

DV ACCOMMODATION SUPPORT WORKER

Job Description

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

In conjunction with WCWAV colleagues, to conduct risk assessments and capacity eligibility for potential clients of Safe House

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

Introduction to Safe House and explanation of the Occupants Manual and related protocols including signing of the Occupancy Agreement

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

Assess maintenance, security and cleanliness of Safe House during occupancy and between occupancies

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 accommodation fora deemed relevant by WCWAV

To attend relevant training identified by WCWAV

To provide the Coordinator 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

Responsible to: WCWAV Co-ordinator

Personal Specs:

Essential

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

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

Knowledge of Children First policies and practice

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

Proven experience in advocacy work and interagency working

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

Trauma-informed training and practice