**Title of Job**: Social Prescriber

**Hours of Work:** 35 hours per week

**Salary:** Grade V Social Prescribing Link Worker – HSE Scale

**Summary:** Social prescribing generally involves three key components: - i) a referral from a healthcareprofessional, ii) a consultation with a social prescribing link worker and iii) an agreed referral to a local community activity or programme or service delivered by the Health Service or other organisation. A Social Prescribing service empowers individuals to take control of their health and wellbeing by referral to a social prescribing link worker who adopts a holistic approach to assessment of their needs. Social prescribing link workers work in true collaboration with individuals over a period of time, assessing their needs and concerns and developing a person­ centred health plan based on these needs.

**Duties:**

* Work on a one-to-one basis with individuals to improve health and wellbeing Work with individuals
* on a one-to-one basis, complete needs assessment and co-produce a plan to improve health and wellbeing through social prescribing.
* Provide non-judgemental support, respecting diversity and lifestyle choices working from a strength-based approach.
* Book appointments with individuals, meet them personally, follow-up cases and manage case load remaining as a point of contact and support throughout the individual's social prescription.
* Support and encourage individuals to access appropriate services in their community. Where appropriate, physically introduce people to community groups, activities and statutory services, ensuring they are comfortable. Follow­ up to ensure they are happy, able to engage, included and receiving good support.
* Build relationships with key staff in GP practices, members of the primary care teams within the local Community Healthcare Networks including dieticians, occupational therapists, mental health professionals, psychologists, social workers among others. Attending relevant meetings, becoming part of the wider network team, giving information and feedback on Social Prescribing.
* Develop supportive relationships with local community organisations, community groups and statutory services, to make timely, appropriate and supported referrals for the person being introduced.
* Work closely with the HSE health promotion and improvement officer to support the ongoing development of the programme taking an active part in reviewing and developing the service and contribute to business planning.
* Build and maintain a comprehensive database of local community groups, resources and services and ensure information on sources of voluntary and community support is up to date at all times to enable effective and accurate supported access and linking of individuals with services
* Work with local partners to identify unmet needs within the community and address gaps in community provision.
* Work in partnership with all local agencies to raise awareness of social prescribing and how partnership working can reduce pressure on statutory services, improve health outcomes and enable a holistic approach to care.
* Provide referral agencies with regular updates about social prescribing, including information for their staff and how to access information to encourage appropriate referrals.
* Gather regular feedback and develop reports on the quality of service and impact of Social Prescribing on referral agencies.
* Ensure that local community and voluntary organisations being accessed have basic procedures in place for ensuring that vulnerable individuals are safe and, where there are safeguarding concerns; work with all partners to deal appropriately with issues in line with the HSE Framework for Social Prescribing.
* Work sensitively with clients to administer evaluation tools in order to capture key information, enabling tracking of the impact of social prescribing on participant health and wellbeing and other outcomes measures.
* Document and report case notes and social prescriptions in online Social prescribing software.
* Provide progress reports and presentations to oversight groups and funders detailing the progress of the service.
* Develop effective and tailored referrals and feedback protocols to GPs and partners in CHNs.
* Populate and maintain social prescribing software.

**Key Qualifications/Skills:**

* QQI Level 7 or higher in Social Worker, Community Development or related human-service field essential
* 2 years’ experience of initial assessment or ongoing case management in similar role is desirable
* Full clean driving license and own transport
* Good working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite
* Work collaboratively in a multidisciplinary team
* Demonstrate a high level of written communication skills with the ability to present, prepare reports, policies, strategies, grants and correspondence
* Excellent project management and interpersonal skills
* Must be flexible and willing to travel across Fingal area