



Research Officer – Ubuntu Project

Additional Information for Research Officer Ubuntu Project

You will have received a Research Officer job description and person specification. This is a generic role in use throughout the organisation and therefore Barnardo's uses generic job descriptions and person specifications when advertising for such roles.

When completing your application form, please refer to the skills, knowledge and experience required as detailed in the **Person Specification** and also any further information included in the **Additional Information Sheet**. This should be done with an understanding of the context of the service described.

Background of the Ubuntu Project

Ubuntu "I am because we are" or "Humanity towards others" is an exciting new project Funded by The National Lottery Community Fund and delivered by Barnardo's. The funding will be used to develop regional support networks for families going through the asylum process. The project aims to empower young voices from a refugee and asylum-seeking background and create sustainable community support.

Ubuntu will be managed by Barnardo's Northern Ireland and delivered in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Hertfordshire.

Objectives of the Ubuntu Project

Barnardo's hope to fulfil this vision by:

- Ensure that providers work together jointly across geographies, sharing aims, information, tasks and responsibilities to prevent problems arising which may impact on the health and educational outcomes of children from a sanctuary-seeking background.
- Support the positive integration of families from a sanctuary-seeking background using a community development approach and providing training and support.
- Support parents from a sanctuary-seeking background to develop positive parenting skills that will reduce the risk of poor health and educational outcomes in their child.
- Identify systemic issues impacting negatively on families seeking sanctuary which can be addressed through devolved structures and working with local and regional government agencies to effect change.
- Identify systemic issues impacting negatively on families seeking sanctuary which are reserved matters and advocate to effect change at national level.



- Ensure that young people's voices are heard by decision makers and inform policy and strategy in the sector.
- Ensure that the practice models developed are effectively implemented with the learning from the project disseminated across the partnership.

This Research Post

This post is part of the Ubuntu provision collecting data and conducting research on the impact of policy and legislation on children, young people and their parents. The research will amplify the voices of children, young people and parents feeding into the development of recommendations on policies that negatively impact families arriving to the UK seeking international protection.

This research will focus on families who have arrived seeking sanctuary, developing creative reports and information which can be used to advocate for systemic changes to local, regional and national government policies and directly influence system change.

It will:

- Outline in detail the impact of current government policies on refugee's and asylum seeking families and measure their impact on the family unit
- Develop recommendations with Network partners which can be used to influence decision makers in government led departments at all levels
- Identify through collaboration models of best practice within communities for working with families arrived seeking sanctuary
- Present these models and the impact policies have had on families with children aged 0-25 to internal and external audiences

Initial Specific Responsibilities

- To understand the Ubuntu Project and issues it's networks and community development provision seeks to resolve
- To understand the challenges faced by children, young people and their families when arriving into the UK as a result of government policies in relation to devolved and reserved matters
- Conduct a literature review on current best policy and practice to supporting forcibly displaced children young people and families in other places
- To carry out primary research directly with children, young people and families who have arrived in Northern Ireland Hertfordshire or Scotland seeking international protection.
- To work with a range of stakeholders to identify common concerns and develop recommendations for improvement
- To produce reports and information outlining the research, its findings as well as making recommendations which inform practice, influence policy and systemic change.
- To present the research findings and recommendations at stakeholder events and during consultations with decision makers across government departments

Essential Criteria:



- Experience of leading and conducting social research projects
- Experience of, and ability to, analysing data & present research evidence
- Experience of conducting research with children, young people and families, communicating effectively and working with sensitivity.
- Demonstrable ability to work collaboratively, share information proactively and foster good working relationships with colleagues, external services and networks
- Able to attend meetings and events in various locations outside of normal working hours if required*
- Must hold a full driving licence, have access to a car for work and be willing to travel if required.
- Ability to draw from research findings and develop recommendations for policy change

Supplementary Information

- Postholder will be required to participate in team meetings, supervision and training.
- Travel may be required throughout the duration of the project across Northern Ireland; Scotland and Hertfordshire, on occasion.