

AGE UK CAMDEN COUNSELLING SERVICE
HONORARY INDIVIDUAL COUNSELLOR/PSYCHOTHERAPIST

TASK DESCRIPTION

Post: Honorary Individual Counsellor/Psychotherapist
Hours of volunteering: To be agreed
Responsible to: Counselling Services Manager

Main purpose

To provide weekly individual counselling/psychotherapy to people of 55 years and over who are resident in Camden.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. To carry a case-load of three clients at any one time, for once-weekly work, for contracts of varying lengths (6 - 20 sessions).
2. Clients may be housebound and may have dementia or memory issues.
3. To attend a clinical supervision group on a fortnightly basis.
4. To attend regular training workshops as required (usually 2 or 3 a year).
5. To keep notes of clinical work: to undertake the confidentiality of any personal notes, and to keep office notes up to date.
6. To behave in a manner appropriate to the position of counsellor: e.g. keeping professional boundaries, observing confidentiality of client information at all times.
7. To pay due attention to Age UK Camden's Equality and Diversity Policy.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

1. Fully qualified or near qualification at Post-graduate Diploma or Master level, on a recognised/accredited Counselling/Psychotherapy training course, having around 100 hours of supervised counselling sessions and a knowledge of unconscious processes.
2. Able or willing to work with clients with dementia or memory issues.
3. Able to work within traditional counselling boundaries (e.g. time boundaries), but also able to adapt traditional counselling boundaries to work with clients at their own home when they are housebound.
4. Able to understand the need for and observe confidentiality.
5. Able to take responsibility for own case-load (e.g. keeping appointments with clients, keeping notes up-to-date).
6. Able to use supervision, including a capacity to reflect upon and discuss with others the issues raised within counselling sessions.
7. Able to reflect upon the personal meaning for themselves of material from counselling sessions.
8. Interested in professional development, including attendance and participation at regular training workshops provided by Age UK Camden.
9. Able to understand and work with due regard to equality and diversity issues (see the organisation's policy).
10. Able and willing to commit to volunteering for the counselling service for two years.
11. To be in personal counselling/psychotherapy, at a frequency of at least once a week, throughout the placement.
12. Able to travel throughout the London Borough of Camden (for home visits, as required)