



Saoirse Recruitment Pack

Child & Youth Relief Worker

March 2026



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About Saoirse Domestic Violence Services



Welcome & Introduction

Thank you for your interest in joining Saoirse Domestic Violence Services. This recruitment pack provides key information about our organisation, the **Relief Child & Youth Worker** position, and the qualities we are looking for.

At Saoirse, we are committed to providing safety, dignity, and hope to women and children experiencing domestic abuse. Our people are central to enabling this mission. The **Relief Child & Youth Worker** will support the team in providing supports to children, young people and mothers impacted by domestic violence in both refuge and community outreach settings.

About Saoirse Domestic Violence Services

Saoirse Domestic Violence Services provides refuge accommodation, outreach support, court accompaniment, 24/7 helpline services, and educational programmes across multiple locations. Our organisation is founded on principles of safety, empowerment, trauma-informed practice, and respect.

Every year, hundreds of women and children access our services seeking safety and support during crisis moments. We are committed not only to service provision but also to advocating for systemic change to end domestic violence in Ireland.



Our Mission, Vision & Values

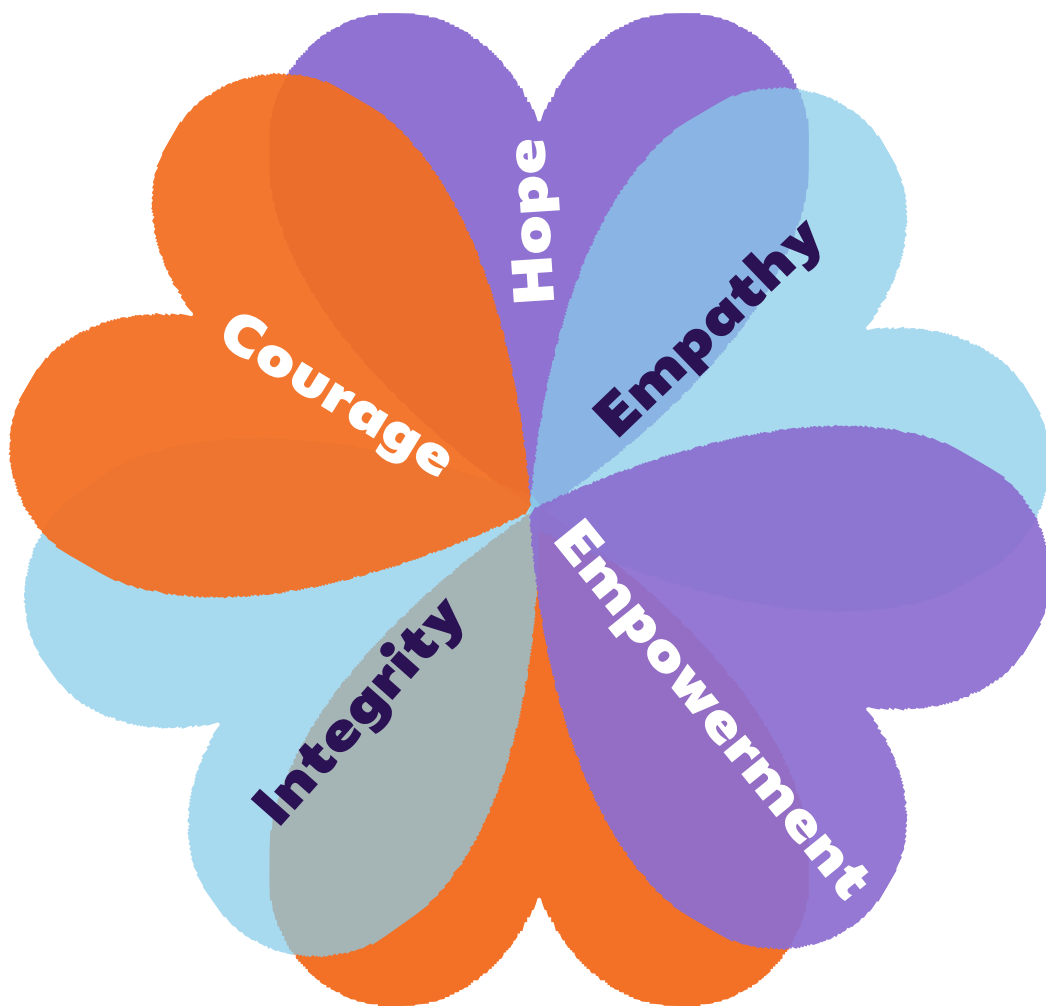
Our Vision

Our vision is a society where DVA is never tolerated or silenced, empowering women and children to live in safety, free from fear.

