

DV ACCOMMODATION SUPPORT WORKER

Overview

To support and assist all WCWAV clients who have need of emergency alternative accommodation due to domestic abuse.

To liaise, make appropriate referrals and provide advocacy for clients with all relevant agencies, services and organisations in West Cork which can provide access to accommodation, supports and benefits for clients.

To develop and maintain contacts with B&B, refuges, housing associations and bodies, council and private sector housing sources

To work with the WCWAV Support & Development team to identify appropriate referrals to the Safe House

To be responsible for direct support to all Safe House clients including:

Introducing and welcoming clients to Safe House, explaining the procedures for occupancy and making sure that clients understand what is expected of them and what they can expect in return.

To develop in collaboration with Safe House occupants an individualised care plan to progress their move on from the Safe House and any future next steps including relevant support networks, safety, education, employment, housing and childcare needs etc.

To provide emotional support space to any woman in the safe house

Conduct regular health, safety and security audits and checks of the safe house

Ensure maintenance, security and cleanliness of Safe House during and between occupancies and liaise with trades people as needed.

Record and document all actions and follow ups related to Safe House conditions and client occupancy

Implement all procedures and policies of the Safe House and update when necessary

General

To attend regular staff meetings, team meetings and client debriefs in the Bantry office

To represent the service and attend any relevant accommodation forums

To attend relevant training identified by WCWAV

To provide the CEO with regular oral & written reports as requested

To avail of monthly external supervision resourced by WCWAV

Maintain high levels of confidentiality and non- judgemental approach to clients

This is a 20 hour p.w. post which can be flexibly worked.

Responsible to: WCWAV CEO

Personal Specs:

Essential

Third level qualification in social care, social work, community development or related subject

Previous experience of advocacy in housing/homelessness sector or in community support services with knowledge of applying for housing supports

Knowledge of Children First policies and practice

Commitment to equality and human rights and service user empowerment

Own car and clean driving licence

Desirable

Experience of working in domestic violence service setting

Working knowledge of statutory and community services in West Cork

Understanding of domestic abuse and its impact on victims and their children

Trauma-informed training and practice