



**JOB TITLE: Specialist Suicide Bereavement Counsellor Part Time 15 hrs pw**

Pay: £32,306 FTE -pro rata PT 15hourspw - £12,922 per annum depending on experience.

**BASIC QUALIFICATIONS:**

Hours: 37.5 hours per week

Holidays: 35 days per annum, including public holidays

Responsible to: Project Manager

Accountable to: IAPT Service Lead

Location: Mind in Bexley office at 2a Devonshire Rd, Bexleyheath DA6 8DS

CONTRACT LENGTH: 3 years and subject to review after 12 months

Please note that this position will be subject to satisfactory references and will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check.

## **About Mind in Bexley**

We believe no one should have to face a mental health problem alone. We work to reduce the stigma associated with mental health, support people in their recovery and champion better services for all. We believe that with the right support and resources everybody can create a life that feels meaningful irrespective of the presence of symptoms. Mind in Bexley is a local Mind mental health charity offering an extensive range of support, advice, and information to communities in Bexley and East Kent. The purpose and objects of the charity is 'to promote the preservation and the safeguarding of mental health and the relief of persons suffering from mental disorder'. We promote well-being and work to reduce poor mental health and the stigma associated with it. We support people in their recovery and champion better services for everyone. We seek to meet these purposes by undertaking a wide range of therapeutic and non-clinical mental health activities within Bexley and East Kent, including direct therapeutic support of individuals, advice, advocacy, recovery and employment services, and campaigning to reduce the stigma of mental health and to raise awareness of mental health issues. Mind in Bexley are contracted by the Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group to provide the NHS funded IAPT Service for Bexley.



## **Job Description**

### **Job Summary**

We are looking for a dynamic, forward thinking and experienced bereavement counsellor to join a new project offering counselling to people bereaved by suicide, across South East London (Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark).

This is a joint project with Mind and SLaM and this post is being hosted/recruited by Mind in Bexley.

The successful candidate will have evidence of post qualifying counselling experience in an agency setting. They will have experience of multidisciplinary working and an understanding of the issues presented by bereavement associated with suicide.

Due to the areas covered, an element of remote working will be required. This post will be predominantly remote working for the first year, then subsequently based at Mind in Bexley and Bethlem Hospital.

### **Key Responsibilities**

To provide counselling for clients (of all ages) who have been affected by bereavement associated with suicide.

The purpose of the service is to offer a community resource with open access to all people bereaved by suicide across South East London, providing direct support and signposting to other services, where appropriate, with the aim of reducing the risk of further deaths by suicide in this vulnerable group by means of preventative work.

### **Aims:**

- Help families cope with the practical and emotional ramifications of suicide
- Reduce the risk of suicide and significant mental health problems amongst those recently bereaved by suicide
- Improved wellbeing, resilience, functioning and wellbeing following a suicide
- Reduced social isolation and stronger support networks for those affected
- Ensure people are signposted to other sources of support as appropriate

### **Clinical / Technical Responsibility:**

To provide counselling to bereaved clients within an agreed timeframe/number of sessions  
Clinical Governance /

### **Quality:**

To regularly provide evidence to demonstrate the quality and effectiveness of the service.  
Recording of patient contact must be timely and accurate

### **Training and Development:**

To share knowledge and expertise with the multi-disciplinary team as required

**Experience and Skills (shortlisting criteria)**

- Evidence of post qualifying counselling experience
- Evidence of experience working in an agency setting
- Experience of multi-disciplinary working
- An understanding of end of life issues and evidence of working in a similar setting
- Effective verbal and written communication skills
- IT literate

### **Duties and Key Responsibilities**

- To provide counselling to clients following the service model (tba) To carry caseload of clients and to manage and prioritise support as advised
- To liaise with the multi-disciplinary teams to achieve the best outcomes for service users
- To maintain good communication and liaison with other departments within the wider teams
- Maintain high standards of care delivery through working within National Minimum Standards of care framework and a Clinical Governance framework
- Take part in clinical supervision in line with service and professional and statutory requirements.
- To ensure that any critical incidents, near misses and complaints are reported appropriately in accordance with the service
- To attend meetings/training where required to include attendance at the Suicide Bereavement Steering Group
- To work closely with staff from South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust (SLaM) and local Mind partners to ensure the delivery of a joined up and coherent provision for people bereaved by suicide in SE London
- Keep accurate records using the relevant software and contribute to the evaluation of the effectiveness of the service as required, to include ensuring that outcome measures are completed and recorded in a timely and accurate way
- To ensure the timely and accurate recording of activity information
- To update own professional development and inform the service as required
- Work in an outcome-focused way to ensure that people derive real benefit from the service
- In order to facilitate the safe and smooth running of the service, employees are expected to maintain a safe working environment, maintain service user confidentiality, and occasionally take on reasonable

additional tasks

### General

In addition to the specific duties and responsibilities outlined in this job profile, all Mind in Bexley employees should be aware of their specific responsibilities towards the following:

- To adhere to all health and safety and fire regulations and to co-operate with maintaining good standards of health and safety
- To uphold ethical and professional standards and not behave in a manner that is likely to bring Mind in Bexley into disrepute
- Promote and sustain a responsible attitude towards equal opportunities and diversity within the organisation
- Demonstrate a commitment to ongoing registration requirements or any national professional or occupational standards associated with the role
- Demonstrate a commitment to ongoing learning and development and to participate in any training relevant to the role.

All employees are expected to be competent with the use of technology and information systems and understand their duties and responsibilities with regard to the appropriate use of personal data including sensitive personal data. They should familiarise themselves with the Data Protection Policy (2018) and complete any related training requested of them.



## PERSON SPECIFICATION

	<b>ESSENTIAL</b>	<b>DESIRABLE</b>
	<b>The qualities without which a post holder could not be appointed</b>	<b>Extra qualities which can be used to choose between candidates who meet all the essential criteria</b>
<b>Qualifications</b>	Accredited membership with the regulatory bodies is mandatory: BACP / UKCP	•
<b>Experience and Knowledge</b>	<p>Experience of counselling in a healthcare setting</p> <p>Experience of working with clients of all ages (qualifications to support working with children will be required)</p> <p>Experience of working in multidisciplinary teams</p> <p>Demonstrates a knowledge of the issues surrounding work and the impact it can have on mental health / benefits &amp; employment systems</p> <p>Knowledge of in anxiety and depression and other common mental health problems</p> <p>Demonstrates an understanding for the need to use evidence based psychological therapies and how it relates to this post</p>	•
<b>Communication Skills</b>	<p>Computer literate</p> <p>Excellent verbal and written communication skills</p> <p>Able to write clear reports and letters to referrers</p>	



<p><b>Organisational Skills</b></p>	<p>Ability to meet agreed/specified service targets</p> <p>Ability to manage own caseload and time</p> <p>Demonstrate high standards in written communication</p>	
<p><b>Personal Attributes</b></p>	<p>High level of enthusiasm and Motivation.</p> <p>Advanced communication skills</p> <p>Ability to work within a team and foster good working relationships</p> <p>Ability to work under pressure</p> <p>Regard for others and respect for individual rights of autonomy and confidentiality</p> <p>Ability to be self-reflective, whilst working with service users, &amp; in own personal and professional development and in supervision</p> <p>The ability and skills to act as an advocate for the new service, to engage and foster good professional relationships with all health professionals in promoting the good integration of this service with the wider health care system</p>	

To apply please complete and return the Mind in Bexley application form on our website

<https://mindinbexley.org.uk/vacancies>

Closing date Weds 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Shortlisting : 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Interview dates : TBA