**Job Description: Southampton Welcomes Breastfeeding Scheme - Peer Supporter - (Southampton)**

**Job Title:** Southampton Welcomes Breastfeeding Scheme - Peer Supporter

**Salary:** £12 per hour

**Number of posts:** 1 part time post

**Type of contract:** Fixed term temporary until 31st March 2025

**Start date:** ASAP Oct 2024

**Hours of work:**  5 hrs/week

**Work location:** Southampton

**Responsible to:** Project Manager – BfN Southampton

**Background and Purpose of the Post:**

The Breastfeeding Network is commissioned by Southampton City Council, Public Health to deliver and coordinate a scheme to promote breastfeeding in Southampton.

The Southampton Welcomes Breastfeeding Scheme has been developed in partnership with the council and other stakeholders including BfN. The scheme aims to:

* Support families to feel confident breastfeeding out and about
* Be a way that communities and businesses can show they welcome and support breastfeeding
* Raise awareness about the benefits and barriers to breastfeeding

The scheme role will lead on continuing the implementation of the scheme, publicising, recruiting and providing support to venues, workplaces and NHS and Public premises to welcome breastfeeding families. The role will be supported by the Breastfeeding Network Southampton Service Manager and Volunteer Coordinator.

# Main duties and responsibilities:

* Work with Southampton Breastfeeding Network staff team, interested volunteers and local partners to raise awareness of the scheme
* Recruit and maintain membership to the scheme, **in-person** as well as remotely, use the resource packs to enable local venues to sign up to the scheme.
* Ensure venues have a breastfeeding policy and display a sign/sticker to welcome breastfeeding parents and their babies
* Take responsibility to sign up new businesses/premises to the scheme (monthly targets agreed with Service Manager)
* To investigate any complaints in relation to venues within the scheme (support from Service Manager)
* Assist with the management of social media pages that are relevant to promoting the scheme
* Liaise with Service Manager and Volunteer Coordinator to engage and enable volunteers to support with the scheme and overall service. Including supporting set-up of social peer support groups at venues signed up to the scheme.
* Lead on organising events in the community to promote breastfeeding awareness including World Breastfeeding Week in August
* Liaise with press and other organisations to promote scheme
* Promote the sharing of information about local breastfeeding support services and BfN national support (National Breastfeeding Helpline, Drugs in Breastmilk Service and BfN Website)
* Maintain a detailed spreadsheet recording all data of current scheme, new recruits, audits of existing venues/organisations and monitoring of the scheme
* Keep accurate data records to enable evaluation of the service in accordance with BfN’s Information Governance Policy and local processes
* Ensure all data and attendance records are maintained accurately and submitted in a timely manner for reporting purposes
* Work within the Baby Friendly Initiative remit
* Work within the BfN’s Code of Conduct and Information Governance procedures, seeking supervision on a regular basis from a BfN Supervisor to fulfil the requirements of this role
* Support with other administrative tasks where able to support the service as agreed with Service Manager
* Maintain up to date knowledge of BfN’s Policies
* Undertake the supervision and training required to achieve or maintain peer supporter registered status with BfN, and fulfil the requirements and demands of the role
* Participate in regular 1 to 1 meetings (including annual performance reviews if relevant) with the Service Manager
* Keep up to date with personal administration including timesheets, leave forms and shift forward planning schedules

*This is not an exhaustive job description and may be subject to change according to the needs and development of the role. It is expected that the post holder may undertake such other duties as may be reasonably requested.*

# Southampton Welcomes Breastfeeding Scheme - Peer Supporter - Person Specification

Please refer to this document carefully when completing your application form and preparing for your interview. You must demonstrate how you meet the criteria on your application form.

| **Requirements** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Qualifications**  Level 2 accredited Helper - peer support training with The Breastfeeding Network (BfN) & have had at least minimum supervision required from your named supervisor. Or equivalent training and prepared to transfer into BfN.  Level 3 accredited Breastfeeding Supporter Registration with the BfN or be currently in training to become a Breastfeeding Supporter, or be prepared to sign up to the next Breastfeeding Supporter training course  Experience of working as a volunteer with BfN offering breastfeeding support to families  Show evidence of continued professional development since qualification | **√** | **√**  **√**  **√** |
| **Experience and Knowledge**  Knowledge of how breastfeeding can help address inequalities  Knowledge and experience of BfN, its ethos, policies and procedures.  An awareness and understanding of supporting equality and valuing diversity within the role  Experience of working with diverse ethnic and social groups  Knowledge of the cultural and social barriers to breastfeeding  Experience of using or managing social media accounts  Knowledge of the Southampton Area  Knowledge of importance and application of the BfN Code of Conduct  Knowledge of the BfN Equality and Diversity Policy | **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√** | **√** |
| **Skills and abilities**  Ability to speak and write fluently in English  Ability to provide information and support to parents in a non-judgemental fashion.  Ability to provide an effective ‘hands off’ approach when helping mothers with positioning and attachment  Ability to follow established processes, organise and manage work independently  Ability to work effectively as part of a team  Excellent interpersonal and communication skills  Ability to work with people from different cultures sensitively  Ability to keep the confidentiality the parent and their families  Basic IT skills including Word, Excel, email and internet use  Ability to maintain records and write reports  Awareness and commitment to equal opportunities | **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√**  **√** |  |