

All Saints' Counselling Service – Director (part-time) Role Description

A confidential, professional and affordable Counselling Service for those living in the Portsmouth area

About the service

All Saints Counselling Service (ASCS) began in the early 1990s with the aim of providing a safe space for clergy and others to talk through issues they were facing. It gradually grew into a broader public service and now works with individuals from across the local area as part of the Portsmouth Diocesan Council for Social Responsibility (CSR). It helps people work through a variety of issues including grief, depression, trauma, anxiety, stress and abuse. In addition to counselling, the service also offers coaching.

Team members have a Christian ethos and respect the spirituality of the people they see - of all faiths and none. People are referred to ASCS by many sources including churches, GPs, IAPT services and self-referrals.

The counsellors are fully qualified and members of a professional body. We also offer trainee placements for student counsellors. The team currently has six qualified counsellors and three trainee counsellors on placement. On average we see 50-55 clients in a year. The team members give their time voluntarily. Clients are asked for a donation according to what they can afford to pay to cover costs.

We are looking for a new Director with a passion for the ethos and mission of the service, and the vision and wisdom to lead us through the next phase in our development in a rapidly changing world. After a period of shared leadership, we have reached a pivotal moment for the organisation as we look to shape our future strategy and grow our impact in this time of increasing need.

Role responsibilities

Provide leadership and direction

Lead on strategy and planning: One of the first responsibilities will be to lead a review of the current service with the team and to develop the vision and strategy for the next few years.

Provide general direction and guidance for on-going work in collaboration with the Referrals Co-ordinator.

Have clinical oversight of the counsellors.

Direct and guide our bi-monthly team meetings.

Attend monthly supervisors' meeting as part of governance.

Provide pastoral care of the team in collaboration with the chaplain to the service.

Represent the service externally

The Director will represent the service and provide updates at board meetings of the Council for Social Responsibility in the Diocese of Portsmouth. S/he will build relationships with other counselling service providers across the city and be the face of the service with other external stakeholders.

Manage governance with CSR:

- Reporting
- Relationships
- Communications
- Financials
- Safeguarding, Health & Safety etc

Manage wider communications and relationships

Represent ASCS at meetings, events and in the media

Requirements and skills

We are seeking an individual who will lead by example, giving committed, consistent, energetic and servant-orientated leadership to the organisation.

Essential requirements:

- Qualified and experienced Counsellor / Psychotherapist / Counselling Psychologist accredited by a recognised professional body
- Understanding and experience of counselling's clinical landscape, including relationship to NHS provision and mental health services
- A practising Christian
- Confident to be the 'face' of ASCS and handle PR opportunities
- Able to use a computer and the main software packages competently
- Resilient and able to use own judgment, take initiative and make decisions
- Skilled at monitoring own performance and that of colleagues

Desirable requirements:

- Experienced in leading, motivating and managing a team, preferably of volunteers
- Financial and business management skills

It is envisaged that the working hours would be approximately 50 days per year.

This appointment is subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS check.

This role is offered at a rate of £5,000 per annum for an initial period of two years with a six-month probation period. It would be on a Contract for Services basis plus expenses.

For more information or to have a conversation about the role, contact:

allsaintscounselling@csrnet.org.uk

To apply, please send your CV and a cover letter to nick.ralph@portsmouth.anglican.org

Closing date: 28 February 2023.