



Youth Advocates – Fixed Purpose Contracts – Person Spec and Job Description

As a Youth Advocate, you will be part of a supportive team and work under the guidance of a Team Leader. Your role will involve using the YAP strengths-based model to provide tailored individual support to vulnerable young people and their families within their homes and local communities, empowering them to reach their goals.

At YAP Ireland, we are committed to delivering a personalized one to one service for six months to one year for children, young people, and families facing a diverse range of challenges. Through intensive collaboration, you will facilitate positive change and help them achieve their aspirations.

Join us in making a meaningful impact in the lives of those we serve.

Responsibilities and Tasks:

1. To deliver a 1:1 service to young people and families under the supervision and support of the Team Leader.
2. Together with the Team Leader build a positive, supportive working relationship with the young person and their family using the YAP strengths-based model to help them achieve their goals.
3. Together with the Team Leader, develop a plan of work (Individualised Service Plan) to focus on the abilities, strengths and needs of the young person and their families.
4. To carry out day-to-day work with the young person and family, addressing their needs as outlined in the ISP. This may involve supporting the young person to participate in appropriate education, accessing appropriate services or finding community activities to link the young person into.
5. To promote, enable and empower the young person and families voice to be heard and ensure they have a voice in their service/life/community. This includes activity groups, participation and consultation groups.
6. Together with the Team Leader, to adopt a Wraparound approach that will bring together those key people and services who can offer support to the young person and family during and after the YAP Service.
7. To identify and evaluate the changing needs and interests of the child/young person as the relationship progresses and to adapt the service accordingly.
8. To understand the Health and Safety policies required for all activities with young people including any specific medical history, medications and specific special needs and/or diagnosis.
9. To complete in a timely and accurate manner the required weekly paperwork and submit it to the line manager by the agreed deadlines.

10. To be familiar with all of Yap's current policies and procedures, especially in the areas of Child Protection, Confidentiality and On-Call and to work within those in a professional manner.
11. To attend staff development and training and supervisory sessions as scheduled. This will include regular supervision. Some training courses are mandatory, and advocates will be required to attend this training.
12. To undertake other duties as appropriate.

Experience you should have:

You have lived experience relevant to working with young people and families and a passion for helping individuals find their strengths.

Desirable – Any previous experience of working / volunteering within youth work, family support or community setting would be highly beneficial for this role.

Skills you should have:

- A positive attitude towards children and young people and an ability to work from a strengths-based perspective, be non-judgemental and creative
- A knowledge/understanding of issues affecting young people
- Good communication skills
- Available for flexible working hours, day time, evenings and weekends
- Good time management and organisational skills
- Basic computer skills
- Ability to write reports on work undertaken
- Full Driving Licence and your own means of transport.

What you will get:

- €16.07 per hour
- Expert training and financial assistance for further education
- Flexible working hours.
- Invaluable experience working with young people and excellent career progression opportunities.
- A fun, rewarding working environment where each day you make a massive positive impact on people's lives.