**Job Description**

**Huntington’s Disease Specialist (HDS)**

**Job Title :** SHA HD Specialist

**Accountable to :** Deputy CEO & Head of Services & SHA Board

**Report to** : SHA Senior HD Specialist – Greater Glasgow & Clyde Service

**Job Summary**

As a member of the SHA multidisciplinary team, you will adopt a hybrid-working model that will see you based between the Greater Glasgow & Clyde office (Linwood) and home working. Operational areas of the service include the direct provision of services to families, promotion of self-help amongst families and increasing awareness of Huntington’s disease (HD).

The primary function is to facilitate quality care for those impacted by HD, and their families. This is achieved through assessment, planning, coordination, implementation and signposting to appropriate professionals/agencies. Caseload can frequently be complex, distressing and emotional. In addition, the HD Specialist will work with the Senior HD Specialist, and Team Leader, to develop and enhance the service.

**MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

You **must** be a full member of a professional body relevant to qualification and able to work within the scope of registration guidelines.

To provide support to individuals and families affected by HD using a psychosocial approach

To facilitate and support regular peer support opportunities for individuals impacted by HD and their family members. These include carers groups and symptomatic support groups

To provide advice on positive management of HD to individuals, families and relevant health and social care professionals and agencies

To liaise with other professionals to help individuals obtain the services to which they are entitled e.g. advocacy, respite, welfare rights community and health services

**EDUCATION/TRAINING**

To facilitate training at a local level and frequently participate in National training events

To promote awareness of the needs and challenges facing HD individuals, families and care providers, through the provision of education and information.

To participate in the production of educational literature concerning HD.

To maintain professional awareness of current trends and practices, through appropriate training courses, study days and workshops.

**RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

To initiate and/or participate in research projects related to HD

To support individuals who are participating in current drug trials or new treatments

To become involved in the strategic planning and development of appropriate Health and Social Services

To assist with any new developments relevant to the Specialist Service function

To undertake surveys and audits as necessary to own work and that of the Specialist Service

**POLICY/SERVICE DEVELOPMENT**

To adhere to all company policies appropriate to own role. May at times be required to be responsible for policy development and propose changes in practice. Will contribute to the development of communication protocols.

**MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP**

To assist the management and development of the project working with the Senior

HD Specialist, Team Leader or Operations Manager

To share leadership and contribute views to regular staff meetings and projects

To organise, manage and plan own caseload and diary

To be fully accountable for own professional actions; to work autonomously

To undertake responsibility for the production of all reports concerning your work and activities of the service

**ADMINISTRATION**

To ensure the maintenance of full and accurate, confidential client records and reliable notes concerning the work of the HD service within your service area

**The duties and responsibilities of the post will be undertaken in accordance with the policies procedures and practices of the SHA.** May 2022

**Notes:**

**1. This job description reflects the main tasks and responsibilities to be fulfilled by the post holder, at this present time. However, the SHA reserves the right to alter or amend the content of this job description to reflect changes to the job, or services provided, while maintaining the overall character and level of responsibility for the post.**

**2. Notwithstanding any information or statement described within this job description, all duties must be carried out in a way that promotes equality of opportunity, dignity and respect for all individuals and which is consistent with the SHA’s stated policy on equal opportunities.**

**3. The successful candidate will be subject to an Enhanced disclosure check. Having previous convictions will not automatically disbar you from working at the SHA (with the exception of offences against children or other vulnerable groups) and every case is considered on an individual basis.**

**4. The duties and responsibilities of this post must be undertaken in accordance with the policies of the SHA.**