

**South Dublin County Partnership**

**Social Prescribing Link worker**

A vacancy has arisen for a Social Prescribing Link worker, South Dublin County Partnership. South Dublin County Partnership works with people who are socially excluded or are at risk of becoming so and promotes social cohesion and labour market participation with a focus on the most disadvantaged neighborhoods. This is achieved through a range of integrated activities in Education, Training, Job Placement, Early Childhood Services, Enterprise Support and Community Development Programmes. South Dublin County Partnership is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applicants from a diversity of backgrounds.

South Dublin County Partnership (SDCP), under the auspices of Health South Dublin County, is currently looking for a Social Prescribing Link worker. This exciting role will be instrumental in the establishment and development of a social prescribing project in South Dublin County.

Social prescribing is the provision of non-medical supports for people to improve their health & wellbeing. Through a structured referral process and the establishment of close connections with both, healthcare practitioners and community organisations, the Link worker will encourage and support people to access services in their community.

We are looking for an energetic, organised and focused person, with great people skills. The role, which is initially for one year and subject to funding being available there after, will be full-time and based in South Dublin County. The probation period will be six months. Reporting to the Health & Wellbeing Manager, or designated Line Manager of the programme will be responsible for designing, implementing and evaluating social prescribing in South Dublin County. An Advisory Group with representatives from funders and stakeholders will inform the project.

***Job Description***

**Role and responsibilities**

* Lead the design, delivery and development of the pilot Social Prescribing project in South Dublin County
* Develop effective and tailored referral and feedback protocols with (healthcare) practitioners and staff (from Practice Surgeries and Hospital Departments);
* Regularly gather data on local and community projects and activities and populate database / social prescribing software;
* Keep regular contact with community services and their staff not only to get updated information about their activities and programmes, but also to ease the links between clients and their services;
* Train healthcare practitioners and community services on software utilisation;
* Oversee commissioning of software and customisation;
* Keep regular contacts with software Project Manager to customize online platform according to project needs and demands;
* Book appointments with clients, meet them personally, follow-up cases and manage case load;
* Administer evaluation tools
* Support and encourage clients to access appropriate services in their community;
* Contribute with ideas/suggestions to improve practice surgeries health outcomes with their patients;
* Develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation plan, commission evaluation and document evidence of outcomes (aligned with national framework strategy);
* Document and report on progress with the project (gather/collect quantitative and qualitative data to support project evaluation);
* Document and report case notes and social prescriptions in online software;
* Develop communications plan and materials to publicise the project;
* Building effective relationships with key stakeholders, including healthcare professionals, community organisations and members of the Advisory Group;
* Attend local forums and relevant meetings with stakeholders from community and voluntary sector as necessary;
* Make regular reports and presentations on the progress of the project to committees and funders;
* Convene regular meetings of the Advisory Group;
* Write and submit applications for new funding opportunities;
* To participate fully and work effectively with the SDCP Health & wellbeing Team.

**Qualifications / experience**

* Educated to degree level in Social, Community, Health or related field;
* Minimum 5 years experience in devising, implementing and evaluating projects in a community or health / care setting;
* Good understanding of multi-stakeholder working and the local and community development sector.

**Competencies and skills required**

* Knowledge, understanding and commitment to addressing key determinants of health
* Strong organisational and project management skills
* Ability to prioritise, manage competing demands and reach deadlines
* Self-motivated and able to initiate actions
* Excellent social skills, including empathy and ability to motivate people
* Proficient in collaborating and managing relationships with multiple stakeholders, clients and funding organisations
* Excellent IT skills
* Strong communication and reporting skills
* Ability to identify and use appropriate evaluation and research methods to evidence and improve work.

**Other**

* Car owner with full clean driver’s license
* Garda vetting will apply to this role

**Requirements of all SDCP staff**

* Commitment to the purpose of SDCP and to work within the values, policies and procedures of the organisation and in the context of current legislation and regulations;
* To undertake your work in a manner that is friendly, flexible and professional;
* To report any area of concern to your line manager in a timely fashion;
* To show flexibility in relation to hours of attendance to meeting the needs of the work
* To have a flexible approach to the work in response to organisational change, development and review of best practice;
* To identify training needs through supervision and participate in training opportunities;
* To be vigilant of any Health, Safety and Welfare risks in the workplace and bring any concerns to your line manager or Health & Safety representative;
* To undertake other duties as may be requested by the line manager from time to time.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

**Postal Applications**:

Applicants should pay particular attention to the essential and desirable criteria in the job

description, your suitability and why you are the best candidate for this post in question. Please send three copies of your up-to-date detailed CV (no more than 2 pages) and cover

letter accompanied with completed confidential form marked **Social Prescribing Link Worker Post Job Ref. 45/2022** and should be addressed To:

Administration & Operations Department,

South Dublin County Partnership,

Unit D1,

Nangor Road Business Park,

Nangor Road,

Dublin 12.

Email Applications:

Or alternatively email your application to jobs@sdcpartnership.ie – subject box to be marked **Social Prescribing Link Worker Post Job Ref. 45/2022**

Closing date for receipt of applications: **4th February 2022 at 12.00 noon**

Please provide the names, address, occupation, and contact details of two referees. (Contact will not be made without prior notification to you). Please note that no individual correspondence will be entered.

Late applications cannot be considered. Short listing of candidates will apply.

The post is subject to Garda vetting.