

**Peer Support Worker Vacancy**

This role involves providing both one-to-one and group-based peer support to clients of South Kent Mind, using your own lived experience of mental health challenges to offer understanding, guidance, and encouragement. Working with individuals across Folkestone, Dover, and New Romney, you will help people build confidence and resilience, foster a sense of hope, and support them in taking greater control of their well-being. The position also includes helping clients connect with local community resources to reduce loneliness and isolation, while actively challenging stigma and promoting empowerment through shared experience and mutual support.

**If you are interested, please send a covering letter and CV to:** **contact@southkentmind.org.uk**

**We reserve the right to close this vacancy early is we receive sufficient applications for the role. Therefore, if you are interested, please submit your application as early as possible.**

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| **Job Title:** | **Peer Support Worker** |
| **Reports to:** | Wellbeing Services Manager |
| **Key Relationships** | CEO, Wellbeing Team |
| **Location** | SKM Centre22-26 Dover RoadFolkestoneCT20 1JQ | **Travel Required****Position** | Own car required. Travelling around the local area is required.Fixed Term until 31 March 2026 |
| **Salary Range from**  | £22,357 per annum pro rata depending on skills and experience | **Hours of Work** | 7 hours per week |
| **Holidays** | 28 days per annum pro rata which includes statutory bank holidays |  |  |
| **OVERVIEW AND JOB PURPOSE** |
| We are looking for a part-time Peer Support Worker to provide recovery-orientated one to one and group-based peer support to people with common and long-term mental health problems. The successful candidate will work with clients to improve their confidence and resilience, reduce social isolation and help them integrate further into the local community, whilst also providing general support for the day-to-day self-management of their client’s mental health.You will use your own mental health lived experience to build good rapport with your clients and ensure your approach is meaningful. You will need to be organised, resilient, flexible, and empathetic in supporting clients to achieve their goals. The role will include:* Providing one to one and group-based recovery-orientated peer support for mental health
* Empowering and supporting clients to access and navigate healthcare, wellbeing, and community services.
* Working with others to plan and develop content and resources for recovery-based workshops and peer support groups.
* Working with the Peer Support Coordinators to induct, train and support Peer Support Volunteers
* Promoting understanding of the principles and practice of peer support
* Working collaboratively with hub staff, partners & stakeholders across the South Kent Mind boundary
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| **JOB DESCRIPTION** |
| * Provide person-centred support to clients, aligned with their recovery goals and ambitions, drawing from your own lived experiences and a variety of coping strategies and self-management techniques.
* Delivery 1:1 client support and group sessions in various community and wider healthcare settings within the South Kent Mind area as needed.
* Empower and assist clients in accessing and navigating healthcare, wellbeing, and community services.
* Contribute to the planning and development of recovery-oriented workshops and peer support groups.
* Work with the Peer Co-Ordinator to manage the internal referral process for peer support, including handling the referral inbox, working closely with other hub staff who refer clients, and assessing client need.
* Identify risk and safeguarding issues, follow safeguarding procedures, and act upon recommendations by the Wellbeing Services Manager and /or Safeguarding lead.
* Advocate for the principles and practices of Peer Support within South Kent Mind.
* Assist in the recruitment, training, and supervision of Peer Support Volunteers under the guidance of the Peer Support Coordinator, ensuring our volunteers are supported and their contributions are valued and aligned with our co-production ethos.
* Contribute to ongoing service monitoring, reporting, and development, including the use of outcome measurement tools.
* Maintain accurate records using the data systems.
* Be flexible on occasion to support some group delivery outside of core office hours
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| **PERSON SPECIFICATION** |
| **Demonstrable Skills & Experience**  | **Essential/Desirable**  | **Assessed By**  |
| **Experience and Training**  | Working, communicating, and interacting with a diverse range of clients to support their mental health  | Essential  | Application and Interview  |
| Able to draw on your own personal experience of mental health need(s), and accessing support services  | Essential  | Application  |
| Working collaboratively as part of a small team to support clients | Essential  | Application  |
| Providing 1:1 and/or group support in the mental health sector (voluntary, primary and/or secondary)  | Essential  | Application  |
| **Skills and Knowledge**  | Good organisational/administrative and IT skills, including use of Microsoft Office and databases  | Desirable | Application  |
| Ability to prioritise and work independently and flexibly to meet the developing needs of the service | Essential  | Application |
| Presenting to/facilitating small groups and workshops  | Desirable | Application and Interview  |
|  | Experience of managing a client caseload    | Essential | Application |
|  | Good written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to present information clearly.  | Essential | Application And Interview |
| Knowledge of, and ability to work with, issues of confidentiality, consent, safeguarding and information sharing. | Essential | Interview |
| Understanding of and commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, with the ability to communicate effectively with a diverse client base  | Essential  | Interview  |
| An awareness of issues relating to lone working and effective management of personal and professional boundaries  | Essential  | Application and Interview  |
| Ability to use your own experience of mental health needs to build rapport, support and encourage others. | Essential | Interview |
| A knowledge of and passion for peer support and its potential benefit to people with mental health needs  | Essential  | Application and Interview  |
| Understanding of and commitment to recovery-focused and person-centred approaches when supporting people | Essential | Interview |
| Ability to prioritise and work independently and flexibly to meet the developing needs of the service  | Essential  | Interview  |
| Other Requirements |
| * This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure by the Disclosure and Barring Service
* All employees of South Kent Mind are expected to work to promote the safeguarding of vulnerable groups
* All employees must be able to work within and promote the ethos and values of South Kent Mind
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