Our Values

Our values and principles underpin how we deliver against Vision - they are central to everything we do. They influence our every action and interaction at SDVS, when working with women and children and when advocating on their behalf.

Our teams live and work through these values on a day to day basis, and they are reflected across our philosophy and approach, our business planning and daily practices.



Our Mission, Vision & Values

Our Objectives

We believe that:

- Nobody deserves to be abused.
- No person should ever have to experience the torture of being abused by a loved one.
- No one should be alone in carrying the burden of blame, shame and judgment perpetrated upon them.
- Early educational interventions with young people entering intimate relationships are key to combating domestic violence in future generations and breaking the cycle of violence.

We acknowledge that:

- Domestic violence is a serious and life-destroying crime for which the client is never responsible.
- It is a cycle of abuse that only escalates with time.
- Occurs in all walks of life – all classes, creeds, ages and races.
- Is an unequal balance of power and control that an individual holds over another in any intimate or close family relationship – husband and wife, same sex partners or adult children and an elder parent.
- Takes many forms, including physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, financial abuse and coercive control.

We commit to:

- Empowering our clients and facilitating them in having a voice.
- Listening, hearing, believing and respecting those who contact us for help, whether they plan to leave an abusive relationship or seek support in staying safe in the relationship.
- Working in a non-judgmental environment supporting clients – only they know the reality of their abuse.
- Maintaining a confidential service for all our clients and ensuring that we always work according to Children First.

Benefits of Working at SDVS

- **Pension:** My Future Fund Pension Scheme.
- **Annual leave:** As an employee of SDVS, you will receive 8% annual leave entitlement pro rata.
- **Digital Doctor:** Free access to a digital doctor for employees and their families.
- **Education Support:** At SDVS we offer an Education Assistance policy for employees to apply for funding towards further education.
- **Training & Development:** Access to excellent training opportunities and continuous professional development.
- **Well-being App:** All employees have access to the Wisdom app to support employees in all 4 pillars of their well-being.
- **EAP:** We offer a 24/7 Employee Assistance Programme for employees and their families to avail of counselling support confidentially.
- **Wellbeing Days:** We host several employee wellbeing activities across the year for employees to take time out to focus on team building and their own wellbeing.



Job Description

Role Overview

The primary purpose of the role is to provide relief support to the Child & Youth Services Team. The Relief Child & Youth Worker will support the team in providing supports to children, young people and mothers impacted by domestic violence in both refuge and community outreach settings.

To achieve this the Relief Child & Youth Worker will work in collaboration with the mother to address each child's physical, educational, social and emotional needs. They will support the family to counteract the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) related to domestic violence and other complex issues by following the objectives of a child-centred care plan to support their holistic needs.

The Relief Child & Youth Worker will deliver group-based programmes within the community in collaboration with SDVS staff and external agencies to promote trauma recovery, early intervention and prevention to domestic violence and abuse.

Key Responsibilities

INSPIRE Family Project

- Support children, young people and mothers in refuge, welcoming new residents with children and ensure that they are familiarised with conditions of stay relating to children, services and activities available.
- Support families during their transition to/from refuge – ensuring they have everything they need to settle into their new environment including practical and emotional support and liaising with key professionals to maintain health, social and educational services, including co-ordinating temporary school placements where necessary.
- Support the tailored care plan objectives developed by the family and Child & Youth Keyworker ensuring each child has supports to reach their best potential and highlighting families progress with them.
- Make referrals to statutory, community and therapeutic supports in the absence of CYK to meet the goals of the care plan.



