

FAQs – please contact mentalhealth@londonyouth.org if you have more

1. Do I have to be a London Youth member to apply for this programme?

To receive funding, you must be a member of London Youth. However, for this programme we would like to work with any non-members who are interested and will decide on a case-by-case basis. Not sure if you're a London Youth member, email membership@londonyouth.org to find out.

2. We don't do open access youth work or have a physical youth club. Can we still apply?

Yes. We are looking for a range of organisations to apply for this programme and we understand that youth worker takes many forms of delivery. Please ensure that you describe your organisation, and the nature of your practice in as much detail as possible for us to understand in your application.

3. We don't have capacity to commit to all elements of the programme, can we still apply? / Can we partner with another youth organisation to deliver this programme?

We understand that the time commitment will be difficult for a small youth organisation, and we understand that smaller organisations may not have enough staff to participate. Where this is the case, we would like to encourage applications from consortiums (groups) of youth organisations or a smaller organisation partnering with a larger organisation. London Youth is happy to facilitate conversations between youth organisations to remove barriers to your application. Please book in an advice slot with the link on the website page.

If you collaborate with another organisation, you will be asked to consider who will be the lead organisation, how you will manage communication and administration, as well as the split of clinical supervision.

4. What is clinical supervision and what are the benefits for my staff?

There will be a full explainer and short training on clinical supervision at the induction. Clinical supervision is a supportive relationship which can be used to reflect on the impact of a professional's work. It is a way to support staff who work with complex or vulnerable people/families and a collaborative process that should encourage the development of professional skills and confidence. The aim is to help staff to manage the personal and professional demands created by the nature of their work.

5. What is the time commitment for the programme for an individual youth worker?

The youth worker clinical supervision is an offer of 8-10 group clinical supervisions per year and 2-3 one-to-one supervisions over approximately 9 months of delivery. These will be co-ordinated by your organisation together with The Brandon Centre.

Youth workers will also be offered a core training programme over the course of the programme amount to approximately 7-8 training modules. We aim to provide dates for training at the induction in March 2023. Training topics include:

- Introduction to and literacy of Mental Health
- Establishing professional boundaries
- Developing self-care skills for youth workers
- Developing trauma-based practice in youth work
- Building resilience in children and young people
- Introduction to positive behaviour support
- Involving parent and carers in improving approaches to young people's wellbeing
- Mental Health First Aid

6. I'm not able to commit to all the youth worker clinical supervision and training, does this effect my application?

The youth worker clinical supervision and training elements are essential features of the programme and have been designed to achieve the long-term sustainability. Managers at member organisations should be willing to support their staff to commit to these.

7. What can the budget be spent on and more importantly what can't it be spent on?

Total funding for each organisation is up to £5000. We do not expect you to detail your budget in your application. The £2000 initial grant is a contribution to your support costs towards staff time and other elements such as monitoring, and evaluation needed to run the programme successfully. However, it will not directly cover all the costs.

The pilot project will come with a grant of £3000 in year 2 of delivery.

With the current context, flexibility is vital, so we will work closely with you on the criteria so you can best use the funds. You will receive a payment schedule at the induction.

8. Youth workers at my organisation (my staff) are sessional workers, can I still apply?

Yes. However, the management of their time and ensuring that they are able to commit to clinical supervision and/or training sessions will be your responsibility as their employers applying for this programme.

9. Does the same member of staff need to attend all the training sessions, or can we switch between different staff?

For training programme only, you are able to switch staff that attend though we advise you pick from 2-3 staff maximum. For the training programme it is best to send a relevant staff member that will benefit from each training and bring back learning to your organisation.

10. What is the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) requirements?

We are working with two independent external evaluators on this programme. We have worked with both of them on other programmes and they have an in-depth knowledge of London Youth, our members and youth work across London. Details will be outlined in the induction session. However, we will also work with each organisation to see where we can utilise already existing MEL processes/documents to remove duplication where possible.

11. Do we need to have a finalised pilot project plan to go in our application?

No. Your ideas will be developed over the course of the programme so we do not expect you to know what you will deliver at application stage. In the application we are looking for motivation, commitment and a willingness to learn as the programme develops.

The pilot project will ask each organisation to engage 20 young people per organisation.

- Criteria will be based on themes emerging from the community of practice but could include:
- Positive activities for young people which improve their mental well-being - preventing the need for talking therapy
- Partnership working with local schools and their Mental Health Support Teams
- Increasing peer-to-peer support
- Reaching out to more young people through enhanced detached work
- Forming more specialised networks at a community level
- Funding for more formal support for young people from clinicians

12. What are the pre-requisites for the youth workers who attend clinical supervision and training (age / experience / qualifications/ availability / role at club etc.)?

If the youth worker is the right fit for your organisation and works directly with young people, then that works for us. Availability is key as we would like all youth workers to attend sessions.

13. How will clinical supervision sessions be co-ordinated?

Our partners at The Brandon Centre will work closely with each organisation and individual youth workers to organise group or individual clinical supervision at times and locations convenient for both youth workers and clinical psychologists. This will be done on a case-by-case basis as the programme enters delivery.

14. What commitment will the Community of Practice involve?

The community of practice is a forum or group that will be designed collaboratively with the youth organisations on programme and the programme manager. Initial ideas include an ongoing WhatsApp group, Slack or Teams Channel combined with short virtual, drop-in meetings with optional attendance. However, we are eager to ensure that the community of practice is fit for purpose for the individuals involved.

15. What commitment will the Steering Group involve?

It is not compulsory for youth organisations on the programme to attend every Steering Group meeting. We will invite 1-2 youth organisations on programme to update the Steering Group on their progress and/or share a piece of work in much the same way as the rest of the group participants will do. Should you wish to attend on a consistent basis this can be accommodated and arranged with the programme manager.

16. I don't have the Quality Mark, does that stop me from applying?

Whilst you can apply for the Cornerstone Croydon Programme without having the Quality Mark, we would strongly encourage all members to be working towards the [Quality Mark](#).

If you wish to find out more, please contact mentalhealth@londonyouth.org or visit londonyouth.org