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**Job Title**: Children & Young People Specialist Support Worker

**Hours:** 37.5 hrs (inclusive of 30 minutes unpaid lunch break)

**Place of Work:** SAWA Main Office at 28 Sandgate Ayr KA7 1BW

**Reporting to:** Manager of South Ayrshire Women’s Aid

**Purpose of the Post:**

The purpose is to provide additional support to children and young people (CYP) whose mental health has suffered because of domestic abuse, this could be within the family environment or in their own relationship. The post holder will provide information, advocacy, and face to face support services to CYP who are referred, either by themselves or through another service. This support will be provided either in the school, main office or on an outreach capacity at a place of safety within the South Ayrshire area.

All staff are expected to promote equality and anti-discriminatory practice and to work with women, children and young people who may have multiple and complex needs.

**Core Tasks and Responsibilities**

1. Provide support and information by telephone, zoom, or in person for CYP self- referring or that are referred to SAWA by others.
2. Work with CYP to identify their needs, goals and to make informed choices.
3. Draw on your mental health training to complete assessments and provide support to improve and maintain the mental health and wellbeing of CYP.
4. Develop with the CYP coping strategies and introduce techniques to reduce their anxiety, depression and other symptoms relating to trauma.
5. Undertake support planning and risk assessment in consultation with the CYP and ensure that this is reviewed and updated regularly throughout their contact with SAWA.
6. Refer to or advocate with relevant agencies and services and keep CYP up to date with any developments or relevant information.
7. If appropriate or deemed necessary, liaise with CYP’s mother or carer to inform of any updates regarding issues or concerns affecting the CYP.
8. Monitor record of contact and nature of support undertaken and work with colleagues to assess what further assistance SAWA could offer.
9. Advocate at SW meeting or other meetings when required to ensure the CYP voice is heard.
10. Design and deliver group work sessions for CYP to address issues relating to mental health, provide coping strategies and to facilitate opportunities for peer support.
11. To participate in the delivery of an on-call service to refuge residents.

14. Attend and participate in SAWA meetings.

15. To promote the work of South Ayrshire Women’s Aid and the rights & needs

 of women, children and young people who experience domestic abuse with

 other service providers and policy makers.

16. To undergo any training necessary to carry out the functions of the post.

 17. To perform such other duties from time to time as directed by the Manager.

**Awareness Raising**

1. Assist in raising awareness of domestic abuse, and violence against women within the local and wider community.
2. Support the promotion of SAWA’S public and media profile.
3. Participate in wider forums and events on behalf of SAWA
4. Develop and maintain good public relations out-with the organisation

**Working Approach**

1. Promote equality and anti-discriminatory practice throughout all aspects of the work
2. Support colleagues in creating a positive, supportive and participatory working environment
3. Reflect on and evaluate practice to ensure delivery of a professional service to families accessing the service.
4. Produce a good standard of written reports, when requested and maintain accurate and up to date records on the company database system.
5. Provide reports to funders and other stakeholders on work undertaken when requested by the Manager.

This job description cannot cover every issue or task that may arise within the scope of the post. The post holder will be expected to carry out other duties from time to time which are broadly consistent with the duties as detailed above.

**Working Principles**

* Work to SAWA’s aims, objectives, vision, and mission
* Work to a key worker model with a person-centred approach
* Multi-agency partnership working
* Focus on positive outcomes for all service users.

**Decisions made within the course of the work**

* Responsible for managing own workload and planning