



Advocacy Support Worker

AAFDA was founded by Frank Mullane in memory of his sister Julia Pemberton and her son Will who were both killed by her ex-partner in 2003. We provide families in England and Wales, with specialist peer support and expert specialist advocacy around the many statutory reviews that take place after domestic homicide.

Each year, c. 150 families lose a loved one to domestic homicide. Most of these families suffer significant problems including relationship breakdown, job difficulties/loss and mental and physical health issues. We help these families in many ways, our prime function being to provide expert and specialist advocacy for the range of statutory reviews that follow after domestic homicide.

AAFDA (Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse) is growing and looking for an exceptional candidate to join our growing team as Advocacy Support Worker.

The role is based at home but may require some travel.

The successful applicant should both have relevant expertise/experience in the fields of domestic abuse and advocacy. The role also requires a good understanding of working with children impacted by trauma and domestic abuse, including fatal domestic abuse.

We offer our staff a range of benefits including 25 days annual leave plus bank holidays (pro-rata).

Starting salary – £23,500 per annum (pro-rata)

The position is part time (0.4 FTE) – 14 hours per week (to be worked on Thursdays & Fridays). The role requires some evening working.

Main Responsibilities:

- Undertake triage of new referrals, including assessing the needs of families following their referral being received and identifying any potential safeguarding concerns and risks that an advocate may need to address.
- Provide emotional support to and maintain contact with new referrals until allocation of an advocate.
- Support the facilitation of peer support meetings and the monitoring of any social media AAFDA operates on behalf of our families.
- Participate in monitoring and evaluation work.
- Participate in training, mentoring and supporting volunteers.
- Maintain timely and accurate case records.

Reports to: Team Leader

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Provision of support to families

- Listen to families bereaved by fatal domestic abuse establishing relationships with them based on mutual respect, empathy, trust and honesty. Take steps to bring the families to the forefront of discussions with agencies and work to ensure the victims memory remains present throughout.
- Open up and maintain dialogue with families to identify the challenges they face (both emotional and practical) and to identify what steps would help overcome them, providing emotional support whilst they are awaiting allocation to an advocate.
- Maintain clear communication at all times as to how AAFDA can be of assistance.
- Discuss and signpost to other organisations which are best placed to provide other support, making formal referrals where necessary.
- Support families on a range of practical matters as identified (e.g. issues with access to (grand) children, housing benefit, suitable accommodation, dealing with the media).
- Facilitate group emotional support sessions for families in locations across the country/digitally.
- Undertake keeping in touch calls with families as and when requested.
- Identify and signpost to other sources of information as relevant.
- Maintain timely and accurate records; provide written summaries of meetings where requested.

Statutory review processes and the criminal justice system

- Explain to families, and provide written information, the nature of the review processes that are to be instigated within the criminal justice system.
- Explain the importance of the role of families in review processes.
- Gather and record information to enable the provision of specialist and expert advocacy to help families to understand, influence and contribute to Domestic Homicide Reviews, Inquests, Mental Health Reviews and other Inquiries.
- Manage expectations amongst family members about the limitations of such review processes.
- Operate within a policy of confidentiality when working with families seeking informed consent before acting on their behalf.
- Understand and operate within the limits of confidentiality when working with families in accordance with AAFDA's safeguarding vulnerable adults and children policy.

Policies and procedures

- Maintain and update case files for each family, completing required monitoring information in a timely manner, and adhering to data protection requirements.
- Adhere to all AAFDA working policies.
- Provide required information in a timely manner in order to undertake/update Disclosure Barring Service checks.

Training and development

- Participate in regular line management and clinical supervision.
- Maintain an excellent knowledge of research and current trends within the field of domestic abuse and homicide prevention.
- Participate in professional development training as required.
- Participate in training, mentoring and supporting volunteers.