Social Prescribing Link Worker

Salary: £30,523.50 pro rata'd (£15,261.75 per annum for 2.5 days a week) | **Duration:** Permanent.
Hours: 2.5 days per week (18.75 hrs) | **Location:** Oxford City with a particular focus on the OX4 postcode

About Oxford Hub

Oxford Hub is a local charity, working to make Oxford better for everyone. We run community volunteering programmes and support local communities to tackle inequality. We create opportunities for people to participate and develop meaningful relationships in the Oxford community when taking part in our programmes. Through building new relationships we can enable community participation and create wider systemic change.

> "Togetherness raises optimism and creativity. When people feel they belong to one another, their lives are stronger, richer, and more joyful." - Together, Vivek Murthy

How our work has developed

In 2020, we launched our pandemic response, Oxford Together, mobilising over 1000 volunteers to complete practical tasks and provide phone companionship to others city-wide. Since then we continue to address isolation and health inequalities with our team of social prescribing link workers who work in a Primary Care Network of GP practices in South East Oxford, connecting people to community opportunities including those with Oxford Hub.

About social prescribing

Social prescribing helps people to have more control over their own health and find ways to improve their wellbeing in a way that suits them. We know that a range of social, financial and environmental factors can have a big effect on people's health and wellbeing. These kinds of problems can also make existing health conditions harder to manage or make recovery and treatment more difficult.

We support people through social prescribing, in partnership with the South East Oxford Health Alliance (SEOxHA) – this covers the health centres in the Leys, Cowley, Donnington. Social prescribing is an approach whereby GPs and other health care professionals help people to access things that will improve their health and wellbeing, with support from a link worker or connector.

There's a whole range of things that people can be supported to access, depending on what's best for each person.

Four Oxford Hub staff members are working within the SEOxHA social prescribing team as link workers. This enables us to strengthen connections between the primary care network and the communities we work with. This includes:

- working with partners to develop group approaches to social prescribing – as well as conventional one-to-one consultations, we offer people opportunities to come along to a cuppa and chat with peers and link workers
- facilitating scaffolding support to help people reach their goals – whether that's having a friendly volunteer to go along to a session with you, or meeting someone experiencing similar circumstances and seeing where it leads.

About this role

This Link Worker role will be employed by Oxford Hub and work closely in the Primary Care Network, supporting patients across three different health centres. You will speak to patients on the phone, or meet them in person somewhere that they feel comfortable, either in the community or at their home.

As part of this role you will work closely with other Social Prescribing Link Workers employed by Oxford Hub, as well as with other members of the Oxford Hub team. This includes colleagues who facilitate social spaces and peer support for residents, offer different activities and can provide volunteer support.

Responsibilities:

Supporting patients
- Work with patient referrals from GPs and other members of the multidisciplinary team to support individual patients, families and carers
- Provide patients with time-limited signposting to identified services (both free and, if appropriate, where charges apply), in order to maintain their independence and improve their health and wellbeing
- Reach out to a cohort of patients affected by health inequalities, proactively, to promote the social prescribing service, and support this cohort through the link worker role both individually and collectively.
- Where appropriate, work with partner organisations or colleagues to develop groups or tailored support options to meet emerging needs of the cohort.

Service development/ Record keeping
- Maintain records of referrals and interventions to enable monitoring and evaluation of the service. You will be working with SEOxHA IT systems such as EMIS, so will need to be

comfortable using or learning to use health related databases/ Client information systems.
- Work alongside other Oxford Hub staff working to support adults facing health inequalities in Oxford to develop and deliver scalable responses to needs seen through social prescribing work.

Teamwork

You will join the Primary Care Network team at SEOXHA, covering The Leys, Donnington and Temple Cowley Surgeries, and as such are expected to:
- Attend regular team meetings, working closely with colleagues in the wellbeing team.
- Support other members of the team in their roles.
- Share and develop best practice with other members of the team and partners.
- Complete all necessary skills development and compliance training required for this role.
- Abide by all relevant policies.

You will also be part of the wider Oxford Hub team, and as such are expected to:
- Attend regular team meetings (in Oxford Hub and SEOxHA).
- Support other members of the team in their roles e.g. through working with other members of the team collaboratively to use volunteers in your role or support the delivery of peer support spaces
- Deal with all matters sensitively and discreetly at all times abiding by relevant confidentiality and data protection policies.
- Undertake any other duties and responsibilities as may be reasonably expected as part of this role.

Why we are doing this work

At Oxford Hub we are committed to addressing health inequality in the city, with a particular focus on building strong relationships and tackling isolation. We know that economic deprivation and social inequality lead to poor health, meanwhile those with less wealth are more likely to report loneliness than those who are more wealthy. Isolation, in turn, leads to poor health: the health risks of long-term isolation match those of smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

About you

We are looking for someone who has some experience of providing one-to-one support for people in any community context. You don't have to have prior experience of being a social prescriber, and you will have opportunities to access training to develop your skills and shadow colleagues in the same role. A knowledge of Oxford City and its communities would be an advantage.

You can find out more about social prescribing on the resources provided by the National Academy for Social Prescribing: https://socialprescribingacademy.org.uk/

To thrive in this role at Oxford Hub, you are likely to be this sort of person:

- **You have excellent communication skills** - you can communicate appropriately with people from a wide range of backgrounds, quickly building rapport and employing a range of different strategies to build a working relationship.
- **You value time in person** - this role is about facilitating community connection and combating isolation and its associated health risks. This role involves significant time in the community and cannot be done remotely.
- **You make things happen** - you have a proactive, can-do attitude, and you are fired up by the possibility of making things work better. Overall, you want to get things done and you stay positive even when the work is hard.
- **You have strong organisational skills and good attention to detail** - you enjoy getting things done and have an excellent eye for detail. You can carefully follow processes and use digital systems.
- **You are a fast learner** - you get your head around things quickly, you always seek new information and feedback and you ask for help when you need support.
- **You have a driving desire to make a difference every day** - it's not just a job, but it is part of your identity. You believe in a fairer society, and you work towards that every day.

We are a welcoming team committed to providing everyone who works with the organisation a positive learning experience. We offer plenty of space to develop personally and professionally while making a tangible impact in Oxford City - we would love to meet you and tell you more about this role!

How to apply

Deadline: Wednesday the 25th March 2026. We aim to hire as soon as possible.

If you are interested in this role, you can apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than one page) to joinus@oxfordhub.org. We will be shortlisting a maximum of 6 people so its really important to explain in your covering letter:

- why you would be good at this role
- what life, volunteering or work experience you have that you think will help you in this role
- how you meet the criteria under the 'about you' section

The interview process will have two stages. Appointment to this role is subject to successful references and DBS check, in line with our organisation's safeguarding policy. **Please note we require applicants to have the right to work in the UK.**

Please get in touch if you need any reasonable adjustments as part of the application process. If you have any other questions about the role, please contact us via joinus@oxfordhub.org to arrange a phone call.

Our commitment to inclusion

Oxford Hub does not discriminate in employment matters on the basis of race, colour, religion, gender, national origin, age, military service eligibility, veteran status, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, or any other protected class.

We believe that diversity in the workplace creates dynamic, relevant organisations, fostering spaces for innovation and creativity. We strongly encourage applications from people who have experience of the issues that Oxford Hub seeks to address, those from minoritised communities and low income backgrounds.

For more information about our approach to inclusion, please visit our website: https://www.oxfordhub.org/inclusion