

Job Description: Mental Health Practitioner

Job title:	Mental Health Practitioner
Reports to:	Head of Services
Hours:	Full Time 36 hours per week
Contract:	Permanent
Salary:	£35,745 per annum for full time
Leave:	25 days per annum plus bank holidays
Pension:	5% employer contribution

About Jimmy's Cambridge

Jimmy's Cambridge is one of Cambridge's leading providers of support and accommodation to people who are and have been experiencing homelessness. We help people get off the streets and into their own home, backed up with all the support we can offer from our talented and committed team of staff, volunteers and partners.

We currently offer the following innovative, sector-leading services:

- A 24/7 emergency accommodation and assessment service for those who need immediate help
- Shared supported houses and modular homes across the city to provide medium term accommodation alongside wide-ranging support.
- A 24/7 Controlled Drinking Project, supporting people who are alcohol dependent to control and reduce their alcohol consumption.
- Extended support for people who have moved on from Jimmy's accommodation but still require our help.
- An emergency winter service (SWEP) in partnership with the City Council which provides extra beds between October and March.

Our success in delivering these services is underpinned by the support we receive from individuals, organisations, our volunteers, and our partners, all of whom are fundamental to our work. In addition to maintaining a sustainable set of existing services, we also have ambitious plans to increase our services and impact, ensuring we can support as many people as possible who are and have been experiencing homeless settle into more sustainable accommodation, leading them further towards an independent life.

Purpose of the Role

This post is an exciting new role within Jimmy's Cambridge, which will help to support and tackle mental health issues amongst Jimmy's residents. Recognising that gaps exist in mental health provision for our residents, and which have been exacerbated by the Covid-19 situation, we are seeking a mental health practitioner to work across our various sites.

The post holder will work directly with our residents, with people who are soon to move into Jimmy's, and with people who have recently left Jimmy's but may need some initial support to settle into their new home. The role will also provide guidance to the staff and volunteers to better support the residents they themselves support.

We aim to partner with a research team at a local university in order to learn and to evaluate the best way of providing this service to meet the needs of people who are experiencing homelessness.

We will help set up appropriate clinical supervision for the post-holder.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Work with beneficiaries to understand and monitor complex mental health needs.
- Quickly identify those that are at risk or vulnerable and in need of urgent, specialist support.
- Be on-site and available, ensuring opportunity for regular communication and support with beneficiaries – this has been identified as crucial for sustaining better mental health.
- Develop strong links with GP surgeries and secondary support services – coordinating access to additional and specialised support as needed.
- In conjunction with Support Workers, put in place individualised support plans to ensure beneficiaries access tailored mental health support.
- Deliver one to one and group support within Jimmy's residential setting.
- Provide ongoing support to those who have moved into independent living – helping to ensure they remain in their homes.
- Keep detailed records for all residents (in line with data protection legislation).
- Help to monitor and evaluate the support provided to beneficiaries using both qualitative and quantitative data to track progress.
- Support and train staff and volunteers to develop the skills required to identify mental health issues.

This list of responsibilities is neither exclusive nor exhaustive as the post holder may be required to undertake other duties and responsibilities commensurate with the nature of this role.

Working hours

The hours are full time 36 hours per week, worked flexibly based on the needs of the service. Many of our clients don't operate on a Monday to Friday 9-5 basis, and while they would expect appointments during these times, some of the relationship building and engagement work will need to be outside these hours in order to reach people who are harder to engage.

Person Specification

Essential

- Relevant Qualification e.g. RMN/Mental Health Social Worker
- Experience of working with people who are difficult to engage and individuals with complex mental health issues.
- Experience of working with people who have been dual diagnosed and contend with both mental health and drug and alcohol issues
- Experience of working with a range of different agencies and organisations to get the best support for people
- An ability to work on own initiative
- An ability to work within a team
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- A commitment to, and understanding of, the principles of equal opportunities
- An awareness of the importance of maintaining good relationships with other agencies and organisations
- Experience of basic financial and budgetary control
- Computer skills.

Jimmy's Core Values

- Confidentiality
- Honesty
- Inclusion
- Professionalism
- Passion for the work we do
- Empathy
- Respect