JOB DESCRIPTION:
Community Connector (Integrated Community Response)

Job title:	Community Connector – Integrated Community Response (Live Well – Salford CVS).
Grade:	Pay scale NJC Pt.19 £33,119.00 per year (pro rata)
Contract end date:	2 Posts Available: 1. Community Connector Neurodiversity Champion 2. Community Connector Low Level Mental Health Practitioner.
Annual Leave:	27 days per annum (pro rata)
Responsible to:	Service Manager or Senior Practitioner (Integrated Community Response). Programme Manager (Wellbeing Matters)
Location:	Located within community settings in Salford and in partnership with Living Well – Salford CVS.
Hours of work:	37.5 hours per week (Full time).
Job Summary:	42nd Street Community Connectors work within the Wellbeing Matters social prescribing programme to support children and young people (and their families) within the Children's Services mental health and neurodiversity framework. This project is embedded within the Integrated Community Response Service at 42nd Street. The Community Connectors will work with young people (aged 12-19) and their families where appropriate using a strength based approach to establish 'what matters to them' and to then connect them into relevant wellbeing and social support within their neighbourhood to improve their wellbeing and social connections. This can range from accessing a community group (dancing, singing, gardening, cooking); through to sports / physical activity group; food bank / food club; friendship group / befriending; taking part in volunteering; mental wellbeing support; CAB / welfare support; and much more. The goal is for young people to be better equipped to manage their own health and wellbeing, reduce isolation, promote independence and reduce reliance on clinical health and care services. The overarching purpose is to ensure that people feel heard, supported, and connected to the right support at the right time. Referrals into this role will primarily come through Children's Services teams, including Early Help and social care, with the aim of supporting children and young people to access community-based opportunities that promote wellbeing, resilience, and independence. The service may receive referrals via emerging pathways and will be expected to engage with multi-agency processes where appropriate. In addition to one-to-one support, the Community Connectors will work proactively with local communities and health and care professionals to identify opportunities, strengthen neighbourhood networks, and contribute to the ongoing development of a coordinated, inclusive, and responsive service. **Community Connector - Champion for Neurodiversity** **Neurodiversity** (e.g., autism, ADHD, dyslexia; support, access needs, reasonable adjustments, inclusive practice) The Community Connector for Neurodiversity supports children and young people who are neurodivergent (diagnosis not needed), Our Community Connector for neurodiversity will act as a bridge for individuals and their families to resources, support, and opportunities within their local community

	and beyond, fostering a sense of belonging and helping to overcome challenges such as social isolation. This role focuses on reducing social isolation and ensuring neurodivergent children and young people can engage in community life in ways that feel meaningful and supportive. The Community Connector will offer a person-centred approach to offer a safe space for young people to discuss goals and aspirations, to provide information on events, facilitate connections with those with lived experience with neurodiversity, and offer practical support to promote inclusion and wellbeing. They bring lived or professional experience of supporting neurodivergent people and a strong understanding of neurodevelopmental differences such as autism, ADHD, and dyslexia. They also carry a commitment to staying current with best practice and emerging approaches in neuro affirming support. **Community Connector - Champion for Low Level Mental Health**- **Low Level Mental Health** (e.g., anxiety, stress, mild depression, loneliness, confidence building, wellbeing activities) The Community Connector for Low Level Mental Health supports children and young people, and where appropriate their families, experiencing mild to moderate mental health concerns such as stress, low mood, anxiety, or loneliness. The Community Connector will take a person-centred approach, providing a safe and non-judgemental space for individuals to explore their goals, strengths, and challenges. Through compassionate conversations and tailored support, they will help individuals build confidence, develop coping strategies, and take positive steps toward managing their own mental health and wellbeing They connect people to creative, physical, social, and community led activities that uplift mood, reduce isolation, and encourage independence. The Connector brings lived or professional experience in supporting young people with low level mental health concerns, and demonstrates empathy, active listening, and a solution focused approach. They bring lived or professional experience of supporting young people and a strong understanding of the impact of mental health on young people's lives. They also carry a commitment to staying current with best practice and emerging approaches in young people's mental health and wellbeing needs.
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KEY TASKS

1. Main Duties (Clinical)

1.1. Work as part of the Children's Services pathway, building strong relationships and accepting referrals from Early Help, social workers, and wider Children's Services teams, ensuring timely and appropriate support for children, young people, and their families.

