**JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| **Job Title:**  | Therapeutic Horticulture Practitioner |
| **Grade & Salary:**  | £30 an hour |
| **Hours of work:** | 6 hours a week, weekdays, TBC |
| **Line Management Reports:**  | None |
| **Accountable to:** | Project lead |
| **Functional Responsibility:**  | To manage and lead therapeutic horticulture activities. |
| **Job Purpose:** | To support mental health recovery through facilitating horticultural activities that improve green spaces and help individuals to build confidence, meet new people, develop skills and create pathways into further training, volunteering and employment. |
| **Based at:** | Westminster, London and Brent |

**Main Responsibilities**

* Work with residents’/ service users and staff to co-create a shared vision for the green spaces.
* Take a lead in developing a programme of gardening, food growing and wellbeing sessions that work towards the shared vision.
* Plan, facilitate and guide small groups in carrying out horticultural tasks and land based activities such as sowing seeds, setting out plants, planting out, soil preparation and pruning.
* Assess the effectiveness of individual gardening tasks and adjust in response to service users’ needs and interests, ensuring the programme is suitable for people of all abilities, including those new to gardening.
* Educate clients on safe use of tools and materials.
* Create and support an inclusive environment where service users can develop self-confidence and self-esteem.
* Actively help individuals improve their social and practical horticulture skills and closely observe and monitor their progress.
* Liaise with care coordinators and other support staff to ensure service users experience a joined up service
* Promote pathways into more formal training, volunteering and employment.
* Assist in developing community links and partnerships with other horticultural organisations.
* Contribute to the eco-therapy programme evaluation report
* Contribute to the development of the wider eco-therapy programme at Mind in BWW.
* Promote equality and respect diversity at all times.
* Comply with all policies and procedures instituted by mind in BWW.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

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| **Element**  | **Description** | **Essential/desirable**  |
| **Qualifications** | RHS level 2 or equivalent | E |
| Degree qualification or equivalent in mental health, social care, volunteering, or a related field | D |
| Physical Health First Aid qualification | D |
| Mental Health First Aid qualification | D |
| **Experience** | A professional background in horticulture with experience of managing a gardening project  | E |
| Previous experience of working in a mental health setting and/or working with vulnerable adults | D |
| Experience of team working on projects | E |
| Previous experience of managing volunteers  | D |
| Previous experience of working in the charity sector | D |
| **Knowledge** | Designing and maintaining gardening spaces | E |
| Knowledge and experience in community garden management | D |
| Knowledge of therapeutic garden design, development, and installation. | D |
| Knowledge of, and ability to effectively develop and implement therapeutic gardening and nature related programme interventions to enhance cognitive, physical, social, and psychological well-being | E |
| **Skills/****aptitude** | Excellent interpersonal and communication skills | E |
| Patience, understanding, tolerance and the ability to work with a range of people | E |
| Ability to motivate and encourage others | E |
| Good leadership skills and ability to work collaboratively | E |
| Good organisational skills | E |
| Capacity to use your initiative and work independently | E |
| Ability to feedback on project development | E |

Please note you may have the skills, passion and attributes which make you the ideal candidate for this role, but you find it hard to evidence all criteria? Mind in Brent, Wandsworth and Westminster will consider all applications and we are committed to finding the right person and will invest in their professional and personal development