JOB DESCRIPTION – SPECIALIST DIETITIAN

Reports to: Heads of Eating Disorder Service

Hours: Part-time (20 hours per week) or full time

Salary: £34,000 - £44,000 per annum pro rata depending on experience

Location: Noa House (Golders Green)

Holiday entitlement: (Taken in hours) 28 days FTE including bank holidays, and Jewish holidays when Noa is closed

General Description

Noa Girls provides emotional, practical and therapeutic support to adolescent girls aged 12-24 from the London Orthodox Jewish community. Noa girls receive care, support and skills to enable them to regain their self-worth, empowering them to lead healthier and more productive futures.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an experienced and enthusiastic dietician to join our newly launched Eating Disorders Programme at Noa Girls.

Key Tasks and Responsibilities

To provide a responsive and effective dietetic assessment and treatment for girls referred to the Noa Girls Eating Disorders Programme. This will include:

- Providing effective information and support to service users who are learning to take responsibility for their nutritional health, often in the context of ambivalence and extreme anxiety. This may be provided as individual contact or by facilitating groups, and may include families and carers.
- Ensuring the implementation of dietetic care plans by providing treatment personally, and by close collaboration with members of the eating disorders team, to ensure that management and reduction of nutritional risk are given a high priority in the overall care package.
- Collaborating closely with colleagues to manage medical risk, which may be severe.

- Liaising with NHS services, other statutory and voluntary organisations and support and monitor progress on an ongoing basis.
- When appropriate, working with carers and family members of service users to support their progress at home.
- Monitoring, reviewing and continual re-assessment of client's nutritional care plans and objectives against clinical outcomes.
- Providing a high level of support and close supervision to sometimes anxious service users while they are preparing food and eating.
- Supporting service users in the planning, shopping, cooking and eating of meals, and to model normal healthy eating for them.
- Contributing to the production, use and evaluation of supporting materials for service users, carers, and for other staff, using appropriate language so that they are within the literacy skills of the client group, and promote a motivational approach.
- To work with a high level of sensitivity to service users' cultural and religious backgrounds, and their economic and other personal circumstances.

Teaching and Training

- To contribute to the policies and procedures for a meal support programme at Noa girls.
- To participate in the supervision of junior dietetic/nutritionist staff.
- To demonstrate work methods to other recruited staff for meal support and to support their development of necessary skills.

Maintaining professional standards and continued professional development

- To receive regular clinical and professional supervision in accordance with professional practice guidelines
- To develop skills and competencies that assist in the delivery of current duties.
- To undertake personal training relevant to the post in agreement with the supervising manager.

Record keeping and information governance

- To ensure that all information generated by the dietitian is recorded as required by Noa girls guidelines
- To maintain the highest standards of record keeping and report writing according to professional policies
- To maintain strict confidentiality in line with Noa and professional protocols.

Person Specification

Knowledge and experience (Essential)

- HCPC registration

At least two years of clinical dietetic practice, including experience in at least three of these clinical areas:

  - mental health
  - eating disorders
  - nutrition support
  - weight management

- Experience of working with challenging client groups, for example those ambivalent to treatment, or those with communication difficulties.
- Training/experience in motivation/behaviour change/counselling skills
- Applicants must be fully aware of kosher foods and the cultural relationship of Jewish people and foods, in particular pertaining to the Sabbath and religious festivals.

Personal attributes

- Warm, creative and engaging.
- Passionate about supporting adolescent girls to lead an empowered, healthy lifestyle.
- Strong communication skills and an air of approachability
- Ability to develop positive relationships with the wider community and other agencies.

Additional information

- This role may require some work on evenings and weekends.
- This job description and person specification is not prescriptive; it merely outlines the key tasks and responsibilities of the post. The Specialist Dietitian will be expected to carry out such reasonable duties as may be requested from time to time by the Heads of Eating Disorder Service. The key tasks and responsibilities are subject to change. Any changes will be made in consultation with the post holder. This Job Description is subject to alteration in response to changes in legislation or Noa Girls' operational procedures.