1.2. Develop strong communication with the people you support, ensuring their strengths, goals, and personal preferences shape the support offered and that they are connected to relevant opportunities within their community.

1.3. Provide clear, up to date information and maintain strong local knowledge, sharing details about community initiatives, resources, activities, and support offers across Salford. This includes keeping referral sources informed, participating in team meetings, and contributing to shared updates.

1.4. Facilitate meaningful connections, helping young people meet others, engage with community groups, feel confident in social settings, and build supportive peer networks across Salford.

1.5. Offer holistic, person centred and practical support, including attending groups with young people where helpful, supporting them to navigate services, overcome daily challenges, and access financial, social, creative, health, or wellbeing related activities that meet their needs.

1.6. Promote inclusion and advocate for accessible community environments, sharing knowledge and working with partners such as VCSE organisations, development workers, and community venues to reduce barriers and ensure young people feel welcome and able to participate fully.

1.7. Manage a caseload effectively, building and maintaining strong working relationships with voluntary, community, and social enterprise organisations to ensure smooth onward referrals and coordinated support.

1.8. Work as part of a wider team, liaising closely with the Wellbeing Matters neighbourhood Community Connectors and Volunteering Development Workers, ensuring young people can access community provision and working under the direction of the Social Prescribing Operations Manager and ICR Senior Practitioner / Service Manager

1.9. Raise awareness of specialist support, providing insight and information to the wider Wellbeing Matters team relating to your specialism (Neurodiversity or Low Level Mental Health). This includes contributing to service mapping, identifying gaps, and sharing updates at delivery team meetings.

1.10. Support integrated working across the system, collaborating with key city partners such as health services, Early Help, Children's social services teams, mental health teams, carers' networks, and VCSE organisations to ensure young people receive a

coordinated and responsive service. Community Connectors will engage with relevant citywide networks including the Salford Thrive Partnership

1.11. Work flexibly across Children's Services bases and community settings, taking up agreed co-location opportunities within relevant teams and hubs where appropriate, and participating in partnership meetings and multi-agency forums so that children and young people can access support in familiar, accessible places.

1.12. Provide 1-1 mental health and emotional well-being support to young people, mostly face to face (telephone, text based, and remote working are also options).

1.13. Adhere to an agreed activity contract relating to the number of sessions offered, and sessions delivered per week in order to minimise waiting times and ensure that support remains accessible and convenient.

1.14. Complete all requirements relating to data collection within the service and support others where necessary.

1.15. Work closely with other members of the team, in specific identified settings, ensuring appropriate step-up and step-down arrangements are in place to maintain a stepped care approach.

2.0 PROFESSIONAL

2.1. Ensure the maintenance of standards of practice according to 42nd Street and Wellbeing Matters and any regulating, professional and accrediting bodies (e.g. BPS, UKCP, BABCP).

2.2. Ensure that young people's confidentiality is always protected.

2.3. Ensure clear professional objectives are identified, discussed and reviewed on a regular basis as part of continuing professional development (CPD).

2.4. Attend external clinical, internal managerial supervision and team meetings on a regular basis as agreed with Manager.

2.5. Participate in individual performance review and respond to agreed objectives and contribute to the performance review/management of colleagues where appropriate.

2.6. Keep timely, up to date records pertaining to all of your work with young people

2.7. Attend relevant conferences / workshops and training in line with identified professional objectives.

3. Shared with all workers:

3.1 To ensure that the values and principles underlying the organisation's mental health and emotional well-being support with young people are maintained and developed. These include an active commitment to anti-discriminatory practice and to ensuring that services are accessible to those young people who are often excluded from such services, for example, black young people, disabled young people, gay, lesbian, bisexual and trans young people.

3.2 To contribute to ensuring that young people have a voice within 42nd Street to effectively influence internal practice and policy and practice and policy at a local, regional and national level

3.3 To be aware of and ensure compliance with legal requirements and internal policies with particular reference to information governance, data protection, confidentiality, health and safety, and safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

3.4 Ensure the maintenance of standards of practice according to 42nd Street and any regulating, professional and accrediting bodies (e.g. BPS, BACP, HCPC, HSCIC, UKCP, BABCP).

