



EDINBURGH WOMEN'S AID

Job Description

Job Title:	Peer Support Co-Ordinator
Hours:	35 hours over 5 days
Salary:	£28428.24 pro rata, SPC27
Responsible To:	Women's Service Operational Manager (The post will be supervised and supported by an experienced EWA Senior staff member.)
Contract:	12 month fixed contract
Holiday Entitlement:	26 days annual leave plus 10 public holidays pro rata

This role is subject to Adult and Child PVG scheme membership.

Job Purpose

To build a **peer support** programme that will allow women who have experienced domestic abuse to support each other towards building lives free from abuse within a safe and supporting community. The role is for a full-time Peer Support Co-Ordinator who has lived experience as a service user of domestic abuse support services (EWA or other) and is now in a safe personal situation.

Elements of the programme:

The **Peer Support Co-Ordinator** will plan, develop and lead group sessions with service users; offer one-to-one support where needed, including signposting to EWA and external services; and monitor and evaluate the progress of the programme. The post will be supervised and supported by an experienced EWA Senior staff member.

Main Duties

The **Peer Support Co-Ordinator** will hold three different *weekly sessions* of 6-10 service users, running for 2-3 hours each.

Topics will include:

- Understanding the dynamics of domestic abuse
- Understanding the role of social work and other agencies
- Breaking down isolation
- Building networks of support
- Supporting others while maintaining self-care
- Safeguarding yourself and your children
- Field trips to parks, gardens, beaches and other areas to help build connection, trust and a sense of fun

Other Tasks

- To make and maintain connections with other organisations like Willow, Just Us and other domestic abuse support service providers such as Shakti Women's Aid and LGBT Domestic Abuse Scotland.
- Monitoring and evaluation - as this is a pilot programme, it is vital to consistently collect and analyse data and input. The **Peer Support Co-Ordinator** will track participation; decreased feelings of isolation, anxiety and depression; increased feelings of connectedness, self-esteem and hopefulness; and other measures. She will also collect information from participants about what they feel is working within the programme and what is not working as well so that we can make adjustments to better meet their needs and work towards our outcome goals.

Essential requirements

- A commitment to the values of Women's Aid and an understanding of domestic abuse as violence against women.
- An in-depth knowledge of issues relating to gender-based violence and an ability to apply this knowledge in working with service users, and other stakeholders.
- Experience of providing 1:1 support to vulnerable women.
- Ability to sensitively hold informal, supportive group discussions
- Experience of facilitating group work.
- A range of skills to communicate at all levels with service users, partners and employers.
- Ability to maintain records in relation to performance and outcomes.
- Possession of the skills needed to meet challenging situations that arise around women who have experienced domestic abuse e.g. effective negotiation, risk assessment and raising awareness in a sensitive way.
- Knowledge and understanding of child protection regulation and the impact of domestic abuse on children.
- Ability to register as a Housing Support worker with the SSSC.
- Understanding of the SSSC codes of practice and National Care Standards.
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively in writing and orally.
- Ability to actively listen to others and to challenge others constructively.
- Ability to plan, prioritise own workload and work independently.
- Good computer skills: competent in Word, Excel and Outlook; and good data collection and monitoring skills.

Desirable requirements

- Full driving licence

Edinburgh Women's Aid is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. Women only need apply under Schedule 9 (Part 1) of the Equality Act 2010