**Job Title: Youth Worker – Mental Health (Safe Zones)**

**Salary: £25,553 - £27,118**

**Location: Across BLGC sites, community, and homeworking**

**Reports to: Service Manager, Targeted Youth Service**

**Contract: Fixed Term contract until April 2024 subject to funding**

**Hours: Up to 35 working hours p/w to be worked flexibly including evening & some weekends**

**The Charity**

Bolton Lads & Girls Club (BLGC) is an innovative, dynamic and progressive children and young people’s charity based in Bolton. Established in 1889, our mission statement is “to enable children and young people, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, to live happier, healthier and positive lives by providing somewhere to go that's safe and modern, something to do that is inspiring and engaging, and someone to talk to when they need it the most”.

Open 51 weeks of the year, we provide a vast array of opportunities to improve the lives of our 4,000 active members through universal and targeted services. We employ around 100 people and have the support and commitment of 100 volunteers. Over the last few years we have seen the demand for our services increase significantly and we’ve set ourselves a target to help more young people than ever. We have recently re-opened our main centre in the heart of Bolton following a major £2.6m refurbishment. It’s an exciting time to join BLGC!

**Our Vision and Mission**

**Vision**

Every young person in Bolton has the opportunity to be the best they can be.

**Mission**

We will provide great places to go, positive things to do, and people that care.

**Our Key Principles**

* Keep things simple.
* Always do the right thing.
* Offer excellent customer service.
* Provide an environment for people to be the best they can be.
* Be exceptional in the moments that matter.

**Our Values**

**Driven** **Caring**

We don’t give up and we do whatever it takes. Genuine people who care make the difference.

**Empowering Excellence**

We enable people to be the best they can be. We aim to deliver the highest standards of service and continuously improve through robust quality assurance and innovation.

**Fun**

If you enjoy what you do, you do it better! Work is

serious and we do it with a smile on our face.

**About the role**

You will work in close partnership with other charities across Greater Manchester delivering support to children and young people who have had a mental health crisis. The role will include ‘meet and greet’ duties into the safe zones, providing de-escalation and coping strategies to young people to help stabilize their mental health.. Delivering 1-1 therapeutic support in line with the therapy framework outlined within the Greater Manchester mental health crisis pathway. This will include supporting young people to access self-help and support systems in the community contributing to individualised care-plans.

**The post holder must be available to work shift patterns, including early evenings and weekend hours.**

**Main Responsibilities**

* To work in partnership with the crisis care pathway to ensure smooth, robust referral process into the Safe Zones.
* Meet and greet young people into the Safe Zones, assessing and identifying support needs, delivering interventions to improve outcomes for children and young people.
* To offer advice, signposting or discussing potential referrals, ensuring the young person receives the most appropriate support at all times.
* Be familiar with local services, agencies and support in signposting young people in accordance with suitability, risk and appropriate thresholds.
* Work with parents/carers and significant others within the young person’s care plan as required.
* Liaise with other services and agencies as necessary to provide a safe, meaningful and efficient experience for young people and their families.
* Work closely with the Rapid Response Team ensuring appropriate step -up and step-down arrangements are in place.
* Demonstrate awareness and/or skills in a range of low-intensity psychological treatments e.g., solution-focused therapy. This may include guided self-help (psycho-education) and/or computerised interventions.
* Involve family members and significant others within the young person’s care plans as required.
* To keep children and young people safe in line with safeguarding policies and local authority arrangements around safeguarding.
* To participate in reflective supervision, both individually and as part of the team.
* To understand and adhere to policies and procedures at all times with particular emphasis on equal opportunities, health and safety and safeguarding.
* To undertake any other work requested by your line manager.

**About us**

BLGC were the first youth organisation to be awarded ‘Youth organisation of the year’ by UK Youth and we are the proud recipient of the Queens Award, amongst other prestigious awards. Our charity has a strong reputation locally, regionally and nationally. We are ambitious and aspirational and are growing.

All staff have free access to our high-quality gym, during the day. You will also be enrolled into our pension plan and have access to free holiday club child-care. We offer flexible working, provide refreshments and fruit on site and have a wellbeing offer for you to access at times when you may need it. We have a fantastic track record for professional development and training opportunities, we are committed to developing our team. Come and join us in a fun working environment, where no two days are the same!

**Fancy joining the team?**

**To apply please download our application form from the vacancies section on our website** [**www.blgc.co.uk**](http://www.blgc.co.uk) **or email** **recruitment@blgc.co.uk****.**

In addition, please provide the following information:

* Confirmation you are eligible to work in the UK (the successful candidate will be required to provide documentary evidence before a job offer is confirmed);
* Any reasonable adjustments we can make to assist you in your application for the selection process.
* In accordance with our Child Protection and Safeguarding procedures, this position requires an Enhanced DBS

Please note that CVs will not be considered.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Essential**✓ | **Desirable**✓ | **Method of assessment**✓ |
| **Qualifications** |  |
|  | Relevant degree or NVQ level 3 Qualification in Youth Work, Mental Health, Counselling or equivalent  | ✓ |  | A |
| **Experience** |  |
|  | Two years’ experience of working with children and young people presenting with poor emotional and mental health issues. | ✓ |  | A |
|  | Experience of working towards outcomes/able to demonstrate them in practice | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Demonstrate high standards in written communication and be able to write reports | ✓ |  | A |
|  | Relevant experience of working with children and families, individually and in groups | ✓ |  | A |
|  | Able to manage own case load. | ✓ |  | A/I |
| **Knowledge and Skills** |  |
|  | Ability to evaluate and reflect on practice | ✓ |  | I |
|  | Knowledge of mental health presentation in children and young people. | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | An awareness of how environmental factors impact mental health | ✓ |  | I |
|  | Able to develop positive interventions that are goal orientated | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Awareness of barriers preventing children and young people accessing mental health services  | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Young person focused / able to build a rapport with young people quickly | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Able to follow and undertake risk assessments | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Proficient in IT and data management systems | ✓ |  | A |
|  | Excellent Communicator and good command of the written word | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Practice in a non-judgmental manner promoting equal opportunities and adhering to equality and diversity policies. | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Ensuring the safety of young people at all times and working within Health & Safety & Safeguarding policies to keep young people safe. | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Promote anti- discriminatory practice | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Maintain high levels of confidentiality | ✓ |  | A |
|  | Work within an empowerment model ensuring all young people are treated with respect and dignity | ✓ |  | A |
|  | Knowledge of Mental Health legislation |  | ✓ | A |
| **Personal Attributes** |  |
|  | Passionate about making a difference to the lives of children and young people | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Work to achieve best outcomes and be part of a forward-thinking supportive team. | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Calm and empathic approach when working with young people in a crisis | ✓ |  | I |
|  | Positive outlook and solution focused  | ✓ |  | I |
|  | Strive for Excellence in service delivery | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Flexible and adaptable to evolving needs of service | ✓ |  | A/I |
|  | Have a clean license and access to a car | ✓ |  | A |
|  | Have good WIFI at home and a confidential space to work from home | ✓ |  | A |

**Method of Assessment Key:**

A Application Form

I Interview