Kent County Council Job Description: Family Network Social Work Assistant

Directorate:	Children, Young People and Education
Unit/Section:	Social Connections Service
Grade:	KR7
Responsible to:	Social Connections Team Manager

Purpose of the Job:

To organise and facilitate family network meetings – bringing together family and wider networks to make safety plans for children and young people.

Main duties and responsibilities:

- Receive referrals from children's social work teams. Work within agreed timescales as outlined by the team manager.
- Undertake risk assessment as appropriate in relation to the meeting, to ensure safety of participants.
- Contact family members and extended network to clearly explain the purpose of the family meeting. prepare for the family led safety planning meeting. Working towards quick and pressured timescales to ensure assessment work can continue and not be delayed
- Liaise with the referring Social Worker on the purpose of the meeting and ensure that safety plans are produced at the point of crisis.
- Undertake all relevant organisational activities which will include arranging the family meeting, facilitating the running of the meeting, producing the plan, collating, and sharing correspondence from the meeting.
- Support families to develop their own family led safety plan which demonstrates SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable Relevant and Timely)outcomes and reduces the risk of children becoming Looked After.
- To use restorative approaches and techniques to reach an agreed outcome and/or to progress to a family group conference.
- Maintain appropriate records (Liberi) of work with families to ensure that they meet with Kent's Information Governance policy and standards. It is important that all times contact recording reflects the child's journey and will enable the child to 'make sense' of the decisions made for them.

Footnote: This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what their main duties are. It may be amended from time to time without change to the level of responsibility appropriate to the grade of post.

The following outlines the criteria for this post. Applicants who have a disability and who meet the criteria will be shortlisted.

Applicants should describe in their application how they meet these criteria.

	CRITERIA
QUALIFICATIONS	Educated to GCSE level
	NVQ 2 or 3
EXPERIENCE	Be able to demonstrate a high level of experience in undertaking a busy and changeable administrative role
	Experience of working with vulnerable people especially at times of crisis – Adults and children
SKILLS AND ABILITIES	Good keyboard and word processing skills
	Computer and database literate
	Literate and numerate
	Good interpersonal and organisational skills
	Self-Awareness –able to uphold personal and professional boundaries
	Able to prioritise workload and work to deadlines
	Able to apply confidentiality appropriately
	Confident communicator; able to express oneself effectively in one to one situations and in groups. Confident telephone manner. Customer friendly nature with a tactful, professional and flexible approach
	Good listening skills - able to pick out important information in verbal communications, question appropriately and respond to non-verbal behaviours.
	Able to advocate on behalf of others
	Able to work on own initiative as well as part of a team

	Able to travel around county, efficiently, cost effectively and in a timely manner to meet needs of role
	Able to offer flexibility in hours of work
KNOWLEDGE	Knowledge of working systems, eg office systems and procedures.
	Knowledge of Restorative Practice
	Awareness of group dynamics
PERSONAL QUALITIES	Works well under pressure
	Confident about themselves
	Professional approach to work at all times
	Be a self-motivator- work activity leads to personal satisfaction and driven to achieve high quality performance as part of self-esteem.
	Can offer flexibility both in approach to work and times available to work. Can modify style to reach goals and maintain effectiveness within changing environments and with varying responsibilities.
	Likes a challenge
	Willingness to develop knowledge base and skills
	Likes to work as part of a team- effective contributor to team goals even when team is working on something of no personal interest.
KENT VALUES AND	Kent Values:
CULTURAL ATTRIBUTES	 We are brave. We do the right thing, we accept and offer challenge We are curious to innovate and improve We are compassionate, understanding and respectful to all We are strong together by sharing knowledge We are all responsible for the difference we make
	Our values enable us to build a culture that is:

Flexible/agile - willing to take (calculated) risks and want
people that are flexible and agile
Curious - constantly learning and evolving
Compassionate and Inclusive - compassionate,
understanding and respectful to all
Working Together - building and delivering for the best
interests of Kent
Empowering - Our people take accountability for their
decisions and actions
Externally Focused - Residents, families and communities at the heart of decision making