



## **Fostering Communities Programme Manager**

Fostering Communities is a whole systems approach to supporting children looked after and their foster families. At its heart is a co-production model which brings together the views and experiences of children and young people, foster carers, and services; the fostering community. Co-produced programme outputs will empower this community to improve outcomes for children and young people. Fostering Communities is based on 3 programme areas; Research and Consultation, Co-production, and Implementation.

The Programme Manager will be responsible for management of this grant funded programme, working with foster carers, fostering services, and children and young people who are care experienced, to build a community of practice across Wales.

### **Responsibilities and Accountabilities**

- Plan and deliver a programme of work including participatory opportunities for foster carers and young people, professional networks, and learning and development sessions.
- Effective partnership working with programme partners; including foster carers, fostering services, university research leads, and other third sector organisations.
- Develop participatory opportunities for children and young people, including production of Thrive and management of the Youth People's Advisory Board
- Implement evaluation frameworks to monitor, review and evaluate progress against agreed Key Performance Indicators.
- Monitor budget performance on an ongoing basis, tracking actual expenditures against budgeted amounts.
- Support the Head of Operations in providing regular updates to programme funders.
- Engaging with colleagues and stakeholders in Wales and across the organisation to ensure project learning is shared.



## Our Values

As an organisation, we believe that we make a difference to foster care and our people values are expressed in the work that we do:

We are TRUSTED  
We are TOGETHER  
We are VITAL

### Essential Knowledge, Skills & Experience

- Extensive experience of working within the fostering sector, or within children's social care, and a demonstrable understanding of issues relating to foster care and the social care system in Wales.
- Experience of managing projects and programmes within the third or public sector.
- Experience of working in partnership with other teams, organisations and influential stakeholders to deliver change.
- Experience of planning and leading a programme of events, and learning and development activities.
- Excellent oral and written communication and presentation skills.
- Experience of planning and prioritising work to meet deadlines.
- Excellent time and workload management skills
- Excellent relationship management skills and ability to work with key stakeholders at all levels, including heads of children's services, social care managers, foster carers, and other professionals who form the team around the child.
- Excellent IT skills including Microsoft Office programmes and virtual meeting platforms.
- Educated to degree level or equivalent. There will be a requirement to maintain registration with Social Care Wales if this is applicable.



### **Desirable Knowledge, Skills & Experience**

- Able to communicate in Welsh, both spoken and in writing.
- Level 4 Management or Project Management qualification or equivalent experience.

### **Attitudes**

- A passion and commitment to influencing positive change for children and young people, and families.
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- Commitment to working within The Fostering Network's equal opportunities and diversity policies and practice.

Applicants without a relevant qualification may be considered, please demonstrate why we should consider you in your application.

### Pay and conditions of service

<b>Band</b>	Band 4
<b>Salary</b>	£36,000 - £40,000
<b>Annual Leave</b>	25 Days plus 5 Fostering Network days and Bank Holidays per annum
<b>Probationary period</b>	6 calendar months.
<b>Hours of work</b>	36 Applications are welcome from people who work part- time, as part of a job share.
<b>Location</b>	This role is pan Wales, we offer hybrid working and have an office in Cardiff.  The successful candidate must be able to travel to the Cardiff office as needed, and attend meetings across Wales when necessary.
<b>DBS</b>	This role will require an enhanced DBS check
<b>Pension</b>	Optional. Money-purchase scheme and salary sacrifice option is available with AEGON: Employee contribution is 3% of gross annual salary Employer contribution is 5% of gross salary.
<b>Season Ticket Loan</b>	An interest free season ticket loan is available to all staff immediately.
<b>Trade Union</b>	The Fostering Network recognises the trade union Unite and members of staff can join if they wish.