**REAP Therapeutic Garden Worker, Maryhill Therapeutic Gardens**

**Job Description**

The REAP Therapeutic Garden Worker will be responsible for supporting the development of the Maryhill Therapeutic Gardens, funded by The National Lottery Community Fund until August 2024.

The Maryhill Therapeutic Gardens project is an exciting project that implements nature-based interventions to improve the mental, social and physical wellbeing of its users.

The role of the REAP Therapeutic Garden Worker will be to take the lead in promoting and developing mental and physical wellbeing while supporting people with lived experience of mental health problems to be active outdoors doing gardening, food growing, and other activities in nature. The post requires a team approach, working closely with the Community Gardener and Project Manager in overseeing activities in the garden. This will include planning gardening tasks and running the therapeutic gardening sessions with a particular emphasis on creating and developing a healing and welcoming place for all. Utilising previous experience and an awareness of the mental health sector the post holder will undertake client recruitment, liaise with referring agencies and conduct an evaluation of the project’s therapeutic impact on clients. A range of evaluation approaches will be implemented via surveys, interviews and assessments. Further, a team of volunteers will be recruited to support the work in the garden and support and training of this group will be ongoing throughout the project.

**Post Terms & Conditions**

Location: Based in Elgin

Hours: 13 hours per week

There will be occasional weekend and evening work. At least 50% of the work will be

in situ at the Maryhill Gardens in Elgin.

Salary: £23,200 pro rata

Holidays: 34 days per annum pro rata which includes public holidays

The post will be a 3 years fixed term contract.

**Accountability**

The Therapeutic Garden Worker will be line managed by the REAP Manager

**Main tasks:**

Recruiting clients with low and medium mental health problems, liaising with referring agencies to recruit suitable clients

Devising and conducting assessment systems and paperwork including ongoing evaluation of client support needs and interests

Developing and delivering growing sessions at Maryhill Gardens for those with mild to moderate depression and mental health needs alongside the team of volunteers.

Working with the REAP Therapeutic Gardener to deliver weekly sessions and appropriate training sessions in growing skills/ composting etc. for clients

Assisting the REAP Project Manager and other REAP team members to recruit, train, work with, and support a team of volunteers

Work as part of a team to deliver a successful project, in line with good practice, code of conduct, Health and Safety and other REAP policies and procedures

Work with the Maryhill GP Practice to maintain a visually pleasant and cared for growing space

Contribute to web page content, carry out evaluation and monitoring tasks and support report writing.

**Person Specification**

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| **Attributes** | **Required** |
| **Experience** | A minimum 1 year experience in the mental health sector  An experience of recruiting, training and working with volunteers  A good knowledge of gardening |
| **Education & Qualifications** | A good general standard of education (e.g. Standard grade or above) |
| **Skills/Abilities General** | Excellent communication skills and good at engaging with a wide range of people  Polite, personable and non-judgemental  Adaptable and motivated  Able to manage own time and workload |
| **Skills/abilities specific to post** | Driving licence and access to vehicle  Competent Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills |
| **Interpersonal & Social Skills** | Ability to work well as part of a team  Understanding of community work and the need for confidentiality |

**Applications**

Please note that a PVG check will be carried out for all applicants for this post.

Application forms available at <http://reapscotland.org.uk/our-people/vacancies/>

Completed applications forms should e-mailed to info@reapscotland.org.uk

Closing Date: **Thursday 24th June 2021, 10am.**

Candidates will be informed if they are unsuccessful.

REAP is committed to Equal Opportunities.

Scottish Charity (SCO37988). Company Limited by Guarantee (316989)

For further information see [www.reapscotland.org.uk](http://www.reapscotland.org.uk)

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