**Title of Post: Cocaine/Crack Cocaine Outreach Worker**

**Full Time 37.5 hours**

**Report To: Manager/Team Leader**

**Salary: HSE Social Care Worker Pay Scale**

**Job Summary**

**Duties and Responsibilities**

**Service Delivery**

* Develop and maintain links with Cocaine/Crack Cocaine drug users experiencing difficulties and their parents/spouses/siblings/partners and the wider community.
* Outreach is carried out in Dublin 10 and Dublin 12 regions, during daytime and out of hours.
* Carry out unstructured weekly street and community outreach work.
* Maintain a regular street presence.
* Deliver and promote targeted harm reduction intervention, ~~i~~n conjunction with the HSE and Advance Outreach Services
* Demonstrate knowledge and experience of Needle Exchange Provision, crack pipe distribution and harm reduction interventions.
* Demonstrate and maintain up to date knowledge and awareness of homelessness, housing, social welfare entitlements, and mental health and addiction issues.
* Work in cooperation and partnership with other agencies, both voluntary and statutory ensuring good communication and cross agency flexible working practises to minimise obstacles to a person getting access to supports, services and/or accommodation or fulfilling their care plan objectives
* To make referrals to internal and external services as appropriate
* Be aware of Ballyfermot Advance Projects service delivery policies including, Outreach, Overdose, NSP, Confidentiality, Health and Safety, Lone Working Code of Conduct, etc.
* Have a working knowledge of evidence-based approaches-such as CRA, Motivational Interviewing; Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.
* Bring critical incidents (mental health issues; self-harm; child protection issues) to the attention of the Team Leader and to the Manager in the absence of the Team Leader.
* Ensure the staff team are cognisant of service users experiencing extreme difficulties to ensure on-going support
* Liaise professionally and competently with local agencies (across all task force areas)
* Participate fully at client review meetings and liaise closely with team members working with significant others.

**Team Work**

* To work as part of a multi-disciplinary team in a low threshold harm reduction service, in conjunction with other team members with the aim of ensuring that BAP delivers the highest quality service possible to service users
* Work as a team member to develop and fulfil the policies, quality standards, aims and objectives of the BAP
* To attend and actively engage in team meetings and client reviews as requested
* Actively assist in the continued development and coordination of a comprehensive Community Addiction Service
* Assist Team Leader in the evaluation of Cocaine/Crack Cocaine Outreach service.

**Administration**

* Keep up to date accurate and appropriate electronic and written records of all contacts with the client group
* Ensure all contacts, files and records reflect BAPs confidentially and data protection policies
* To assist the Team Leader in the collation of statistics as required
* Promote the Cocaine/Crack Cocaine Outreach Service/Team to the relevant statutory, community and voluntary agencies across all Task Force Areas.

**General Responsibilities**

* Engage with BAPs supervisory/management structures, attending case management monthly, engaging in biannual appraisal and in monthly performance management reviews with the Team Leader
* To continuously develop the role in conjunction with the Manager/Team Leader
* To participate in internal/external meetings, training events, staff/management planning days as required
* Such other appropriate and relevant tasks as may be required by the Manager/Team Leader

**Essential Criteria**

* A recognised qualification in the area of Social Work, Social Studies, Social Care, Addiction Studies or at least four years full time employment in a similar setting with proven record of in-house training/up-skilling
* Previous experience of working with people who use drugs
* Ability to work unsocial hours including weekends
* Demonstrate the ability to provide assertive proactive outreach
* Demonstrate a working knowledge of Homeless Service Provision and presenting issues
* Demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical framework of working with people with Cocaine/Crack Cocaine problems with a particular emphasis on supporting people through change
* Demonstrate an understanding of individual development, family dynamics and the wider social contexts of crack cocaine use
* Demonstrate an understanding of and commitment to the principles of reducing drug related harm
* The ability to act upon one’s own initiative within the context of professional boundaries and accountability
* The ability to work within a multidisciplinary team and to receive and give support to develop the Team

**Desirable Criteria:**

* Dual Diagnosis
* Knowledge of the local areas an advantage