Job Description Continued

- Communicate with each child and young persons' support network in the absence of CYK, ensuring everyone is working together to progress the care plan.
- Provide mother's with evidence-based parenting advice, support around their child's needs and emotional support regarding domestic violence in collaboration with Refuge Keyworker's, Refuge Support Worker's and other relevant SDVS staff.
- Deliver play sessions and activities with mothers and children.
- Deliver keywork with children and young people in absence of CYK, providing a safe space for them to make sense of their experiences related to domestic violence and other complex issues. To support their social and emotional development and use the 'one good adult' approach to ensure their voice is heard in matters that impact them.
- Advocacy and support at vital health/developmental/educational appointments, where necessary. Supporting the parent to build their capacity in navigating these services.
- To assist in the organisation and provision of outings for children and young people, informing mothers of local resources and amenities available in the community.
- Provide court accompaniment to families where children are required to attend court hearings. Support parents to navigate childcare options or scheduling keywork during parent's court hearings to reduce a child's attendance at court.
- Maintain dedicated child and young persons' spaces ensuring health and safety, hygiene, fire prevention and age appropriate use of equipment. Ensure toys and activity focused items available to children and young people are replenished and maintained, informing manager of any outstanding needs for service to operate effectively.



Job Description Continued

Group Work

- Support Child & Youth Services group work and workshop delivery where necessary.
- Delivery of seasonal programmes for children i.e. summer project, Easter and Christmas Events.

Child Protection & Welfare:

- Keeping children's safety and welfare at the forefront of all decisions and advocating for their needs.
- Follow SDVS Child Protection & Welfare policy and procedures in line with Children's First 2015.



Team Work

- Be an active member of the Child & Youth Services team – liaising regularly with team members, providing peer support and ideas and input into the development of the service.
- Work collaboratively with the staff in Refuge and Outreach, Prevention and Training teams to ensure a family's journey through SDVS services is seamless and a continuum of care is achieved.

Administration

- Maintain accurate and up-to-date records of all case files using the service database.
- Liaise with and inform the Manager and/or other designated persons, regularly, of issues arising from work
- Prepare administration duties as agreed with the line manager, i.e. departmental statistics, travel and subsistence, etc.

Job Description Continued

Other

- Maintain appropriate professional boundaries with clients and colleagues.
- Attend court hearings and give evidence as required.
- Perform duties appropriate to the post and work under the direction and guidance of the Manager or other Designated Officer to ensure the highest possible level of care is maintained at all times
- Ensure standards are maintained and adhered to in line with policy, procedure and legislation.
- Engage in line management and supervision sessions regularly.
- Undergo training and professional development as required and directed.
- Commit to the SDVS vision and mission and support the implementation of our strategic plan.
- To work according to company policies and procedures and to observe a policy of strict confidentiality in your duties at all times.



Role Requirements

Essential Criteria

Qualification & Work Experience:

- Third level Qualification at degree level in Social Care, Early Childhood Studies or Community/Family Development.

Knowledge & Skills:

- Knowledge and insight into the issues affecting women and children of domestic violence and the impact on their physical, emotional and psychological well-being.
- Knowledge of child development and the potential long-term impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences.
- Knowledge of procedures and practices relating to child protection and the safeguarding of children and young people.
- Knowledge of national policies that influence our work with children, young people and families.
- Strong independent risk management, problem solving and decision-making skills.
- Ability to work with complex need client groups with creative ideas for successful engagement.
- Strong organisational and time management skills.
- Must have experience of using CRM systems (preferably Salesforce) to record work and possess good IT and report writing skills.
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills with the ability to build strong, trusting relationships with clients, colleagues and external services.



What we offer you

- **Salary:** €17.70 per hour.
- **Probation:** 6 months
- **Location:** Dublin
- This role is part of the Child & Youth Services Team.
- **Benefits:** All employee benefits outlined on page 4.
- Commitment to **work-life balance** and **staff wellbeing**.
- **Hours of work:** Variation of shift patterns, which will fall **normally** but **not exclusively**, from Monday – Sunday on a 12.5h per shift.

As the relief role is to provide cover for both planned and short notice leave, a high level of availability and flexibility is required.

Application Process

To apply all candidates must submit a detailed CV and cover letter outlining how they meet the above criteria for the role. Applications should be submitted through this link: <https://sdvs.ie/careers/>





Contact Information:

For queries regarding this recruitment process, please contact:

HR Department

Email: hr@sdvs.ie

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Saoirse Housing Association CLG trading as Saoirse Domestic Violence Services.
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