



The Balsam Centre are looking for a Project Worker For The Good Stuff Project

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Good Stuff Project is a response to the health and social changes being experienced in the aftermath of Covid, together with the opportunities presented by Wincanton's current town regeneration activity and plans for the future.

This is an exciting new project for Wincanton which will combine the activity of the Balsam Centre to reduce health and social inequalities, with Wincanton Town Council's Wincanton For the Future (WFF) initiative.

Wincanton Town Council, together with its partners, has consulted extensively to discover what local people think and feel about living in Wincanton and what they would like to see for its future. Good Stuff brings together elements of this thinking in respect of people's daily lives, their personal ambitions and their vision for the town, highlighting the need for social, skills and employment opportunities and development. We need someone special to work directly with beneficiaries and bring this thinking and opportunity to life.

This is a new role which will involve connecting and working with individuals, groups and partner organisations across the town.

Job Title:	Project Worker – Good Stuff
Responsible To:	Balsam Centre Manager
Base:	The Balsam Centre, Wincanton, BA9 9HB
Salary:	£25,000 pro rata
Term:	1 year fixed term contract
Working Hours:	28 hrs per week, to include alternate Saturdays
Annual Leave:	28 days pro rata
Probationary period:	3 months
Notice :	1 month

JOB PURPOSE	
	<p>To connect with people who are socially and/or economically isolated, to help them make connections with others, establish social networks, develop skills for life and employment, and contribute to the life and social regeneration of Wincanton.</p> <p>The post holder will support individuals and groups to grow and thrive through positive shared experiences, creativity, learning and peer support. Participants will be encouraged and supported to contribute to the social, cultural and economic activity of the town and its environmental sustainability.</p> <p>The post holder will be responsible for providing practical support at different levels and for creating the culture and environment to enable individuals and families to achieve different health, social, employment, or environmental goals. The project is ambitious and could potentially include supporting beneficiaries in the development of a micro business, or community enterprise.</p>

The Main Responsibilities of the Post Holder are to :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners to identify and actively engage young people, young adults, families and people of any age living in Wincanton who are socially or economically inactive or isolated.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate the co-production and delivery of activities for individuals and small groups, focusing on specific and transferable skills for life and employment involving both formal and informal learning and training.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support individuals and families to create and join social and peer networks, develop skills for volunteering and/or employment and become actively engaged in the project and in their community.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commit to alternate weekend (Saturday) working to ensure the project is accessible to all.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relate all activities to the Good Stuff project plan and vision.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a welcoming, safe, positive and inclusive environment that supports and enables individuals and groups to participate, achieve and flourish.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build relationships of trust with individuals that maintain appropriate boundaries.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By agreement/negotiation with relevant parties, as necessary, use the resources of project partners and of the wider community; natural, physical and human, to support the activities of the project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate participants' progression and assist them in achieving their goals.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record and evaluate the impact and outcomes of the project using agreed measures.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work constructively and creatively with other team members and partners to meet the agreed targets and outcomes of the project.

Person Specification

Work will take place in and around Wincanton. It is expected that the post holder will be familiar with the concept of active travel and will be able to walk or cycle to meet and work with participants, wherever practicable. Depending on the activities undertaken, there may be a requirement to work out of doors/and or handle tools and equipment for which it will be necessary to have a reasonable level of physical fitness.

Essential

- A professional qualification in a relevant field e.g. community development, teaching, health & wellbeing or proven equivalent experience
- Substantial group work skills and experience
- Excellent people and communication skills
- Excellent time management and flexibility
- A responsive, resourceful and pro-active approach
- An ability to develop and maintain effective partnerships at different levels
- An understanding of key concepts such as co-production, peer support, recovery and wellbeing, and of equality, diversity and inclusion.
- Experience of working with people who have mental health problems or other potential barriers to engagement
- The ability to plan and deliver differentiated social, creative and learning opportunities for individuals and small groups
- Familiarity with child and adult safeguarding principles and procedures.
- Knowledge and understanding of relevant health, safety, legal and ethical frameworks
- Good IT skills
- Confidence and humour
- A commitment to the aims and values of The Balsam Centre

Desirable

- A specialist skill e.g. horticulture, cookery, textiles, forest school
- A knowledge and understanding of the challenges of life in a rural community

The Balsam Centre, Balsam Park, Wincanton, Somerset, BA9 9HB

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