Onside is a voluntary organisation promoting the rights and interests of people facing disadvantage. We are all about people, supporting and empowering them to live the very best life possible. Onside works to strengthen communities and reduce loneliness, we ensure that the most vulnerable people are not alone and feel connected to the people and places closest to where they live.

 **We are currently recruiting for two Social Prescribing Link Workers to be based in the following secondary care settings;**

**The Midwifery Hub, Kidderminster – 24 hours per week**

**Studdert Kennedy House, Worcester & New Brook Prince of Wales Community Hospital, Bromsgrove – 24 hours per week**

**Salary £20,500 per annum (pro rata) fixed term contract to 31st July 2020**

Onside are delighted to be working in partnership with the Worcestershire Public Health Directorate, Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust and Worcestershire CCG’s in this secondary care social prescribing pilot funded by Health Education England.

This project will aim to expand traditional ways of working to support patients. It is aimed at facilitating the transition from secondary care provision to primary care or self-care by providing information, advice and signposting to community services and self-care guidance. The Social Prescribing Link Worker will build trust with individuals and help them to tackle issues affecting their health and wellbeing, e.g. debt, poor housing, physical inactivity, other life style issues or low level mental health concerns.

The two locations selected to test this pilot model are within the midwifery service and mental health settings.

Key Elements of the role;

* To work as part of the team within secondary care settings, to develop strong working relationships with staff, and other health care professionals
* Respond to referrals, carry out initial assessments, develop a personalised care and support plan
* Provide information, guidance and supported signposting to those people who do not need significant additional support
* Identify additional support required for those with more complex needs requiring more intensive interventions, for example, short term mentoring, volunteer support and peer support
* Effectively capture data, monitor outcomes and gather feedback
* The provision of coaching/mentoring support for those that require greater input to move on
* Utilise volunteers and the facilitation of peer support to help tackle social isolation and build natural links and friendships
* Promote an awareness of Social Prescribing within secondary heath care settings and to patients, health and social care professionals and as appropriate within the wider community

We are seeking people with a real commitment to social prescribing and an understanding of the potential benefits for all involved. You must be a good listener, have time for people and be committed to supporting local communities to care for each other. You should have experience of working positively with people facing complex social and emotional challenges. You will have great interpersonal skills enabling you to support people, community groups and local organisations. Good knowledge of the voluntary and community sector, coupled with the ability to support the development of community activities will also be vital to the success of this role

It is essential to have an open-minded, non-judgemental, respectful attitude together with an ability to easily create partnerships based on trust. Sound judgement and reliability are fundamental alongside a warm, friendly personality. It is important to be able to understand the needs and wishes of the individual and support them in ensuring their rights and interests are represented and their voice is heard.

The work is challenging but rewarding and you will need to be resourceful, creative and highly organised with the ability to respond to change, manage a varied workload and work independently.

**If you would like to make a real difference to someone’s life and share our commitment to creating more inclusive communities we would like to hear from you.**

For an informal conversation or more information please call 01905 27525

and ask to speak to Kate Harvey or Alice Braddick.

**Closing Date for Applications: Monday 19th August at 5pm**

**Interviews: 27th and 29th August**

CV’s will not be accepted. For an application pack or specific queries regarding the posts please contact:

**Emma Powell, 01905 27525 Email:** **recruitment@onside-advocacy.org.uk** **or visit our website www.onside-advocacy.org.uk**

