Mothers Apart Volunteer

Purpose of Role

The most important characteristics of a champion is that they are passionate about helping other women in a similar situation, they have experience of living apart from their children and they are at a stage where they feel they are ready to support other women.

Role Requirements

- **Desired Lived experience,** although not essential, of living apart from one's child/ren, but currently in a good place to be able to support other women in a similar position. Alternatively, work experience, either paid or voluntary, working with mothers in a similar position.
- Basic IT skills.
- Be Prepared to undertake a Peer Group Training programme
- Experience organising events.
- Researching cheapest taxi services.

Roles and Responsibilities

1. Understanding the various reasons why women are living separately from their children, considering the different factors that contribute to this with a non-judgemental attitude.
2. Help and support with empathy and an understanding that everyone's situation is different.
3. To reflect with the Facilitator after each session.
4. Directing women for support and advice.
5. Keeping up to date with related issues.
6. Confidently have open conversations around this sensitive issue.
7. Listen without judgement.
8. To support staff with setting up and clearing up of room used.
9. To place mugs, tea, coffee in the group area at the start of group and place mugs in dishwasher at the end of session.
10. Offering women, a warm drink once they are in the group.
11. To attend briefing sessions at the beginning of the group and de-briefing sessions at the end, as well as supervision sessions.
12. To work with an attitude of encouraging all women who attend services to develop a sense of ownership and peer support and offer a listening ear.
13. To create a welcoming environment for existing clients and new clients.
14. To work within the risk assessment/ safeguarding protocols particularly with regards to issues of safeguarding, fire procedures and maintaining the space.
15. To adhere with the policies, protocols and procedures of the WomenCentre.
16. To remain professional at all times and within the confines of WomenCentre boundaries and confidentiality.
17. To check individual trays and handover book for any messages left and to place leave in the office diary and also inform facilitator in advance.

NB: This post is open to women only – Equality Act 2010, Schedule 9, Part 1 applies.