

SAMH Role Profile

Job Title	Let's Connect Officer
Job Family	Children and Young People
Department/Team	Delivery and Development / Children and Young People
Reports to	Let's Connect Team Leader
Direct Reports	None

Role Summary

SAMH (Scottish Association for Mental Health) is working in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council to build the mental health knowledge and skills of children, young people, parent/carers and school/community organisation staff through the delivery of mental health workshops, information sessions, activities and resources.

As a Let's Connect Officer you will connect with schools and community groups to firstly understand the mental health learning needs of these stakeholders, then develop a capacity building programme in response.

The programme aims to build resilient individuals and communities by raising awareness around mental health and tackling stigma. It aims to equip children and young people (and the adults around them) with the tools to support their own and others' mental wellbeing, along with the knowledge of where to go for help should they need it.

The Let's Connect Officer will also recruit, train and support young people to become Mental Health Youth Peer Supporters and support the school while they embed this programme. In addition, the Let's Connect Officer will run information stalls and activities at parents evening, wellbeing days and at other school and community events.

Through your role you will help strengthen the community and build connections across the many networks surrounding young people, parents and carers, school staff, wider community organisations and others.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

1. To connect with schools and community groups to understand the mental health learning needs of all stakeholders and organise a delivery plan accordingly
2. To work as a team organising and facilitating the Let's Connect programme of workshops, trainings, events and activities
3. To recruit, train and support young people to become Mental Health Youth Peer Supporters and work alongside the school as they embed the programme
4. To map communities, identify current provision and service gaps, and build information into a Wellbeing Resource Directory, that will be shared with all stakeholders
5. To network and establish strong relationships within the schools and community groups, along with other partner providers, in order to increase awareness and engagement within the project and maximise on impact
6. To collate data on take up and feedback on impact, and use this information to make ongoing improvements to the project activity
7. To ensure that financial budget procedures are carried out efficiently and effectively
8. To protect vulnerable groups and individuals in accordance with SAMH's Child Protection and Adult Protection Policies
9. To support the reporting of outcomes and impact of project within the learning communities and wider local authority

10. To ensure own personal and professional development in line with objectives and key results areas of job description
11. To work autonomously, managing own workload, appointments and diary
12. To represent SAMH and promote its work in a positive manner

Key Working Relationships & Contacts

Internal

- SAMH Children and Young People team, within the wider Delivery and Service Development Team
- See Me programme
- Respect Me programme

External

- Children, young people and parents/carers
- Schools, colleges, youth organisations and charitable organisations within these locations
- NHS & local Health and Social Care Partnership

Working Environment/Special Circumstances

- This post will include some home working
- The post will require significant travel across South Lanarkshire
- A full drivers licence and a car is essential
- Regular lone and evening working will be required
- Occasional weekend work will be required

Experience & Qualifications

Experience

- Experience in designing and delivering workshops, trainings and group facilitation (*essential*)
- Experience of working with children and young people (*essential*)
- Experience of working with schools (*essential*) and youth/community organisations (*desirable*)
- Experience of working with people with mental health problems (*desirable*)
- Experience of strategic partnership working with a range of stakeholders including schools, colleges, health and 3rd sector (*desirable*)
- Experience of working on own initiative and as part of a team (*essential*)
- Experience using and navigating social media (*desirable*)
- Experience using and navigating digital technology including Zoom/MS Teams (*essential*)

Qualifications

- HNC/HND/Degree/Diploma community development, child development, education, health or equivalent (*desirable*)
- Training facilitation qualification, or equivalent experience (*desirable*)

Knowledge & Skills

Knowledge

- Knowledge of mental health and wellbeing for children, young people and adults (*essential*)
- Knowledge and understanding of Child/Adult Protection (*essential*)
- Knowledge of GIRFEC and Children's rights (*essential*)

Functional/Work-based Skills

- Excellent written and verbal communication (*essential*)
- Ability to have positive engagement with children, young people, school staff and parents/carers (*essential*)
- Facilitation, training development and delivery and presentation skills both digitally and in person (*essential*)
- Ability to network and build relationships with stakeholders including strategic partners (*essential*)
- Confident public speaker (*essential*)
- Creative and solutions focussed approach (*essential*)
- Proficient with Microsoft Office programmes (word, PowerPoint, excel) (*essential*)
- Ability to work autonomously, manage time and workloads effectively to meet deadlines (*essential*)
- Proficiency in report writing and data collation (*essential*)
- Full driving licence with access to a vehicle (*essential*)

Core Competencies and Commitment

At SAMH, our values underpin everything we do. We believe that everyone has the right to be treated with dignity, respect and equality. We believe that everyone is entitled to hope and choice and to achieve personal fulfilment.

These are the competencies that SAMH looks for and expects from staff who support the people who use SAMH social care services. These competencies enable SAMH to deliver its core purpose of mental health and wellbeing for all.

Employees are required to read and understand the role profile for their position and are required to comply with SAMH's policies, all laws, rules, regulations and standards of conduct relating to their position and report any suspected violations of conduct to my line manager. All employees should adhere to the SAMH values in all interactions with service users, customers and colleagues.

Core Competencies, Behaviour and Skills

Recovery Focussed

Empathise, inspire and motivate others.

Deliver person centred and recovery focussed support to enable individuals to achieve positive outcomes.

Communication

Communicate effectively and professionally and contribute to the accurate recording and monitoring of all case and incident recording systems. This includes communications by email, by phone/text and other on-line methods.

Build and develop positive relationships with those who use our services.

Engage with a range of people from a wide variety of backgrounds

Deliver a high standard/quality of work

Maintain the highest personal and professional standards. Work professionally and collaboratively with internal and external colleagues, those who use our services and members of the public and to meet the requirements of funders and regulators.

Undertake personal responsibility for conduct and work ethic in line with SAMH Code of Conduct, the SSSC Codes of Practice and other relevant professional standards.

Critical Reflection and Learning

Ability to reflect on own practice and learn from own experiences and those of others.
Develop skills and knowledge of theory and practice and understand where role fits within SAMH and externally.

Supportive of Equality and Diversity

Challenge inequality and stigma; recognise and respond to the barriers individuals and groups face within society.

Treat all people within SAMH (both staff and service users) fairly and with respect regardless of their age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and/or sexual orientation.

Commitment to Health, Safety and Well-being

Understand, encourage and carry out the principles of integrated safety management; comply with SAMH Health and Safety Policy and Procedure; complete all required H & S training; take personal responsibility for safety.

Participation

Ensure the people who use our services have the opportunity to get involved in their support, their service, their community or in SAMH as an organisation.

Team Working

Ability to work as part of a team.

Service User Engagement

Develop, maintain and demonstrate a wide range of interpersonal skills when working with the people we support, including: open-minded, respectful, active listening, empathetic, promote independence, maintenance of confidentiality, honest, honourable in agreements and practices, appropriate body language, solution focussed, supportive and approachable, non-judgemental, pro-active, patience and resilience, professional approach