



Caring in Bristol

Youth Practitioner (12-month FTC to cover maternity leave, with possibility of extension subject to funding)

Caring in Bristol's mission is to empower our city to solve homelessness. We work in imaginative and creative ways with people experiencing or a risk of homelessness, with the public and with community partners to bring about lasting change in Bristol and beyond.

From prevention to emergency support, our projects range from producing free-citywide resources that empower our city to act, to investing in youth support, helping influence change from the very start.

This is an exciting time to join Caring in Bristol with ambitious growth of both service and income generation planned.

The role

As a Youth Practitioner you will play a crucial role in building both short-term and longer term relationships of trust with 16 - 25 year olds, to help prevent youth homelessness in Bristol through our youth services Project Z and Bristol Nightstop.

In this varied and dynamic role, you will support both the day-to-day operation of Project Z which is a service that provides longer term relational work with young people who may not meet the thresholds of others services but need support to navigate gaps between other services and, where needed, supporting our Bristol Nightstop project, including recruiting, training and managing Nightstop volunteer hosts and supporting young people in housing crisis into a safe temporary place to stay.

This role will cover a flexible range of key working options, to ensure that the young people we work with receive excellent support and a safe place to stay, if appropriate to their needs. You will work across the city and be based at two locations (our head office in Temple Way and our new office in Portland Square) Our Nightstop project operates 365 days a year, and on occasions will require some evening working. You will be expected to participate in an on-call rota for this project, and other charity projects as appropriate.

You will have the ability to work effectively with young people who may be experiencing a crisis in their lives and know how to give them the help and support they need to find solutions in often incredibly challenging circumstances.

Who we are

Caring in Bristol is an unusual charity, grown from the ground up thirty years ago as an annual Christmas Shelter – Caring at Christmas. While this project remains very close to our hearts, we've used the last few years to make big changes to the charity, taken on a new staff team and evolved a significant programme of additional services and projects with a focus to both prevent homelessness and support those experiencing it all year round.

We have a special place in Bristol, firmly rooted, yet independent.

COVID-19 has had a profound effect on all services in the sector and we are currently in the process of redefining our services, making them more robust, effective and aspirational. This is an incredibly exciting time to join one of Bristol's fastest growing third sector organisation.

Our values

Collaboration

We learn, share and work with everyone in our community to create services that best meet need. Our beneficiaries inform the design, delivery and evaluation of our work. We collect and apply evidence to build partnerships and embed our impact.

People first

We value human relations and the strengths people have and are committed to positive change and development in everyone. We will take positive risks with people. We hold that the wellbeing of our staff and volunteers is integral to the positive impact we can make with our beneficiaries. We are inclusive and celebrate diversity.

Focus on the end goal

We work with our beneficiaries and volunteers to achieve their ambitions. We are here to make ourselves no longer needed and want Bristol to be the first major city to end homelessness.

A diverse organisation

We strive to represent the community where we work and the people we work with; we encourage applications from Black, Asian and ethnic minority candidates, candidates from all gender identities and sexual orientations, candidates with disabilities, and candidates with lived experience.

What we're looking for

An effective and empathic communicator – you will be a great communicator, both verbally and written, with the ability to build trusting relationships with others.

Motivated and organised – you'll have top-notch organisational skills. You'll be skilled at keeping all the plates spinning – recruiting, training and managing our volunteer hosts, keeping beneficiaries recording up to date and supporting our beneficiaries to find accommodation and prevent homelessness

A strategic thinker and open to change – you'll bring new ideas to develop and improve the service in line with our strategy and the needs of young people facing homelessness in our city

A diverse organisation – we strive to represent the community where we work and the people we work with; we encourage applications from Black, Asian and ethnic minority candidates, candidates from all gender identities and sexual orientations, candidates with disabilities, and candidates with lived experience.

What you'll be doing

Key Responsibilities

- **Working from a relationship-led practice model, you will support young people to navigate often complicated barriers in their lives (for example homelessness, social isolation, poverty, family estrangement, lack of hope for the future) and link them in with a diverse range of other organisations in the city, depending on their needs and interests;**
- **Developing our new office space to meet with young people, and helping to transform it into a place of warmth, welcome, creativity and good humour;**
- **Providing out of hours on-call support on a rota basis;**
- **Supporting young people to return home or seek and find alternative, safe accommodation, including making risk-assessed referrals to emergency accommodation.**
- **Developing our youth projects in light of our strategy and the recent Covid pandemic**
- **Working as part of a broader charity team to maximize fundraising, marketing, and development opportunities.**

Essential must haves

- **A proven track record of working with young people and volunteers.**
- **Knowledge of the housing issues/legislation that affect young people.**
- **Flexible team player.**
- **A passion to change Bristol for the better.**

Job specifics

- Location: 1 Temple Way, Bristol BS2 0BY (NB we will be moving to another central Bristol location at some point later in the year).
- Working hours: Full time 37.5 hours per week
- Start date: As soon as possible
- Leave: 33 days (inclusive of bank holidays)
- Salary range: £22,902 - £27,264 (depending on experience)
- Responsible to: Operations Manager

How to apply

You will be required to email us your CV and, using the job description, person specification and Caring in Bristol values write a covering letter explaining how your skills, experience and values make you the right person for the role

You can find the job information on our website <https://caringinbristol.co.uk/careers/> which includes a monitoring form

Please send your completed application to recruitment@caringinbristol.org.uk before deadline of 10am 7th December 2020

Interviews will take place 15th December 2020

If you have any questions or would like to have an informal chat about the role, you can contact the Operations Manager, Sarah Walker on sarah.walker@caringinbristol.org.uk, or 0117 924 4444.