

JOB DESCRIPTION

SOCIAL WORKER

Reporting to: Team Manager or Senior Practitioner

Direct Reports: None

Date: 2024

BACKGROUND:

Cancer is shocking, overwhelming, isolating... and completely unfair. Especially when you're young. It takes over your life. Treatment is gruelling and your ambitions and dreams – education, relationships, career – suddenly seem very far away.

We get that. That's why Young Lives vs Cancer fights tirelessly to stop cancer destroying young lives. We provide grants and free accommodation close to hospital to help with spiralling costs. Our social care teams are on hand to help families with everything from getting benefits to working with schools and employers.

Young Lives vs Cancer works with children and young people aged 0 to 24 years and their families from the point of a cancer diagnosis. We provide practical and emotional support to mitigate the impact of a cancer diagnosis and support during their cancer journey via expert needs led interventions. And as a key member of the Social Care Team, within the Services and Influencing Directorate, you will play a crucial role in providing a high quality and efficient service to children, young people and families diagnosed with cancer.

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

To provide an efficient and effective service to children, young people and families diagnosed with cancer. This will include delivering services in line with the organisation's service specifications and working as part of a multi-disciplinary team across health and social care.

PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

SERVICE DELIVERY

- To deliver all services in line with the organisation service specification
- To safeguard children/young people and vulnerable adults, following policy and procedure at all times
- To complete individual needs-based assessments, identifying levels of need and risks
- To identify a support plan and review at regular intervals consistent with service standards and outcome measurements

- To work in partnership with young people and their families to meet their support needs
- To enable and advocate for patients to have their voices heard in treatment planning and support the social, emotional and practical needs of the young person and family
- To work in conjunction with the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT)
- To raise issues of concern relating to the patient's or family's well-being initially within the MDT and/or with their line manager as appropriate
- To maintain case records in line with policy and procedures and social work standards
- To undertake delegated duties commensurate with the role

WIDER RESPONSIBILITIES

- To be an active team member, regularly attending team meetings and contributing to shared learning and development
- To ensure parents and young people are aware of and have access to the range of services and engagement and fundraising opportunities available across the charity
- To support the profile of the charity and promote the service

WE ARE ONE TEAM - EVERYONE WORKING IN THE SERVICES AND INFLUENCING DIRECTORATE MUST:

- Make safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable young adults a priority
- Take care of your own health and safety and that of others
- Ensure that you treat information and data professionally
- Implement all organisational policy, including but not limited to, all People and HR policies, Safeguarding, Data Protection and Privacy policies
- Ensure the voice of young cancer patients and their families are involved in your work at all opportunities and take an active role in amplifying their voices internally and externally
- Demonstrate that Young Lives vs Cancer's values are at the heart of everything you do: you are brave; you are confident; you have integrity; and together, across all levels and with our external partners, we are one team.

- Recognise all Young Lives vs Cancer staff's role in creating impact for young cancer patients and their families and challenge the whole organisation to create positive change for them
- Be a Young Lives vs Cancer fundraiser and recognise ways you can help build a more sustainable organisation and grow income to continue meeting the increasing needs of young cancer patients and their families
- Take active steps to understand and promote Young Lives vs Cancer's external messaging and be a Young Lives vs Cancer campaigner and a Young Lives vs Cancer brand ambassador
- Show commitment to Young Lives vs Cancer's strategic priority to reach all children and young people with cancer and create an equitable service for them
- Actively challenge injustice and inequality and promote Young Lives vs Cancer's Equality, Diversity & Inclusion agenda to create a better, more diverse organisation
- Embrace volunteering and ensure Young Lives vs Cancer is a great place to work.

This post may involve travel to other locations, with occasional overnight stays.

This role is subject to an Enhanced level Criminal Record Check. In the event of a successful application a Disclosure report will be sought.

The responsibilities of this post and reporting structure will be periodically reviewed.

PERSON SPECIFICATION SOCIAL WORKER

Requirements	Essential
Educational/ Professional Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recognised Professional Social Work
Professional Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered with Social Work England/ Scottish Social Services Council/Social Care Wales/Northern Ireland Social Care Council
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current knowledge of relevant legislation, national policy and guidance in health and social care • Knowledge of social work practice standards • Knowledge of child care development • Knowledge of health and safety and GDPR compliance
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience & knowledge of working with children or young people, in a Social Care setting. • Experience of assessment and care planning • Evidenced understanding and practice of safeguarding for children and vulnerable adults, legislation, procedures and best practice • Experience & knowledge of working in a multi-disciplinary environment • Experience of working in partnership with children/young people and their families • Significant experience and knowledge of working with and providing services to children and families in a health, social care, youth or education setting • Working for or in partnership with a statutory organisation • Experience of delivering support to young people and families via different mediums including individuals, groups and digital delivery

Skills/Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to manage confidentiality and risk • Proven ability to communicate skilfully with children, young people and families, and or young adults during times when they are facing distress. • Skilled communicator with professionals and partner organisations • Proven ability to communicate at all levels digitally, verbally and in writing to a range of audiences • Ability to present information clearly to a range of people • Proven ability to manage expectations of key stakeholders including staff and service users • Ability to engage in reflective practice • Proven ability to manage complex or conflicting priorities within a caseload • Commitment to continuing professional development and shared learning • Ability to work virtually using video conferencing • Ability to travel using own transport • Ability to work flexibly, including evening and weekends
Technical skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficient in using Microsoft Office 365 • Experience of case management data systems
Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good time management • Supportive, team player and resourceful
Behaviours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You're innovative and solutions-focused in the face of challenges and curve-balls • You actively seek and provide feedback and consider other people's experience of working with you • You take ownership of your personal development • You build sustainable internal and external working relationships and challenge silo working and 'single view solutions' • You identify and celebrate success in your team and embrace virtual approaches to working together • You embrace technology and aim to think 'digital first'