

**HOPE Trauma Support Worker (one-to-one counsellor)**

HOPE offers open ended support to overcome the isolation experienced by those bereaved by suicide who are 18 years and over. We are a peer-led organisation and all group meetings are facilitated by a survivor who was once profoundly affected by suicide and can now bring HOPE to those still in shock and traumatised.

We are now inviting applications for the role of Trauma Support Worker specifically providing one to one support for our survivors, as detailed in the role description below. Applications should be in the form of a CV accompanied by a covering letter. The deadline for applications is Friday 9 June 2023. Interviews will be conducted as applications are received and processed, at a time mutually agreeable to both parties.

Applications should be emailed to:

[office@hopeaftersuicideloss.org.uk](mailto:office@hopeaftersuicideloss.org.uk)

**Role description**

HOPE is looking for a skilled counsellor to help provide direction and support to survivors of suicide loss. The role is to actively help survivors build coping mechanisms to guide them through the trauma and complex grief that bereavement through suicide so often is.

**Responsible to:**  the board of trustees as a whole, but usually line managed by the chair of Trustees on behalf of the board.

**Salary:** £25,000 per annum

**Hours:** 16 hours per week

The successful candidate will work alongside our Trauma Support Worker (groups) who manages and provides group support both in person and virtually in order to deliver a complete support service.

**Key functions to be undertaken:**

* + Listen to survivors;
  + Provide space for exploration of feelings and thoughts;
  + Develop effective strategies to discover hope, find healing, & improve lives;
  + Encourage survivors to talk about their feelings and find a language to express themselves;
  + Be alongside them in their trauma, in order to help them move through it;
  + Listen carefully, asking questions and checking that you understand a survivor’s situation;
  + Empathise with the survivor’s issues, whilst challenging them when necessary;
  + Help survivors to see things more clearly, or in a different way, and with hope.

Excellent verbal and written communication skills are essential, along with the ability to liaise with and coordinate support networks, government resources and community resources that may also working with your survivors. The successful candidate will also be friendly and professional, with outstanding people skills.

**Key responsibilities**

* Provide weekly or fortnightly support via phone to survivors of suicide bereavement;
* Keep up to date records;
* Ensure good time keeping and appropriate breaks;
* Build rapport with survivors who are often fragile and vulnerable when they first come to HOPE;
* Recognise when survivors might be ready to move into small group support sessions and encourage the transition out of 1:1 support as and when appropriate.

**Person specification**

**Qualifications**

Bachelor’s degree in psychology, social work, or counselling.

Member of BCAP or UKCP or equivalent governing body.

**Skills**

Superb verbal and written communication skills.

IT literate

Good time management skills

**Experience**

Experience of suicide bereavement (lived or other);

A minimum of 3 years of experience as a professional counsellor.

Proven experience in developing effective treatment plans.

**Qualities**

Ability to show empathy, be non-judgmental, and help people through their journey of complex grief.

Compassion

**Other**

Full driving licence