SCOTTISH AUTISM

Embracing difference, leading change

Community Advisor
Advice Line Team

Location: Flexible / Homeworking with local community outreach work (with possibility of evening and weekend work)

About Scottish Autism

Scottish Autism seeks to promote and provide care, education, support and opportunities for autistic people of all ages throughout Scotland. We work tirelessly to create a world where autistic people are understood and enabled to lead meaningful, fulfilling and happy lives as valued members of the community.

At Scottish Autism, people are at the heart of everything we do. As Scotland's leading autism charity, we are committed to creating an inclusive culture where difference is embraced, individual voices are valued, and everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Our work is guided by four core values: Belonging, Empowering, Curiosity and Integrity, which shape how colleagues support autistic people, work together and drive positive change.

The Role:

Reporting to the Senior Community Advisor, your role will be to deliver a range of free to access community services to the autistic/autism community and other stakeholders. The roles core workstream is the Advice Line which informs the development of community services.

As these services are needs led, they will grow and develop overtime. Due to the nature of the role, this requires an element of home working, but also local community outreach, engaging with local autistic/autism communities, as well as our supported commissioned services.

Key tasks and responsibilities:

- To work alongside the Senior Community Advisor to deliver Scottish Autism's Community Advice strategic objectives.
- To develop and deliver advice, information, support and guidance to autistic people, their families and professionals via our advice line.
- To support autistic people, and parents and carers to access Scottish Autism's free to access community services and events.
- To promote awareness and understanding of the needs of autistic people amongst parent and carers, as well as local communities.
- To identify gaps in access to information and support, to inform development of community services.
- To support the delivery of new projects and community services as they develop.
- To work collaboratively with other organisations and agencies to meet the needs of autistic people and parents/carers.
- To work collaboratively with other teams and departments across Scottish Autism to meet the needs of the autistic/autism community.
- To support the wider functions of the Communities Advice remit as and when appropriate.

Skills and Attributes

- Lived experience and/or Autism Practice .
- Commitment to and demonstration of our organisational values
- Commitment to professional development and ongoing learning
- Active listening Skills.

- Ability to respond empathically to distressed or confused people
- Ability to manage unpredictable situations and to respond accordingly.
- Ability to assess risk particularly in relation to Advice Line users
- Ability to provide enabling support to empower families to support their child.
- Ability to source and appraise information resources and other materials and signpost accordingly.
- Ability to translate complex theoretical knowledge into accessible and practical advice.
- Ability to work in a diverse range of environments to deliver and facilitate support appropriate to the needs of different audiences, such as autistic people, or parents and carers.
- Ability to self-manage and to organise diverse work streams.
- Ability to manage and understand own wellbeing needs, as well as recognising when to seek support.

Knowledge and Experience

- Contemporary knowledge and understanding of autism and autistic people and their families across the lifespan.
- Sound knowledge of education, health and social services contexts across Scotland as they apply to autistic people and their families.
- Experience of supporting complex situations where a person maybe experiencing heightened levels of distress or confusion.
- Experience in safeguarding vulnerable people and reporting procedures.
- Knowledge of transactional stress and impact on coping for individuals and families.
- Knowledge of neurodevelopmental assessment pathways and processes.