**Social Prescribing Link Worker**

**Job Description**

**Responsible To:** Head of Community Services

**Responsible For:** Volunteers

**Location:** Based at GP surgeries across Worcestershire

**Overall Purpose**

To co-ordinate and facilitate a social prescribing service to strengthen community and personal resilience and reduce health inequalities by addressing wider issues such as debt, poor housing and physical inactivity by increasing people’s active involvement within their local communities. Ensuring appropriate support to overcome specific issues by signposting and referring to other agencies and services, connecting people to community groups and statutory services for practical and emotional support.

**Key responsibilities:**

1. To manage the referrals process, encouraging and promoting referrals from a wide range of agencies to ensure broad use of the social prescribing service
2. To provide personalised support to individuals, their families and carers to take control of their wellbeing, live independently and improve their health outcomes. Helping people identify the wider issues which impact on their health and wellbeing such as debt, poor housing, unemployment, loneliness and caring responsibilities
3. To co-produce a personalised plan to improve health and wellbeing, introducing or reconnecting people to community groups and statutory services. Helping people to maintain or regain independence through living skills, adaptations, enablement approaches and simple safeguards
4. To manage and prioritise caseload, in accordance with needs, priorities and urgent support required by individuals
5. To refer people back to other health professionals/agencies where appropriate
6. To work within local communities to ensure groups are sustainable and to identify and support the setup of new community groups and services where there is a gap in local provision
7. To ensure appropriate safeguarding procedures and practices are in place within local community groups and networks, supporting local groups to develop where necessary
8. To work with commissioners and local partners to identify unmet needs within the community and gaps in community provision
9. To build effective relationships with key staff in GP practices, attending relevant meetings and becoming part of the wider network team, giving information and feedback on social prescribing
10. To work in partnership with other local agencies to raise awareness of social prescribing and to promote the service widely and its benefits
11. To seek regular feedback about the quality of services and the impact of social prescribing, preparing and providing both written and verbal feedback and reports on performance
12. To work with the Onside Volunteer Manager to recruit and support volunteers to facilitate, engage and mentor individuals to access community groups and services to build independence, self-confidence and resilience
13. To identify where people may be eligible for a personal health budget and to support them to access potential funding to enable personalised support to be independent including gaining skills for meaningful employment
14. To use appropriate systems for data capture, case management, feedback and reporting, to include EMIS, adhering to data protection legislation and data sharing agreements
15. To work as part of the team to seek feedback, continually improve the service and contribute to business planning

**Other Responsibilities:**

* Provide mentoring on a one-to-one and group basis as required
* Work with service users’ families to provide information, advice and guidance to enable them to access other appropriate support and services
* This role will involve working in different locations, and will require you to travel across the county including isolated rural areas. The ability and means to travel independently within Worcestershire is essential.
* There may be occasional evening and weekend work which will be considered as part of your normal working hours.

**In addition, all Onside employees are expected to:**

* Work within the organisation’s stated principles and values, adhering at all times to the organisational policies, procedures and guidelines
* Demonstrate a commitment to equal opportunities, social inclusion and individual empowerment
* Show a commitment to personal, professional and organisational development.
* Contribute to organisational promotional and networking activities.
* Work flexibly and co-operatively with colleagues to support the needs of the organisation and assist with wider social prescribing services as required

**Onside People:**

* are **passionate** about what they do
* **value difference**
* are **creative** in their approach
* are committed to **fairness and justice**

While the job description provides the main duties and responsibilities for the position, it is not definitive and employees are expected to carry out any additional duties compatible with their skills and abilities. The above may be subject to change and alteration from time to time with the prior agreement of the job holder.

Signed ………………………………………………....

Date .......................................................................

Print Name …………………………………………………