have given birth and young people who have multiple children. It will also be working within a team of Youth Workers to deliver programmes and services to marginalised and disadvantaged young people.

**REPORTING TO: Centre Coordinator**

**MAIN DUTIES:**

**Direct Support Work with Service Users**

* Carry out home visits from a caseload and develop good relationships with Young Parents.
* To design and deliver programmes which encourage learning through play and support parental involvement in their child’s development.
* To develop a support package and provide advice regarding benefits and money management; shopping and cooking of healthy meals home safety; creative and interactive play; behaviour management; physical health and sexual health.
* To advocate for young people in dealing with statutory services.
* Facilitate parents to use local amenities to improve support networks and build links with other community-based services.
* To signpost service users to specialist support services.
* To work in a confidential and professional manner that ensures that client welfare and safety is of paramount importance.
* To be available to work at times appropriate to the changing needs of the service user and for the efficient use of staff resources. This will include evenings.
* To assess need and risks as relevant to each service user, setting realistic and achievable goals.
* To monitor, review and record the service user’s progress.
* To promote Service User involvement and active participation in the project.

**Administrative Duties**

* To provide information to assist in the monitoring, reviewing and planning of services.
* To maintain high quality records of contact with service users.
* To maintain confidentiality in all written and verbal communication.

**Communication**

* To establish and maintain effective communications within your team, across the organisation and with relevant partnering agencies.
* Maintain accurate and complete records consistent with policies and procedures.

**Health and safety**

* To uphold the Health and Safety Policy and Procedures of The Link Family and Community Centre at all times.
* To carry out, record and review assessments and risk management strategies for each service user.

**Equality & Diversity**

* Uphold The Link’s Equal Opportunities Policy in respect of service users, staff, partnering agencies, members of the public promoting the organisation in a positive light at all times.
* To work alongside and support the work of volunteers as appropriate.

**Quality**

* Deliver service excellence in line with the following: The Link ’s policies and procedures; The Link’s Mission, Vision and Core Values; Care standards as set down by regulatory bodies (e.g.) NISCC.
* To adhere to all regulatory requirements in undertaking your job role.

**Other Duties**

* To carry out any/all other duties as specified by the Centre Coordinator.
* To have an awareness of all The Link’s Policies and Procedures and work in accordance with Practice Guidelines.
* The above is not an exhaustive list of duties and you will be expected to perform different tasks as necessitated within the organisation and the overall business objectives of the organisation.

## Qualifications and Experience

#### **Essential**

**Knowledge and Experience**

* Relevant 3rd level education and at least one year’s experience of working with young people in a paid capacity.

**OR**

OCN level 3 in youth work with at least 2 years experience of working with young people in a paid capacity.

**OR**

At least 5 years experience of working with young people in a youth work setting in a paid capacity.

**Skills**

* Excellent written and oral communications skills
* An ability to engage with vulnerable young people.
* Must hold a current driving license and have access to a vehicle. This criterion may be wavered, if a disability prohibits driving. In this case, please demonstrate how you would meet the mobility requirement of this post.
* Able to work outside normal hours when required.

#### **Desirable**

* Knowledge of issues affecting disadvantaged and vulnerable young people
* Knowledge of working with families (especially those under the age of 25)
* Knowledge of programmes or interventions to assist young people to overcome personal barriers
* Commitment to and experience of user involvement in the planning and delivery of services
* Excellent practice in the areas of:
	+ Assessing young people’s personal development needs
	+ Developing a plan with young people and relevant stakeholders to meet young people’s needs
* Working as part of a team
* Lone working
* Advocating on behalf of young people
* Participation of young people
* Commitment to Include The Link’s values, principals and to children’s rights.
* Ability to effectively network within sector and build strong relationships.
* Ability to manage own time effectively.
* Ability to manage change effectively.

**Closing date for applications is 12 noon, Thursday 21st October 2021.**

**Shortlisted applicants will be notified by email, and it is anticipated that interviews will take place in the week beginning 1 November 2021.**

**Late, incomplete, or unsigned application forms will not be accepted.**

**The post is currently funded for one year but hopefully can be extended if further funding is secured**