

Multicultural Cumbria is Hiring

Job Title:	Asylum Transition Support Officer
Salary Range:	£25,000 Applicant who wish to work part-time will be considered.
Location:	Based in Carlisle
Responsible To:	Chief Executive Officer - Multicultural Cumbria
Partner Organisations	Partner Organisations - Carlisle Refugee Action Group (CRAG) and Penrith & Eden Refugee Network (PERN)
Position Length	1st June 2022 - 31st December 2022 (6 months)
Context of Job:	To support people seeking asylum living in contingency hotels in Carlisle to live a healthy and active life and access the support and services they need to do this.
Purpose of Job:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To contribute to developing the local infrastructure of community support accessible to people seeking asylum. • To collaborate widely in enabling people seeking asylum to access statutory services and community activities. • To work to the principles of welcome, inclusion, equality and thus promoting the well-being of everyone, a culture of mutual support and good community cohesion. • Collaborating with key stakeholders such as Statutory bodies, district councils, charities and services from the 3rd sector and volunteers from the community to welcome and accept the newcomers without bias or prejudice. We are an equal opportunities employer

Essential requirements:

The role is subject to an enhanced DBS check

You must have your own vehicle and a driving license as travelling for meetings and activities is an essential part of the role. (@45per mile)

This funding is initially for six months transition work, and funding to extend this role potentially leading to two years of support in accommodating and welcoming people seeking sanctuary into Carlisle. For the first six months it is envisaged that around 80% of the time will be supporting people seeking asylum as this is new for Carlisle and after this we envisage a broader remit for all who seek sanctuary in the City according to need.

Main Duties:

Residents

- To enable the views of people seeking asylum to be heard and represented to SERCO, statutory services and in the community. e.g. to attend meetings and represent the views of people seeking asylum.
- To work with hotel residents to set up a residents' forum and other ways to foster good relationships and respect between residents.
- To work with CVS, statutory services, and community groups to develop ways to identify and ensure referral for residents who are reluctant to engage and at risk of mental illness or unacceptable behaviour.

Activities for Resident

- To provide guidance to community groups, businesses and other organisations who want to provide activities for residents so the activity is safe, feasible and suitable. (e.g., outings, festival celebrations, sports, drops-in's, English Conversation, on-site clubs for arts, sports, games, free tickets and transport for concerts, football etc)
- To assist residents to know about, sign-up for and attend community activities.

Community Engagement for Residents

- To provide guidance to community groups and other organisations (e.g., sports clubs, local diaspora groups, festival celebrations, Unity Festival, health and well-being groups, cultural and music clubs, churches, mosque,) as to how to make their activities, club, events accessible to people seeking asylum.
- To support people living in the hotel to take part in these local community groups.
- To help the City of Carlisle to welcome people seeking asylum to fully participate in the life of the city.

Health and Wellbeing

- To promote covid vaccine take-up and other positive health and well-being education and lifestyle programmes to hotel residents. In particular guiding those running such programmes as the best way to engage with hotel residents.
- To identify health and well-being services available locally that hotel residents are overlooked from and work with others to get appropriate provision for hotel residents.
- To ensure that hotel residents are aware of Covid19 and how to implement safe practices.

English Classes, IT Classes and Education

- To support community groups who are providing English classes and other educational opportunities.
- To work with CVS and others community leaders to increase the access for hotel residents to adult education. (e.g., learn from other cities in the NW and NE who have welcomed people seeking asylum for a number of years)

Legal Information

- To assist in establishing a local partnership (e.g., CAB, Cumbria Law Centre, CRAG, PERN) to develop OISC1 (and eventually OISC2) legal information support.

Translation Services

- To support Multicultural Cumbria to develop translation services, reduce language barriers and develop positive attitudes to people who speak more than one language.

Mainstream and Statutory Services

- To work with CVS, CNTW NHS, CCC and other statutory and community groups to improve the access of people seeking asylum to mainstream services.

Community Awareness and Outreach

- Support community awareness, education and media around asylum matters through social media, and the media in general.

Fund Raising

- To assist in raising funding to support people seeking asylum in Carlisle.

Person Specification

A successful applicant will demonstrate the following

Knowledge and commitment to people seeking asylum (policy, hostile environment, legislation).

Experience of developing partnership and collaborations between people and across organisations.

Experience of inclusion and advocacy for marginalized people.

Good standard of education including ability to plan, report writing and computer literacy.

Excellent organizational and communication skills.

General Duties:

- To promote community cohesion, inclusion and equity for all.
- Attend meetings as necessary.
- Participate in the supervision system.
- Represent MCC and promote its ethos; to work in a positive way and to give comprehensive feedback to the organisation.
- Contribute to monitoring and reports.
- Undertake training to update skills in-line with the organisation's training and development policy.
- Maintain anti-oppressive and anti-discriminatory work practices.
- Abide by all Multicultural Cumbria's policies, including those around safeguarding, confidentiality and data protection.
- Ensure that personal behavior demonstrates integrity, openness and honesty; and is anti-oppressive, non-judgmental and supports diversity.
- Take responsibility for inputting and storing data, and compliance with GDPR.

It is the nature of the work that tasks and responsibilities are in many circumstances unpredictable and varied. Employees are therefore expected to work in a flexible way and tasks which are not specifically covered in their job description may have to be undertaken.

Working Patterns:

- The post-holder is to work 37.5 hours per week Monday-Friday, with flexibility to do evenings and weekends dependent on project. Additional hours may be available, depending on future funding.
- Salary circa £25,000 (Pro Rata)