**Title of post: PEER SUPPORT Specialist**

**Location: Housing First – Dublin, Mid East, Midlands, North East**

**Reporting: Director of Services**

**About Peter McVerry Trust:** Established in 1983 by Fr Peter McVerry, the charity works with individuals at risk of, or experiencing homelessness, in Dublin, Kildare, Laois and Limerick. Peter McVerry Trust provides a wide range of services in the areas of homelessness prevention, housing, homeless services, under 18s residential and drug treatment.

**Vision**: *“An Ireland that supports all those on the margins and upholds their rights to full inclusion in society.”*

**Mission**: Peter McVerry Trust is committed to reducing homelessness and the harm caused by substance misuse and social disadvantage. Peter McVerry Trust provides low-threshold entry services, primarily to younger persons and vulnerable adults with complex needs and offer pathways out of homelessness based on the principles of the Housing First model.

**Key Responsibilities and Duties:**

Peter McVerry Trust is hiring a peer support worker to continue to deliver and embed recovery education and support across both its rural and urban Housing First services.

The role of the peer support worker is to develop a strong, recovery-oriented practice approach to participants.

A peer support worker uses first hand experiences of homelessness, addiction and housing support to become partners in the development and delivery of recovery focused education alongside Peter McVerry Trust staff.

Applicants will have a strong and demonstrable commitment to recovery informed by lived experience or family member experience of mental health, addiction or living in homelessness

### **Job Objectives**

The Peer Support Worker will:

* Demonstrate commitment to mental health and recovery informed by lived experience of mental health challenges or family member mental health experience.
* Empower participants to live independent lives.
* Work collaboratively with mental health and recovery services and Peter McVerry Trust staff to advocate for the participant and support the participant’s recovery.
* Develop an individual’s recovery related goals and support them in implementing them.
* Share stories of their own experiences, as appropriate, with the participants to offer further guidance and support.
* Demonstrate empathy and understanding to each individual on their journey of recovery.
* Manage a caseload of participants through efficient scheduling and co-ordinating.
* Travel to different areas of Dublin/Ireland to meet with participants in their homes or out of doors.
* Facilitate one on one or group training/education with participants relevant to mental health and/or substance use recovery.
* Maintain professional communication and relationships with the participant and liaise with their family.
* Implement safe work practices and immediately report incidents and concerns.
* Complete, maintain and manage documentation relevant to the role.
* Record and report all incidents as per Peter McVerry Trust policies.
* Positively and actively engage in team meetings, supervisions, training and team events.
* Demonstrate competence in the support and development of projects and new initiatives that promote positive mental health and/or recovery.
* Participate in training, supervision and mentoring as part of ongoing role development, performance management and …

**The above Job Description is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all duties involved and consequently, the post holder may be required to perform other duties as appropriate to the post which may be assigned to him/her from time to time and to contribute to the development of the post while in office.**

**The role demands flexible working hours which will necessitate some attendance at out of hours meetings/events related to the duties of a Peer Support Worker.**

### **Person Specification**

Qualifications and Experience:

* Hold a relevant qualification in a health, education, or related field from Level 5 on the QQI Framework suitable to the requirements of the role;
* Be motivated towards engaging in ongoing personal and professional development
* Have a minimum of 2 years in recovery and are at a point where they have achieved stability in regards to mental health
* Lived experience or family member experience of mental health, addiction or living in homelessness
* Not all posts will require a drivers’ licence however ability to drive is an advantage and will require a full, clean drivers’ licence
* Must have the appropriate knowledge and ability to fulfil the function of this role.

**To apply, please download Peter McVerry Trust’s job application form**

[**http://www.pmvtrust.ie/about-us/vacancies/**](http://www.pmvtrust.ie/about-us/vacancies/)

**Completed application forms should be sent to** [**recruitment@pmvtrust.ie**](mailto:recruitment@pmvtrust.ie) **or to the HR Department, 29 Mountjoy Square, Dublin 1**

**Peter McVerry Trust is an Equal Opportunity Employer**

**Peter McVerry Trust Operations Ltd Registration Number 412953. Charity Number CHY7256**