



Job Description: **Neighbourhood Worker**

Responsible to: **Home Support Worker**

The primary aim of Streets Ahead (Borders) is to provide care and support for men, women and young people with learning disabilities, who may also have additional needs eg. autism or a physical disability.

People with learning disabilities will have difficulty with understanding (particularly new and complex information) and with managing day to day activities e.g. personal care, housework, shopping etc.

A learning disability is acquired in childhood and will affect the person for all their life. The level of help a person needs will depend on the severity of their disability.

The support will need to ensure that the person concerned will:

- Live in and be part of the established Borders communities.
- Have a wide range of choices in matters relating to their individual lives.
- Be encouraged to exercise their full rights as citizens.
- Be assisted to achieve a level of personal growth and development consistent with their ages and abilities.
- Have their adult status and recognition enhanced within the local community.
- Be helped to develop a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

All staff are required to support people in any task associated with living as independently as possible within their own home and in as integrated a way as possible within their own neighbourhoods and communities. For some people this will mean providing support over a 24 hour period 7 days a week and staff are required to work a range of shifts and sleepovers including regular weekends.

Neighbourhood Workers are specifically expected to contribute to these aims in the following ways.

A. WITH INDIVIDUALS

1. By providing the guidance and practical help they require in basic self-help and home-making tasks, eg: - assisting with budgeting/banking, cooking and cleaning.
2. Assist with personal hygiene, using the toilet, mobility, physical comfort whilst promoting self-esteem and where possible independence.
3. By helping to create a home life which produces feelings of security, privacy, responsibility and self worth.
4. By taking an interest in and where appropriate, sharing in the hobbies, interests and activities of individuals.
5. By making the links, openings and introductions that will help individuals integrate with people living in the neighbourhood and in the wider community.
6. By helping and encouraging individuals to make full use of and enjoy a wide range of local facilities.
7. By carrying specific "support team" responsibilities for individuals including, where appropriate, responsibility for the co-ordination of services on that person's behalf.
8. By advocating on behalf of the person and by helping the person to ensure and maintain their rights as citizens.

B. MORE GENERALLY

1. By participating in staff meetings, in-service training events, discussions and reviews.
2. By making use of supervision sessions with Senior Staff.
3. By maintaining a responsible attitude in all contacts with the public so as not to misrepresent the interests of the people we support.
4. By complying with service policies and procedures and carrying out responsibilities in relation to health & safety.
5. By covering the duties of members of staff absent through sickness or holidays as necessary.
6. By undertaking other tasks necessary for the benefit of clients as requested by Senior Staff.
7. Sleep-in duties will be required.



KNOWLEDGE, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED TO DO THE JOB

1. SVQ2 (desirable)
2. A sound knowledge base and the ability to apply it in the care sector
3. Good general standard of education
4. Ability to manage own role, responsibilities and time
5. Ability to work with and relate to others
6. Ability to communicate clearly orally and in writing
7. Ability to demonstrate competence in the duties outlined above