

Associate Therapists – Role Description

Location Face to face delivery from Barnsley town centre location

Rate Starting at £30 per client session

This post is open to female applicants only *

About BSARCS

In 1987 a small group of women from a variety of backgrounds came together on a voluntary basis with the aim of developing a support service for women and girls in Barnsley. Two years later, they opened a helpline service for women who had experienced sexual harm, initially operating on a very limited budget and for two hours a week, with no premises of their own and the bare minimum of equipment.

In the years since then BSARCS has grown beyond recognition and in the year 2024/25 we provided specialist therapy, advocacy and support to around 1500 women, men and children who have experienced sexual violence or harm as well as to their relatives.

In the same year, we also delivered specialist training courses to over 800 professionals in the borough.

BSARCS is governed by a Board of Trustees and currently has around 30 individuals working from our Barnsley premises, including our CEO, Business Support Team, Training & Development Team, Adult Services and Children's Services. We also have a team of volunteers supporting our work.

We are committed to partnership working and, as a result, our funding streams are diverse, attracting both statutory funding and charitable grants.

About the role

You will be joining a team of experienced counsellors, providing multi-disciplinary trauma-informed therapies to adults affected by sexual harm at any point in their lives.

Your work will be overseen by our counselling lead and you will be expected to meet with them regularly to discuss your work. We also hold regular counselling meetings and peer supervision, which we encourage you to participate in (at our cost).

Role specific responsibilities

- To offer appropriate trauma informed therapeutic interventions to facilitate the recovery of adults who have experienced sexual abuse and/ or violence
- To accurately maintain client records and required data
- To practice, at all times, within the professional body's ethical framework and complying with the policies, procedures and service standards of BSARCS

- To promote our client's best interests, with a continued understanding and commitment to safeguarding, confidentiality and data protection frameworks
- To work collaboratively with other professionals and colleagues working at BSARCS

BSARCS encourages personal development and our associate counsellors are required to:

- Participate in regular clinical supervision with their own external supervisor
- Take responsibility for continuing professional development and share certificates of any training undertaken
- To undertake to keep up to date with good practice around working with clients who have experienced trauma

About you (person specification):

In order to be considered for this position, your application must show that you have:

- Current registration with BACP, UKCP or equivalent professional body, this must be maintained whilst ever you are working with BSARCS.
- A minimum of 3 years current supervised practice and the provision of evidence-based therapeutic interventions to adults
- Significant experience of working with adults who, having experienced sexual harm may present with complex needs and vulnerabilities, using appropriate trauma informed interventions
- The ability to positively engage, develop and maintain therapeutic relationships with adult clients
- The ability to work within a multi-disciplinary team and to foster good working relationships with other professionals and agencies
- As sound knowledge and understanding of the effects of sexual violence on victims and their families
- Knowledge and understanding of safeguarding frameworks and procedures, including the issues of confidentiality, consent and capacity
- An ability to work alone and effectively manage and prioritise your work
- Good ICT skills
- A commitment to maintaining, updating and sharing skills and knowledge
- A DBS certificate issued within the last 3 years (if you are not able to provide this, we are able to facilitate an application)
- Current and appropriate professional indemnity insurance

Ideally, you will also have:

- Accreditation, or working towards accreditation with BACP, NCPS or equivalent professional body
- Hold a certified qualification in EMDR

Other information

BSARCS is committed to equal opportunities and welcomes diversity across our services. All of our team are required to adhere to our Equality & Diversity policies and to challenge discrimination wherever it is appropriate.

We strive to be as inclusive as is possible and look to recruit individuals with the right skills, experience and attitude – we're less concerned with your educational history and qualifications (unless the role requires it). However, for genuine occupational requirement reasons we are looking to appoint a female only for this post (exemption under the Equality Act 2010 Part 1 Schedule 9).