

Job Description

Job Reference: BSPW/0124

Role: CoLab Women Brave Spaces Project Worker

Responsible to: Safe Spaces Coordinator

Salary: £25,292

Hours: 37 hours per week

Contract: Fixed Term until March 2025

Purpose of Role

Brave Spaces is a new two-year project offering women experiencing homelessness or living in temporary accommodation point-of-contact wraparound support that aims to improve their safety and access trauma stabilisation. We are delivering this with our partners Encompass South-West in North Devon to create a new type of offer that alleviates the barriers women often face when trying to engage with services by meeting them where they feel most comfortable and signposting them towards a range of recovery options.

Our project workers have a focus on supporting women towards accessing and engaging with services, and in offering direct support to women experiencing a range of issues, including homelessness and domestic and sexual violence and abuse. Working as part of our Brave Spaces team, you will be required to work flexibly, stepping in where and when needed and offering support to women.

Demonstrating our values of welcome, compassion and collaboration we are looking for people who are good communicators, who can relate to and communicate easily with people at all levels in a friendly and inclusive way, and who are happy to get involved with all aspects of our work.

Key Activities and Responsibilities:

 To provide support that connects women with a range of complex needs who may be at particular risk of violence and abuse to access services and support offers across Exeter. This will have a focus on women who have current or historical experience of sexual and domestic violence and abuse and homelessness. The offer aims to improve access to services, guidance and support, ensure achievement of outcome goals and that recovery capability is maximised.

- To provide additional, trauma responsive offers to access support, sustain behaviour change and move forward to address their needs so the likelihood of being a victim of violence and abuse is reduced and access to services is improved.
- To support pioneer projects which identify the specific needs of Young women aged 16-25, women living in temporary accommodation with their children and women who have had their children removed by social care.
- Provide an access point for women to access services and support that increases their capacity for resilience.
- Build strong and trusted relationships with women in order to improve engagement and trust in services.
- Provide a conduit for agencies supporting women to enable them to refer into support opportunities.
- Identify unmet needs and opportunity for further improvement in the local offer to women at risk of rough sleeping and/or living in temporary accommodation.
- Build the capacity and capability in improving the outcomes of for women experiencing homeless as a result of SVDVA via provision of one-to-one, group and peer support.
- Ensure that women are supported to take part in activities that support their future aspirations and housing stability.
- Support women in exploring creative opportunities and access to programmes, workshops and other local support including for example housing, benefits, and psychological support.
- Identify areas of need, develop a plan to address those needs, and link into relevant services and programmes.
- Help create and promote an ethos whereby women are empowered to make informed choices and plans for a more positive future.
- Implement recommendations locally within the Brave Spaces partnership.
- Be responsible for data collection and support the evaluation in data collection, analysis and reporting.

Person Specification

With an approach that aligns to our values of compassion, welcome, collaboration, ambition and social justice the post holder will have:

Skills, Experience & Knowledge	Essential / Desirable
 Experience of working with women who have complex lives and who have experienced domestic and/or sexual violence and abuse 	Essential
 Knowledge and experience of supporting wider issues affecting women who have experienced a range of issues e.g. homelessness, mental health, involvement in the criminal justice system, substance misuse, social exclusion 	Essential

•	Knowledge and experience of one to one interventions and facilitation of group-work principles that create safe spaces	Essential
•	An understanding of the importance of confidentiality,	Essential
	independence and impartiality in giving advice and support, and	
	experience or knowledge of handling disclosures and raising	
	safeguarding concerns	
•	Working knowledge and understanding of Adult and Child	Essential
	Safeguarding legislation, policies and procedures	
•	Excellent spoken and written communication skills, including	Essential
	telephone manner and emails	
•	Ability to negotiate and advocate effectively for and with women,	Desirable
	and to influence decisions and outcomes	Farantial
•	Ability to engage with women in a range of settings, both one to	Essential
	one and in group-work activities at CoLab and other settings	Essential
•	Ability to prioritise own work and meet deadlines	Essential
•	Ability to use initiative, patience and perseverance to help resolve	
	problems Experience of recording and monitoring support work, data entry	Desirable
	and contributing to project reports	
•	Knowledge of working with multi-agency partners to improve	
	outcomes for women	Desirable
Perso	nal Qualities & Values	
•	Strong interpersonal communication skills and experience, with a	Essential
	compassionate, friendly, and confident approach and the ability	
	to relate to people from a range of backgrounds, who may have	
	experienced trauma and who have complex needs and difficult	
	life situations	Essential
•	Person centred, approachable, and adaptable with the ability to be calm, sensitive and solution focused when dealing with	Esseritiai
	difficult situations	
•	A flexible attitude with the ability to respond in the moment,	Essential
-	think on your feet, and have a positive and constructive attitude	
	to problem solving	
•	Non-judgemental and inclusive with a demonstrable commitment	Essential
	to and understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion	
•	Ability to work effectively as part of a team, motivating	Essential
	colleagues, contributing ideas and solutions and supporting	
	concagues, contributing lucas and solutions and supporting	
	colleagues in the team as required	Desirable

Able to recognise your own limits and boundaries and reflect	
constructively around opportunities and challenges within the	
role.	Essential
Able to seek support where required and commitment to attend	
training and team meetings as part of your own personal	
development. Able to recognise own limits and boundaries	Essential
 Ability to work flexibly, including being available for on-call 	
support on a rota at evenings and weekends	
Training, Support & Development	
 Attend in-house training and induction, and other training as 	Essential
identified as part of your professional and personal development	
plan	
Attend and constructively participate in regular support and	Essential
supervision, reviews and appraisals	
Attend staff meetings, away days and wellbeing activities	Essential

How to Apply

CoLab Exeter is committed to promoting a positive approach to equality, diversity and inclusion and values the benefits of employing a diverse range of talented people.

To apply, please submit an up to date CV plus a covering letter no longer than 2 sides of A4, summarising why you are interested in the role and how your experience, skills, and values align with the job description and person specification.

Submit applications quoting the job reference with a completed diversity monitoring form to recruitment@colabexeter.org.uk