



## Job Description

<b>Job Title</b>	Sanctuary Support Worker
<b>Salary</b>	£24,000 (pro rata based on 35 hour week)
<b>Responsible To</b>	Line Manager based at Touchstone
<b>Hours</b>	21 hours per week
<b>Length of contract</b>	Fixed Term Contract until 09 <sup>th</sup> of January 2024 (with the potential to extend subject to funding)

### Touchstone

Touchstone is a multi-award-winning mental health and wellbeing charity operating in communities across Yorkshire. Touchstone understands that we can only deliver excellence to the people we serve if the people we recruit are happy, empowered, supported to reach their potential and trusted to lead.

### Sanctuary Support Team (SST)

Leeds Domestic Violence Service (LDVS) is being commissioned by Leeds City Council as part of the New Burdens Funding to provide a team of Domestic Violence & Abuse (DV&A) Practitioners who will deliver structured support to individuals and families living in properties where sanctuary installation through the LHO managed Sanctuary Scheme has been applied for. This new Sanctuary Support Team (SST) will include workers from a range of organisations and will mean that people with protected characteristics are able to access more specialist support. The team must consider the support needs of any children living in the property. Asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants, who are not eligible for sanctuary installations, will also be supported in this project.

Touchstone will specialise in working with individuals that identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community.

### Purpose of Job

The Sanctuary Support Worker will be part of a team of workers located in different organisations with different specialisms. The workers will assess need and risk and provide appropriate support to victim-survivors that have been allocated through the team leader.

This post will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

## Physical Conditions

The Sanctuary Support Worker will be managed by the Safeguarding Coordinator at Touchstone and based within that host organisation. The post will be part of a team across a number of organisations and will be led by the Sanctuary Support Team Leader (SSTL) employed by Leeds Women's Aid. Quality for the service will be managed by the SSTL.

## Economic Conditions

The salary will be £24,000 per annum pro rata. Hours of work are 21 hours per week.

## Relationships

### Responsible to:

The Sanctuary Support Worker will be line managed by, and be responsible to, the Safeguarding Coordinator.

## Main Duties

1. To assess support needs for individuals and families allocated by the Sanctuary Support Team Leader using risk and needs assessment procedures.
2. To structure support within a safety and support plan that will be "driven" by the service user as they identify their support needs.
3. To ensure Safeguarding standards are met and incidents are logged and reported accurately.
4. To work closely with external agencies to develop support networks and meet the service user's support needs where appropriate
5. To review risk, needs and support planning on a regular basis.
6. To signpost service users to specialist agencies and solicitors to enable them to use the criminal and civil law to protect themselves and their children, as well as a wide range of other agencies as required.
7. To ensure important matters are communicated effectively and appropriately.
8. To maintain confidential records and monitoring systems.
9. To promote the Sanctuary Support Team (SST) within the LGBTQIA+ community.
10. In consultation with the SST Team Leader, to refer in to the LDVS commissioned service if service user is high risk, as appropriate.
11. To monitor work undertaken following agreed monitoring and evaluation guidelines and systems.

## General

12. To attend regular SST Meetings.
13. To attend regular catch ups with the SST Team Leader

14. To undertake any other duties as may be deemed consistent with the requirements of the post.
15. To be supervised, appraised and trained in line with the organisation's policies, procedures and practices.
16. To undertake any other duties as directed by the Team Manager that may reasonably fall within the scope of the post.
17. To provide information about Touchstone as a whole and to people/agencies interested in the organisation's work.
18. To implement Touchstone's policies and practices and comply with the aims of Touchstone at all times. To be committed to the organisation's Equal Opportunities Policy and to promote this with staff, Board of Touchstone, partners, service users and carers.
19. To be aware of and employ the general practices of Touchstone's Safeguarding and Health and Safety policies and ensure these are adhered to at all times.
20. To ensure that Data Protection, Health & Safety, Complaints Handling and Corporate Governance requirements are met.
21. To ensure information is dealt with in accordance with Touchstone policies around confidentiality, communications, internet, e-mail and telecommunications, and steps are taken to ensure that confidential information is secure e.g. service user data.
22. To be responsible for personal learning and development where appropriate and undertake learning and developments activities, both mandatory and optional, to increase knowledge, skills and awareness.

## Person Specification

<b>Experience</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
1. Working with and assessing the needs of vulnerable adults, children and young people	✓	
2. Working with other voluntary and statutory services to co-ordinate the support for LGBTQIA+ service users	✓	
3. Experience of undertaking structured support	✓	
4. Experience of using risk assessment, safety planning and support planning tools		✓

<b>Understanding</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
5. Domestic abuse and the impact on victims and their children.	✓	
6. Barriers faced by the LGBTQIA+ community and the prevalence of those barriers	✓	
7. Sexual and honour-based violence, stalking and forced marriage		✓
8. The cultural and social context of DV&A and additional barriers and discrimination faced by oppressed groups experiencing and surviving DV&A	✓	
9. The roles and responsibilities of statutory organisations in relation to vulnerable people	✓	
10. Multi-agency partnerships and the issues of information sharing in domestic violence cases		✓
11. Child protection and safeguarding adults in relation to vulnerable people, children and young people	✓	
12. Equality issues specifically in relation to marginalised groups and an understanding of intersectionality	✓	

<b>Skills</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
13. Ability to form good relationships with service users whilst working within professional boundaries	✓	
14. Excellent written, verbal and interpersonal communication skills	✓	
15. Ability to use IT to produce reports and monitor projects	✓	
16. Ability to network with external organisations to raise awareness of the service within the LGBTQIA+ community	✓	

<b>Personal Qualities &amp; Competencies</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
17. Act with integrity and respect when interacting with service users, employees, agencies and individuals	✓	
18. Commitment to diversity and working in an anti-discriminatory way	✓	
19. Commitment to upholding LDVS's & Host Organisations policies and procedures	✓	

<b>Touchstone – additional specific requirements</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
A - Use an ASSET based approach to building and enhancing Domestic abuse awareness within LGBTQIA+ communities		✓
B - Develop and strengthen partnership with other LGBTQIA+ organisations	✓	
C - Identify additional barriers for BME, disabled and any other LGBTQIA+ communities in seeking support. Strive to connect and give a voice to them.	✓	
D - Link into the DAVA as a voice for all LGBTQIA+ survivors voices ensuring non- binary and other trans people are also heard when gender is being discussed	✓	
E - Develop peer support for individuals and if the needs emerge offer some peer group support	✓	