

Job Description: Art Therapist (Sessional Worker)

1 About The Connection at St Martin's

The Connection is based in the heart of London, near Charing Cross Station and Trafalgar Square. Our history of working with people experiencing homelessness can be traced back to the First World War, and we offer both short-term practical help and more intensive long-term support to clients who are sleeping rough or vulnerably housed. Westminster is the epicentre of rough sleeping in the UK, and we work closely with people who find themselves on the edge in Central London, with nowhere else to turn.

We deliver a range of services from three sites:

- A Triage and Brief Intervention Service for people experiencing housing crisis to understand their situation, signpost, provide housing advice and access to health care where appropriate
- A Resource Centre providing facilities that give dignity and practical support to our clients - including showers, laundry, c/o address, IT access, basic healthcare services and meals
- Resilience and Recovery work including a therapeutic group work programme, support with training and employment, and routes into mental health and drug and alcohol treatment
- A Housing and Resettlement advice service which helps people to access supported accommodation and the private rented sector, reconnect to places where they have roots in the UK, and undertakes immigration case work.
- A Street Engagement Team which includes an innovative day-time outreach service that works across the West End with those on the streets that face multiple disadvantage.
- Sites at which teams offer short to medium-term accommodation options for clients, with a wraparound support offer. This enables people to recover in a safe and secure environment with a roof over their heads.

2. About the Role

We are looking for a qualified art therapist to design and lead group sessions at our resource centre in Westminster and at our supported accommodation project, St Martins House in Wandsworth. You will be able to both propose project objectives but also co-produce the project alongside the client group. Experience of working with adults with complex needs is essential as well as a background in evidencing project outcomes. You will need to be adaptable, proactive and reactive to the environment as we review and develop our services.

We are looking for someone to work on a project basis, with each project including around 10 sessions, running twice weekly. The days are negotiable.

St Martins house provides accommodation for 16 people moving away from traumatic periods of rough sleeping. Many struggle with their mental health and effects of complex trauma resulting from their experiences. Wrap around case management support is offered on site so residents can work towards moving on into more independent living situations in a planned and holistic way. The art project will be held in a newly refurbished area that was previously a garage and is situated in the garden of St Martins House. This space was developed with the intention of creating a space for group activity at the residence. The art room has space for around 4 residents to engage at a time,

but we feel that smaller groups offer better outcomes. If the demand is higher, we will create a timetable structure to ensure that all residents can attend the group.

We are looking to deliver 4 x 10 weekly sessions across the year at St Martin's House and 4 x 8 weekly sessions across the year at our resource centre at Adelaide Street.

The proposed sessions are:

- Adelaide Street: 8 weekly group art therapy sessions of 1.25 hours with 0.5 hours set-up and 0.75 hours debrief/clean-up at admin rate
- St Martins House: 10 weekly small group art therapy sessions of 1.5 hours 0.5 hours set-up and 0.5hours debrief/clean-up at admin rate

Responsible to:	Recovery Programme Coordinator
Responsible for:	Volunteers as required
Liaison with:	Recovery & Opportunities team, corporate partners, Managers, Senior Advisors and other internal staff.
Salary	£60/hour standard session rate and £30/hour admin rate for activities not involving client contact
Contract:	Self-employed basis.