



INEQUALITY VOLUNTEER – ROLE DESCRIPTION AND PERSON SPECIFICATION

Description of Role:

We are looking to develop an innovative therapeutic role for working with children and families who have experienced significant adversity which is distinct from counselling or therapy.

Counselling or therapy often requires a specific professional registration and qualification and deals with in-depth emotional work.

Inequality work retains elements of traditional therapeutic activity, however it does not involve in-depth emotional work. Instead, it focuses on utilising the principles of therapeutic engagement, and building safe, trusting relationships with children and families to work on practical issues in the here and now designed to tackle inequality and offer emotional support whilst doing so. This could be listening to them to hear what they feel is missing, and needed, in their lives, writing grant applications to get resources for a family and helping them to 'navigate the system' to see what resources are available and how these can be accessed.

The Difference YOU could make:

Through this role you will play a vital role in tackling living inequality on the frontline. There are funding and grants available to support families to tackle inequality (for example for essential household items, activities and interventions) and we are looking to develop a model to get more of these resources into families to tackle living inequalities experienced by children and young people. By engaging with families, offering emotional warmth and comfort and, then, by doing key practical tasks such as grant writing or accompanying families to key appointments you will be playing a vital, frontline, work to combat inequality and, alongside that, supporting the development of a new, innovative, model of practice to help challenge deep and structural injustices.

Person Specification:

The personal specification for all three of our currently advertised roles is similar as, for these roles, the right values and the right approach to working with children and families are more important to us than formal qualifications, although some form of experience of working directly with children and/or other disadvantaged groups will be an advantage. Similarly, lived experience of the issues involved would be an advantage.

The specific interpersonal skills we will be looking for in candidates are:

- A commitment to principles of equality, social justice and fairness. These will be assessed through a values-based interview.





CAMBRIDGE ACORN PROJECT

- Good communications skills, verbal and written and experience of engaging with young people (this could be as a parent yourself, for example).
- Very high level of personal empathy and ability to engage and work safely with vulnerable children and young people.
- A specific skillset to match one of the educational intervention or session areas above.
- Ability to work as part of a team.
- Ability to follow safeguarding procedures and report concerns using the appropriate channels. Full training will be given on this.
- A non-judgmental approach.
- An understanding of, and commitment to, frontline ethical practice – namely to promote equality and fairness for children and young people whilst working in a safe way.
- A strong and evidenced commitment to safe practice.
- A willingness to participate in the learning culture of the organisation.
- An understanding of disadvantage and vulnerability and how these impact upon inequality.

