

## WESTERN CARE ASSOCIATION

“Western Care Association exists to empower people with a wide range of learning and associated disabilities in Mayo to live full and satisfied lives as equal citizens. We achieve this through the provision of a comprehensive range of innovative services and supports.”  
.....Mission Statement

Western Care Association is committed to providing Person Centred Services. The primary role of staff working with individual service users is to support each person in achieving their priorities as identified through the Individual Planning Process.

### JOB DESCRIPTION - SENIOR PSYCHOLOGIST

#### **Principle Duties and Responsibilities:**

The Senior Psychologist will be accountable for providing the following range of Services within the Association.

- Provision of psychological assessment, formulation and intervention to service users, staff, families and other individuals as appropriate. This includes supports to adults with intellectual disabilities presenting with a diversity of needs including Autism, mental health difficulties, behaviours that are described as challenging, personal and family relationships issues, addictive behaviours, dementia and problems associated with aging, issues in relation to sexuality and the development of individualised service arrangements
- Contribute to the delivery and future development of an effective psychology service in line with organisational priorities and objectives and within established professional standards, guidelines and policy.
- Management of the psychologists who report clinically and managerially to the senior psychologist.
- Management of the behaviour support service, including day to day management of the staff team together with provision of professional and clinical supervision.
- Take direct responsibility for a defined caseload, as required.
- To work as part of multi-disciplinary teams in collaboration with other Western Care Association staff and other stakeholders.
- Development and implementation of training initiatives for parents/staff in response to identified need and in collaboration with the Executive Management Team.

- To link closely with management and staff of the Association toward achievement of service goals and outcomes for service users.
- To play a lead role in the development, implementation and evaluation of projects/research in collaboration with the Executive Management of the Association as appropriate, e.g., projects, research, working groups, regionally and nationally and within the organisation.
- To inform/advise the Organisation on an ongoing basis on matters pertaining to specialist areas of expertise.
- To support the Director of Operations in the development of department policies, procedures and Management Systems as required.
- To participate in Strategic Organisational Planning/policy development as required.
- Other duties may be assigned from time to time.

### **Qualifications & Experience**

- As per PSI Guidelines for the employment of Psychologists; applicants should possess a post grad PHD qualification in psychology which renders them eligible for chartered membership of the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI), with at least five years post graduate experience.
- Demonstrate competence in delivering a professional service through awareness of current professional issues and a clear understanding of professional ethics.
- Demonstrate the ability to plan/deliver care in an effective/resourceful manner with a model of person centred planning.
- Demonstrate an ability to manage and develop staff and others in a busy working environment.
- Possess the requisite knowledge and ability for the proper discharge of the duties of the office.

**Roster:** This position normally operates Monday through to Friday 37 hours per week. Flexibility in hours of working in response to service needs is required.

**Annual Leave:** 205 hrs per year.

**Remuneration:** Senior Psychology scale as per scales in place in the Association at time of appointment. WCA is involved in pay restoration.

**Reporting Relationship:** Report to Director of Operations

**Conditions:**

- Flexibility in working hours will be a feature of this position in order to meet the individual needs of service users. The flexibility required will depend on the needs of the service users and work rosters and time will be agreed with staff on a local basis by line manager.
- To engage with and use the technology systems and packages provided by the Association to support day to day work and future planning needs.
- You will receive support and supervision from your line manager regarding your day to day work through the Supervisory Support Process in place in the Association.
- Clean Drivers License is essential.