**Senior Practitioner - Thames Reach (Lambeth Living Well Network Hub)**

***Lambeth***

***Fixed Term or Secondment 12 months***

***37.5 hours per week***

***Starting Salary Grade E/SCP 29 £29,133***  ***incl. ILW + non-contributory pension***

Role Context and Purpose

The Lambeth Living Well Network (LWN) was developed in 2008 in response to wide stakeholder events that identified that a different approach was needed to improve the outcomes of people with mental health needs, particularly in the context of efficiencies required by government policy. Please go to <http://lambethcollaborative.org.uk/> for more information regarding our story.

Originally the LWN Hub was a prototype in North Lambeth, which started in 2013. The LWN Hub consisted of members of clinical staff from the South London and Maudsley Foundation NHS Trust (SLaM) and London Borough of Lambeth (LBL), along with nurses from Clapham Family Practice and support staff from the voluntary sector, (Thames Reach, Mosaic, Look Ahead and Certitude). The LWN North Hub became the front door to mental health referrals, taking all referrals (introductions) for mental health support from North Lambeth GP’s. The LWN North Hub would explore the referral with a view to offering a 12 week reablement package in primary care. They would also refer people onto other services including secondary care mental health services (SLaM), if needed.

The overarching principles of the LWN Hub are that of co- production. The principles of co-production are: recognising people as assets, building on people’s existing capabilities, building peer support networks, blurring distinctions between professionals and users, facilitating rather than delivering and promoting mutuality and reciprocity.

The prototype in North Lambeth attracted funding from Guys and St Thomas’s Charity and together with the Provider Alliance Group (a local group of providers and commissioners) opened the LWN Hub borough wide in July 2015. Three localities were developed that mirrored that of GP Federations, that of North, South East and South West.

The first year as a borough wide service has brought success and challenges. The Hub has reduced referrals into secondary care, enabling them to work with people more intensively and quickly when someone needs secondary care. We have supported over 4000 people in primary care using the resources of the Hub’s reablement package and other network offers. However, there is still more that the Hub would like to achieve and we would like to further develop and sustain the progress made in year one.

The key aims of the LWN Hub are

-to enable earlier intervention to reduce escalation of crises

- to simplify access and ensure people to get the right support

- to offer a high quality, integrated and personalised response to people when they are introduced to support them to lead a good life in their community. This includes social, asset based community support as well as clinical intervention

- to reduce the inappropriate use of secondary care

- to help people to recover and lead a good life

- to build people’s resilience and their local community networks

Over the next year the LWN Hub needs to further develop and improve its ways of working to support the needs of the service. It needs to

* focus on developing relationships with local communities and agencies already providing connections to many people
* further develop our relationships with Local Practices, leading the way in challenging the status quo of how mental health services are traditionally delivered and run.
* develop its staff to support them to work in this new, innovative way
* demonstrate how it is changing outcomes for people, how it is using coproduction to develop further and show how it is doing things differently with the support of expert researchers
* show the efficiencies of working with people earlier than traditional mental health services and the impact it can have on a wider landscape of mental health and social care services, whilst still delivering high quality support to the residents of Lambeth.

As Senior Practitioner you will support the locality and Hub Coordinator oversee a large caseload of service users and work in partnerships with many different agencies. You will also ensure that our monitoring and data collection is of high standard. In addition you will:

* To supervise support staff within your locality, ensuring their effective supervision supports the locality bad the Hub Coordinator.
* To support staff and managers to consider the needs and risk management of people’s lives and encourage positive risk taking to promote personalised support that builds the person’s resilience and self-management and utilises non-traditional, innovative methods of support and intervention.
* To be responsible for the development of Hub staff utilising supervision, appraisal, solution focussed leadership and coaching. To consider other methods of developing staff that come from a range of services and employees to ensure we are maximising their assets to sustain the service.
* Support the team to help users to step down from secondary care or manage their illness with the support of their GP in Primary Care.
* Focus on brief interventions to help people identify social and wellbeing options (e.g. support from other voluntary services, peer support, housing and employment options), and help service users to take up these option.
* Work alongside our statutory and voluntary partners to triage service users who are being referred for mental health support in addition to providing a variety of social needs support.
* Oversee a partnership with Lambeth Council, to support manage Personal Health Budgets and Self Directed Support.
* Identify and complete initial assessments for people with a variety of mental health problems and presenting with support needs related to social functioning

You must have:

* Ability to work quickly and have strong networking and relationship building skills.
* Able to build leadership credibility, rapport and influence internally and externally.
* Highly effective written, verbal and presentational communication skills and able to facilitate groups.
* Strong understanding of issues facing vulnerable people and the services they require.
* Experience of and adapting to processes in a period of change.
* Particular knowledge of the needs and hopes of vulnerable people.
* A strong track record of working in support services.
* A strong understanding of social support needs including the difficulties of social exclusion and housing issues.

The team will work in Lambeth and will be based in our Streatham Office but you will have to travel extensively across the borough in order to meet the needs of the service.