**IRIS Advocate Educator**

**Person Specification**

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|  | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| Skills | * Excellent verbal and written communications skills including report writing, record keeping and delivering training and presentations * The ability to undertake effective casework management and support planning with evidence of a methodical, well organised and creative approach to work * Ability to work in partnership with a wide range of statutory and voluntary agencies, to achieve outcomes for patients * The ability to provide respectful, non-judgemental, and confidential support to patients and communicate sensitively with women who may be distressed * The ability to encourage women and children to take control of their lives and set realistic objectives and goals. * Maintaining professional boundaries, show resilience and reliability under pressure and prioritise own workload * Ability to communicate effectively and with a range of professionals, demonstrating a flexible approach * Ability to maintain accurate and up-to-date records and to communicate with colleagues and stakeholders using common Microsoft Office packages, e.g. Word, Excel, Outlook and other IT software | * Ability to apply psychologically informed practice * Ability to work with a recovery focused approach |
| Experience | * Proven experience of providing and reviewing on going training to health professionals * Experience of building and maintaining partnerships with health professionals * Proven experience of working with women and children who have survived domestic abuse * Experience of assessing the risks and needs of vulnerable women who have experienced domestic abuse and/or complex needs * Experience of co-producing short and longer term risk management, safety planning and support with patients experiencing Domestic Abuse * Demonstrable experience of being proactive rather than reactive: focuses on preventing problems in the future rather than just resolving immediate issues * Experience of lone working in the community and able to work on own initiative. | * Experience of delivering women only services * Experience of working with victims of sexual violence * Experience of delivering group work and / or training * Experience working with people with mental health needs, substance misuse , other complex needs |
| Knowledge | * Demonstrable understanding of the diverse needs of patients experiencing domestic violence and the discrimination issues as they relate to women escaping domestic violence. * In depth knowledge and understanding of the issues facing patients who have experienced DVA, with specific knowledge of the effects on health * Knowledge of criminal and civil legal remedies and housing law relating to domestic abuse * Knowledge of Domestic Abuse risk assessment tools including DASH and the MARAC process * Knowledge of health and safety issues specific to women fleeing domestic abuse and lone working * A thorough understanding of confidentiality and safeguarding relating to vulnerable adults and children within a health setting, including how and when to report concerns * Up to date knowledge of the welfare benefits system and the ability to ensure service users maximise their benefit entitlement * Up to date knowledge of relevant legislation and training relating to DVA and the violence against women and girls sector | * Knowledge of mental health legislation * Knowledge of housing legislation |
| Values | * A commitment to the Victim’s Code of Practice * An understanding and commitment to meeting the needs of vulnerable women * Commitment to diversity, anti discriminatory practice and equal opportunities at work * Commitment to service user participation and involvement |  |
| Other | * A current, full driving licence and access to appropriate motorised transport |  |

***Next Link is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk of abuse, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Next Link is committed to Equal Opportunities. \*Due to the specific requirements of this role, this post is exempt under the Equality Act (2010), Part 1, Schedule 9 (Genuine Occupational Requirement)***