

## Deaf Community Mission Outreach Worker

### Working with the Deaf / Hard of hearing/ Deaf-blind communities in South-East Wales

*This is a position offered in partnership between the Dioceses of Monmouth and Llandaff, and the South-East Wales Deaf Church Association*

This is initially a 3-year post, part-time, suitable for a lay or ordained person.

**Salary: £27,000 for a 4-day week (£33,750 FTE)**

Based at: primarily home based although a hot desk will be available in either the diocesan office in Newport or the Provincial office in Cardiff.

### Skills Required

#### *Essential*

- Heart for God and for the Deaf/ hard of hearing/ Deaf-blind community
- Native BSL user or competent to CACDP level 3 or equivalent
- Willingness to pro-actively use social media for contact with and support of the Deaf Community
- Awareness of the life challenges inherent in being part of the Deaf/hard of hearing and Deaf-blind community

#### *Preferred*

- Ministry/theology training in community and outreach work
- Deaf-blind communication skills
- Ability to engage with young people

### General description

We are looking for an outreach worker with the Deaf/Hard of hearing and Deaf-blind in South-East Wales. You will be working across the dioceses of Monmouth and Llandaff, alongside the South-East Wales Deaf Church Association (SEWDCA).

You will be part of the diocesan teams in Monmouth and Llandaff with responsibility in evangelism and mission, but primarily, you will need to be able to work independently to minister to and support the Deaf

church and social groups within this area. A key focus of your role will be to develop new enterprises with the Deaf and so you will be expected to cultivate partnership with people in other churches and secular bodies, including Deaf organisations. The role will also include working with churches and people to raise awareness of the deaf community and provide training, advice and support where necessary.

Over the last one hundred and fifty years, dioceses have been integrating mission with the Deaf community, and today there are two main church groups that need to be supported, namely Newport and Cardiff, but there are positive welcoming Deaf groups in Pontypridd and Bridgend who are open to outreach. Each group, whilst having some members in common, has a distinctive character and flexibility will be needed to give appropriate pastoral support and discipleship.

You will need to have awareness of and an ability to communicate the different needs of the Deaf/hard of hearing and Deaf-blind community within the social and hearing church context.

Experience in outreach within education would be beneficial.

Flexibility with how working hours are allocated is needed, as different groups meet on different days, times and across a wide geographical area.

There are a few fluent BSL ordained ministers within the SE Wales who have been part of provision of church services and pastoral care for the Deaf over recent years and they have agreed to undertake the priestly duties and support when possible.

As part of the two diocesan teams, you will meet regularly (monthly) with those supporting you, to understand and be part of their strategies and initiatives within the dioceses, for your spiritual support, to give feedback to the dioceses as we further the work to the Deaf/hard of hearing and Deaf-blind community in South-East Wales.

### *Aims of the post*

- To engage with Deaf people through the Deaf Clubs/Churches, to provide and develop outreach and pastoral support to Deaf/hard of hearing and Deaf-blind people with the good news of Jesus Christ and to disciple church members.
- To work with the youth club and Sunday Sign School in Cardiff to foster outreach to young people and families.
- To liaise with the Deaf chaplains in adjoining areas to enable cross border support and ministry.
- To liaise with SEWDCA to co-operatively increase pastoral care and outreach.
- To further disability awareness within the Church in Wales, encouraging and supporting opportunities for 'church' that welcomes all, making sure that there is contribution from people of all abilities and provision for access.
- To use the social media presence of the church and the different Deaf/hard of hearing and Deaf/blind groups to promote activities and to organise pastoral support.
- To further develop opportunities within the deaf community for spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

- To liaise with those in supportive roles to further the church outreach amongst the Deaf/hard of hearing/Deaf-blind community.

**Salary: £27,000 for a 4-day week (£33,750 FTE)**

**Expenses paid in addition.**

**Benefits:** The Diocesan Board of Finance will make a contribution of 10% of salary to its pension plan. The employee is expected to contribute at least 5% of salary to the pension plan.

**Status of post:** 3-year contract (subject to a six-month probationary period).

**Hours of work:** Four days a week (30 hours per week). The post holder will be expected to work some flexible and unsocial hours, including occasional weekend and evening work. Overtime is not payable but an equivalent amount of time off in lieu may be taken.

**Leave allowance:** Full-time holiday entitlement is 25 days per calendar year (increasing by 1 day per year of service up to 30 days) plus bank holidays. Completion of a full calendar years 'service is required before the commencement of the additional entitlement.

Part-time workers are entitled to a pro rata amount of annual leave and bank holidays based on the number of days and hours they work each week.

**For an informal conversation, please contact the Revd Mary Moore: [marymoore@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:marymoore@churchinwales.org.uk)  
07543 512147**

**Please complete and return the application form to [isabelthompson@churchinwales.org.uk](mailto:isabelthompson@churchinwales.org.uk)**

**The closing date for applications is 8am July 24th and interviews will be held on July 26<sup>th</sup>.**

**Applicants will be informed by email on the evening of July 24<sup>th</sup> whether they will be called for interview.**