

SWAN YOUTH SERVICE JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: YOUTH JUSTICE WORKER
REPORTS TO: PROJECT LEADER
EMPLOYED BY: SWAN YOUTH SERVICE LIMITED

MAIN PURPOSE OF JOB

The Youth Justice Worker is responsible for identifying young people at risk in the community through contact with local schools, youth groups, Gardai, probation services etc. and assessing their needs. Referrals are also made directly by Gardai to the project.

The role involves planning, developing, implementing and evaluating developmental/educational programmes to meet the needs of the young people, as agreed with the Project Leader, Director and the Board of Management.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. In Conjunction with the Project leader the youth justice worker will be involved in the following:
 - a. Developing appropriate responses to youth social and political development needs involving local schools, parents and groups
 - b. Ensuring a youth work approach and working from a critical social education model, adopt youth work methodologies to include centre based programmes, structured group work, structured drop in and individual support.
 - c. Planning, developing, delivering and evaluating educational responses to issues such as drug abuse, youth homelessness, racism, bullying, equality, early school leaving, health education etc.
 - d. Developing and implementing interest-based projects for young people in the East Wall area eg Dance, drama, music, sport, residential work etc.
 - e. Identifying young people who would benefit from involvement in programmes and activities and encouraging their involvement through street work, school visits, club visits etc.
 - f. Promoting the work of the project.
 - g. Collaborating with the SWAN centre based youth work, street work teams and Youth Employment Program to meet the needs of the young people, and carry out joint events and programs where appropriate., eg summer programs, community fun days, etc.
 - h. Attendance at meetings as required eg team meetings, subcommittee meetings; interagency work etc.
 - i. Compiling any reports deemed necessary by the Project Leader, Director or Board of Management.
 - j. Identifying potential volunteers and assisting in the development of a training programme for them.
 - k. Evaluating the work of the project using the IYJS evaluation and reporting systems
 - l. Liaising with other agencies working with young people in the community in order to

- maximise the service provided, including a limited attendance at appropriate committees.
- m. Offering support to aid the development of the existing youth groups in the area.
 - n. The development of appropriate policies and responses to issues affecting young people, e.g. drug abuse, involving local schools, parents and other agencies.
 - o. In the case of detached youth work, engaging young people on their own territory, assessing their needs and where relevant referring them on to appropriate services.
 - p. Advocating on behalf of young people where appropriate.
 - q. Participate in relevant in-service training as agreed by the service manager.
 - r. Carrying out all lawful instructions of the management committee.
2. Participating in the Service Performance Development Review System.
 3. As a mandated person report harm of young people to the DLP/Tusla and assist Tusla in assessing those concerns.
 4. Maintaining good working relationships with colleagues.
 5. Maintaining a high standard of work performance, attendance, appearance and punctuality.
 6. Ensuring the highest standards of confidentiality are maintained.
 7. Any other duties as may be assigned from time to time.

The nature of this post requires the holder is flexible in working hours to cover the operational times of the service and the centre on a rota basis. This will involve scheduled evening and weekend work.

