



The Mental Health Service for our Community

Job description

Job title	Peer Support Worker
Contract	permanent
Hours	22.5 hours per week
Salary	£19,289 to £23,576
Service setting	Jami resources and local communities

Organisation

Jami was established in 1989 by parents, relatives and friends of people who experienced mental health difficulties. In 2013 Jami became responsible for the community's non-residential mental health provision, creating a single mental health service for the Jewish community.

Job purpose

Peer Support is one of the best forms of therapy for helping people recover from mental distress and its impact on their lives. People who have experienced mental health issues can offer insight and understanding and can draw on their own experiences to help. They can offer an effective complement to the professional support offered by trained mental health workers.

You will be working as part of a newly formed community team, creating links with primary care and voluntary sector organisations to support people. You will carry out initial assessments and short-term interventions enabling people to identify their needs and goals.

Key relationships

- Working as a member of the community team to support people with mental health problems
- Collaborate with other agencies and ensure that service users are signposted onto appropriate agencies such as housing, counselling and advice
- Liaise with the local community to provide good working partnerships, promote the peer support service and to reduce stigma
- Attend local meetings, workshops and conferences of relevance to the service

Principal accountabilities/responsibilities

1. To deliver a peer support service to people using Jami services
2. To work as part of a multi skilled community team to deliver a recovery focused mental health service.
3. To carry out initial assessments and periodic reviews
4. To carry a 1:1 caseload
5. Build positive and supportive relationships with service users to enable them to develop their recovery plans, aspirations and goals.
6. Assist people setting realistic and positive goals and support people to review their progress.
7. To model/mentor a recovery process and demonstrate coping skills, using own experience of recovery to inspire hope
8. To support the team in promoting the role of Peer Support Worker and to raise awareness of what recovery means, contributing to any local research/evaluation of this new role
9. Provide practical support to service users in gaining choice, meaning and purpose of life and independence whilst maintaining dignity and respect.
10. Share personal recovery experiences appropriately, enabling individuals to recover.
11. Support service users in the development of personal and life skills with the aim of attaining greater independence and self-esteem, providing emotional support necessary to do so.
12. Ensure confidentiality of the service and that the service users are respected at all times.
13. Provide regular reports as required
14. Maintain clear, accurate individual records using Apricot database system
15. Ensure tools for measuring outcomes are used during the course of working with individuals and groups
16. Maintain own personal development and keep up to date with current knowledge and health and social care agenda through reading, attending study days, conferences and meetings as appropriate
17. Work within Health and Safety guidelines, with reference to the Lone Worker Policy and individual risk assessments
18. Compliance with the Equality Act, and Health and Safety legislation
19. Attend regular supervision with named supervisor
20. Participate in the organisation's appraisal process

21. Ensure that all activities are operated in a way which is consistent with the values of Jami and the Jewish community it serves.
22. Carry out any other reasonable duties as requested by your line manager or another designated senior manager

Flexibility

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility is needed, and all post-holders may be required to perform work not specifically referred to above. Such duties will fall within the general scope of the job description. The job description will therefore be subject to periodic review with the post holder to ensure it accurately reflects the duties of the job.

Disclosure of criminal background

All employees are checked with the Disclosure Barring Service

If it is a requirement of the post that an enhanced check is undertaken, successful applicants will be asked to complete and sign a Disclosure Form giving permission for the screening to take place.

Having a criminal record will not necessarily bar you from working with Jami. This will depend on the nature of the position and the circumstances and background of offences.

Please note applicants refusing to sign the form will not be progressed further.

Confidentiality

All information relating to service users, volunteers and staff gained through your employment with Jami is confidential. Any disclosure to any unauthorised person is a serious disciplinary offence.

Training and Qualifications

Essential	Desirable
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer Support Training • Mental Health First Aid

Knowledge and Experience

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of using mental health services • Managing personal mental health problems & recovery • Using personal experience of mental health problems to support and empower others • Group work • One-to-one work • Working in partnership with other agencies • Good IT skills • Good verbal & written communication skills • Ability to use and understand IT including Microsoft Office and Internet • Ability to work independently • Knowledge of equal opportunities • An understanding of recovery & the factors that inhibit this • Ability to manage challenging situations • Ability to engage & support people with mental health problems • Ability to use own mental health experiences to support others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local knowledge of community resources and facilities • Experience and knowledge of the Jewish community • Working in a complex and changing environment

Communication skills

Essential	Desirable

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong written and verbal communication skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good presentation skills
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Personal Qualities

Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-awareness & self-development • Self-motivation • Professional integrity • Time management skills • Ability to manage personal stress 	

For further details/informal visit please contact **Raisel Byrne** on **020 8458 2223** or email **raisel.byrne@jamiuk.org**

- Closing date for applications **Sunday 10th November**
- Interviews are likely to take place week commencing **Monday 25th November**
- If you are interested in the above role, please go to our website or call for an application pack