



IRISH ADVOCACY NETWORK

PROGRAMME OF CARE:	Mental Health
POST:	Peer Advocate
REPORTS TO:	Team Leader
LOCATION:	Various locations across Belfast

JOB SUMMARY

The post holder will be working with adults who are experiencing difficulties in their mental health, assisting them in their recovery and enabling them to regain their independence through providing support and time. They will provide Peer Advocacy as part of a team in Belfast. They will work as a member of this team to ensure that service user's views inform practice. They will work as a member of this team to ensure that service user's views inform practice.

Ability to travel throughout the Belfast area, as demanded by the job, is essential.

MAIN DUTIES

As part of their role and function the Peer Advocate will;

- Provide independent advocacy offering support to service users in achieving their goals, by providing emotional/practical/social support.
- Participate as a member of the Peer Advocacy Team.

- Encourage and support service users to be fully involved and engaged in all aspects of their care plan.
- Liaise with carers & all agencies/professionals including colleagues, GPs and carer advocates involved in the service user's care and treatment.
- The post holder will provide support to service users wishing to comment on service delivery and to regularly audit service user satisfaction levels.
- Be involved in the evaluation of treatment and care provided on an individual and Team level.
- Maintain accurate records of all contacts with service users.
- Participate in training/development as required.
- Receive supervision from agreed supervisor on a regular basis

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

Have had experience as a user of mental health services and have achieved a level of recovery.

Be able to demonstrate knowledge of the needs of people experiencing mental health problems.

Communicate in an effective manner both written and orally.

Be able to demonstrate commitment to team working.

Proficient in Microsoft Outlook, Excel, Word and PowerPoint.

Have a clean driving license and access to a car for business use.

Have completed Accredited Peer Advocacy Training or be willing to undertake this training.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Quality

The Irish Advocacy Network is committed to providing the highest possible quality of service to clients. Staff at all times must provide a caring service to those with whom they come into contact with a courteous and respectful manner.

Equality and Human Rights

Employees are expected to comply with the Irish Advocacy Network's Equality Policies.

- The post holder is required to promote equality of opportunity and good relations as outlined in the Irish Advocacy Network's Equality Scheme.
- The post holder should be aware of the Human Rights legislation in relation to the requirements of this post.

Action on Smoking Policy

- Irish Advocacy Network has a No Smoking Policy which all employees must comply with.

The duties and responsibilities of the job description are not definitive; they can be modified to meet the Irish Advocacy Network's needs and priorities at any given time.

Irish Advocacy Network is an equal opportunities employer