3.5 To contribute to the development of 42nd Street through active involvement in team meetings, consultations and other relevant systems and structures.

3.6 To maintain all relevant information systems including monitoring, recording and personnel systems.

3.7 To participate in managerial and external supervision and have an active involvement in professional development opportunities at 42nd Street

3.8 To maintain safe systems of work at all times and take care of your own safety, and that of colleagues and others who may be affected by your activities.

3.9 To undertake any other duties that may be required which are commensurate with your role.

3.10 To undertake any requests made by the Management Team at 42nd Street that is relevant to this post.

3.11 To provide some of your work at times other than office hours so that the service is accessible. This means regular evenings until 8pm (up to two per week) and some weekends.

This is not an exhaustive list of duties, only a general guide to the post. In consultation with the post-holder, the duties may change from time to time to reflect the changing needs of the service

PERSON SPECIFICATION:
Community Connector (Integrated Community Response).

Note to applicants: The ideal post holder should meet all the essential requirements detailed below. Consideration will be given to desirable requirements if there are more than 6 candidates who meet all the essential requirements. With reference to the requirements under **item 5** where it is referenced 'application' it is sufficient to **indicate agreement** to commit to the identified professional areas.

	SELECTION CRITERIA	METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
1.0	**Training, Qualifications & Experience**			
	The successful candidate will have:			
1.1	A relevant professional qualification or evidence of substantial professional expertise in a similar role.	✓ Application	**X**	
1.2	Experience of assessing the needs of young people from diverse backgrounds who may be facing a range of barriers and/or social issues related to neurodiversity or low-level mental health.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
	Experience of working in a person-centred way with young people through strengths-based conversations.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
1.3	Experience of working with young people (1-2-1) to help them achieve their goals.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
1.4	Experience of working with vulnerable young people with complex lives and/or with mental health difficulties.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
1.5	Experience of working alongside young people to plan, develop and evaluate support plans, using young person-centred approaches.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
1.6	Experience in working closely with a variety of multi-disciplinary professionals across agencies and sectors.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
1.7	Experience of delivering training to multi-disciplinary teams.	✓ Application ✓ Interview		**X**
2.0	**Knowledge**			
	The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:			
2.1	Understanding the needs of young people including an awareness of issues of diversity and the social and cultural context of their lives.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
2.2	Knowledge of the broad issues surrounding emotional wellbeing / mental health services for young people.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
2.3	Working knowledge of person centred community approaches and/or social prescribing.	✓	**X**	
2.4	Knowledge of the city of Salford and understanding the needs of our communities.	✓		**X**
2.5	Proficient ICT skills including use of Microsoft Office applications.	✓ Application	**X**	
2.6	A working understanding of risk management including safeguarding, confidentiality and data protection.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
3.0	**Skills & Abilities**			
	The successful candidate will be able to:			
3.1	Engage young people individually and in groups using creative and young person-centred methods, models and processes.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	

3.2	Ability to assist young people to help them define and achieve their goals and aspirations	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
3.3	Liaise with and develop key relationships with partners and colleagues.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
3.4	Communicate positively, effectively and sensitively in person and in writing with a variety of audiences.	✓ Application ✓ Interview	**X**	
3.5	Plan, organise and prioritise own workload and manage time effectively.	✓ Application ✓ Interview.	**X**	
4.0	**Professional Commitment**			
	The successful candidate should be able to demonstrate commitment to:			
4.1	Ensuring that issue of equality and a respect for diversity is reflected in all aspects of work.	✓ Application	**X**	
4.2	Work at locations across Salford and be prepared to work some evenings, weekends and anti-social hours.	✓ Application	**X**	
4.3	Continued professional development through undertaking training and participating in other learning opportunities.	✓ Application	**X**	
4.4	Recognition of the need to be accountable for work through supervision, performance management and other relevant processes.	✓ Application	**X**	
4.5	Work as part of a team, contributing to 42nd Street's effectiveness, quality of services, skills and expertise.	✓ Application	**X**	