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| **Post Title:** | Youth Justice Worker |
| **Location:** | Ennis/Shannon District |
| **Reports to:** | Line Manager |
| **Status:** | There is one fulltime post available (37.5 hrs) |
| **Work With:** | Youth Diversion Project Team, Youth Work Team, Wider CYS Team |

The post holder is an exceptional individual who endeavours to work in partnership with young people. They make a difference in their lives by promoting a culture of unconditional positive regard and by operating in line with our organisational mission, vision and values

**Job Summary:**

To engage and support young people through a range of interventions, activities and issue based programmes in centre and on an outreach basis. To promote the work and mission of Clare Youth Service in the community. To identify young people within the prescribed target groups currently not accessing the service and support them to engage.

**Key duties and area of responsibilities**:

* Assessing and responding to the needs of young people at risk of offending or re-offending
* Engaging young people in a process that will enable them to identify and examine unhelpful behaviours and identify positive life choices and behaviours that will support them to live a life free from criminal or harmful behaviours.
* Building and maintaining positive relationships with key stakeholders particularly An Garda Síochána
* Work with young people in the co-creation of activities and programmes with a clear emphasis on youth participation in all aspects and areas of the project.
* Deliver creative, innovative, challenging, fun and exciting projects with and for young people.
* Deliver a range of skills based activities including for example, cooking, art, fishing, dance, drama, music, meditation, sports, surfing etc.
* Engage with prescribed target groups and develop appropriate strategies for individuals and groups – including planning, developing, implementing and evaluating needs and strengths based programmes and activities for young people.
* Advocate for young people using youth participation methodologies as well as representing individuals on formal and informal platforms and forums.
* Support young people to access additional supports and services as appropriate including for example health services, education, training and employment opportunities.
* Ensure youth work approaches and methodologies are employed e.g. centre and outreach based programmes, detached youth work, group work programmes and activities, structured drop-in and individual support, residential based opportunities in line with CYS Practice.
* Work with young people to maintain and develop in centre rooms as clean and user friendly safe spaces.
* Schedule work to reflect 70% face to face work with young people.
* Contribute to the development of a Logic Model to provide a high-level visual overview of all work.
* Evaluate the work of the project with young people and other key stakeholders using relevant project evaluation systems.
* Operating in line with YDP operational requirements.
* Preparing for and attending relevant meetings including referral and project committee meetings.
* Undertake CPD and participate in capacity building and service development sessions provided by CYS.
* Actively participate in both internal and external networks, groups or structures as may be assigned.
* Undertake other duties as may be requested by the CEO and/or Line Manager

Administrative duties including but not limited to:

* Identify and pursue sources of funding for projects to improve services and/or resources for young people
* Ensure operation within budgets and monitor programme spending in line with CYS procedures.
* Ensure compliance with relevant Quality Standards Frameworks and those specific to the project.
* Maintain clear records of the work with the participants including tracking sheets, application forms, referral forms, reports, permissions slips, consent forms, photographs, print media clippings, social media posts etc.
* Adhere to required tools, templates and systems to ensure all work is recorded, documented and reported correctly.

**Other information**

* **Salary:** – CYS Youth Work Salary Scale is an 11 point scale ranging from €32,078.57 to €46,668.65. Starting point based on experience which is anticipated between point 1 and 3. Salary payable on a monthly basis.
* **Annual Leave** – 26 days annual leave (pro-rata)
* **Bank Holidays**: As most youth workers are not scheduled to work Mondays this day, (pro-rata) is taken as soon as possible within the month.
* **Sick Leave**: One month paid certified sick leave in a 12 month period (pro rata) after 6 months work with the Service.
* **Working hours**: Full time staff work 37.5 hours. Options may be available for 30-hour working week in some posts.
* **Training and development**: The service is committed to meeting the training needs of all staff and works to develop a training plan to meet any skills or knowledge gaps on an individual or team basis. This includes internal and external training programmes.
* **Support**: All staff received formal support and supervision on a monthly basis while additional support from your manager is available as required. The culture within the wider team is such that all staff provide informal support and advice for each other as needed.
* **Flexible working**: Work is scheduled at times that young people are available including evening and weekends and typically fulltime workers work their hours between Tuesday and Saturday or Wednesday and Sunday.
* **Travel**: This post will require travel within Clare and on occasion within Ireland. The worker is required to own a car and have adequate insurance in place to cover the use of their car in the course of their work.
* **Garda Vetting**: Employment with CYS is subject to satisfactory completion of our Garda Vetting procedure and satisfactory reference checks being received.
* **Child Safeguarding**: Successful applications must submit the Tusla e-learning certificate and Mandates Persons certification where appropriate. In addition, staff complete the NYCI Child Protection Awareness Programme with CYS.

Post Requirements (E) Essential (D) Desirable

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| Qualifications | Degree in a relevant area. (E) | | Youth Work Qualification (D)  Relevant areas include but not limited to degrees in the following areas:   * Social Care * Health Promotion * Community Development * Education * Social Science * Youth Justice Work |
| Experience | * 1 year’s relevant experience of working with young people in a paid capacity or 3 years in a voluntary capacity. (E) * Experience in the design and delivery of a wide range of programmes for young people. (D) * Experience of working with young people who are considered hard to reach. (D) * Experience of working with young people in a dynamic/engaging way using a variety of methodologies. (D) * Excellent communication, interpersonal and teamwork skills, with the ability to engage a diverse range of stakeholders and maintain effective working relationships. (E) | | |
| Knowledge | * Knowledge of Child Safeguarding. (D) * Knowledge of best practice approaches in all relevant areas including youth work methodologies and youth participation. (D) * Knowledge of issues and trends affecting young people in contemporary Ireland (D) | | |
| Skills | * Analytical, decision making and problem solving skills required with the capacity to absorb/organise new information to ensure continuing best practice. * Proficient at planning, delivering, and evaluating programmes. * Proficient report writing skills. * Experienced in computer applications and the use of online communication platforms. | | |
| Core  Competency | * Ability to self-manage including a commitment to reflective practice. * Ability to work within the ethos, values and principles of CYS. * Commitment to excellent work practice including time keeping. | | |
|  |  | Commitment to flexible working on an ongoing basis in line with the requirements of CYS for this post including working late evenings and weekends as a core part of the working week. | |
|  |  | Commitment to ongoing personal and professional development. | |
|  |  | Ability to relate with empathy and respect to young people, colleagues, stakeholders and the general public. | |
|  |  | Respectful engagement with and support for volunteers. | |
|  |  | Ability to communicate effectively and appropriately to young people across the target group age range. | |
|  |  | Flexible, willing to adapt to new challenges and change. | |
|  |  | Ability to plan and prioritise work in terms of importance, timescales and other resource constraints, re-prioritising in light of changing circumstances. | |
|  |  | Ability to think logically, use initiative and work with minimum supervision. | |
|  |  | Fluency in English, both written and verbal. (E) | |

