

Title of Post	Project Worker – Birth History Service
Location	Christchurch Square, Dublin
Employment Type	Fixed term to 31 December 2025. Role will continue subject to funding
Salary	€23,117 - €35,732 (Pro-rated for 25 hours)
Contact Person	nuala.malone@barnardos.ie

Name of the Service: Barnardos Birth History Service

- Dublin: Barnardos Christchurch Square Dublin 8.
- Cork: Blackmore House, Meade Street, Cork.
- Galway: "The Sanctuary" 27 Chois Chlair, Claregalway

The Birth History Service has a national remit and the Project Worker will join a therapeutic team based across the three locations.

What does the Birth History Service do?

Barnardos has been providing a support and advice service for adopted people, birth parents and adoptive parents since 1977.

Barnardos Birth History service provides therapeutic, information and practical support to adults who were adopted, boarded out and whose births were illegally registered as well as to birth parents. The service is provided on an individual and group work basis. The Birth History Service is funded by Tusla.

The service also provides a practical support service for adults who were boarded out as children prior to the *Child Care Act 1991* and works closely with the Origins Family Tracing service.

Project Worker

Job Description

Post: Project Worker.

Responsible to: Project Leader, Barnardos Birth History Service.

Works with: Project Leader, Project Co-ordinators, Regional team, other staff, adults impacted by adoption / boarding out / illegal birth registration / birth parents / Tusla partners.

Job purpose

To provide an individual and group therapeutic service that respond to the needs of birth parents, adopted adults, adults who were boarded out as children and individuals subject to an illegal birth registration who are referred to the service.

Core Job Requirements

- To assess the needs of the adults engaging with the project.
- To plan, implement and review programmes for adults based on an assessment of their individual and group needs.
- To work with adults in a variety of ways, including group work and individual work. Both centre based and outreach work will be required.
- To work closely with other members of the service to ensure the most appropriate offering of support is made available to service users.
- To be vigilant for signs or concerns of physical, sexual and emotional abuse and neglect in regard to retrospective disclosures. To bring any concerns to the attention of the Designated Person and in keeping with Barnardos Child Protection Policy.
- To liaise effectively with and other statutory, community and voluntary bodies and to attend and contribute to reviews and case conferences as required.
- To keep regular records in relation to all aspects of work and prepare reports as required.
- To gather information statistics and prepare reports as required, including administration of databases as appropriate to the role.
- To identify and document to the line manager any unmet needs of adults within the service and to participate in the advocacy work of the agency.

Requirements Specific to this Post

- Staff will be expected to travel if adults are not in a position to attend the service centres and so must have the flexibility to travel in line with the needs of the work.
- Online work will be a key part of the role.
- Occasional evening work will be required to facilitate groups.
- Full driving licence and access to the use of a suitably insured vehicle essential.

Note: This Job Description will be reviewed and updated in line with the needs of the work.

Project Worker

Person Specification

Personal Attributes

- Commitment to the delivery of quality services to adults.
- Ability to act on own initiative and consult where appropriate.
- Ability to work under pressure, make decisions in consultation with the line manager when appropriate.
- To be committed to adhering to best practice in the work and be innovative and open to change.
- Flexibility and adaptability are essential for this post.
- Ability to form objective relationships with adults.

Experience

- A minimum of two years post qualification experience in working with adults in a therapeutic setting.
- Experience in working with adults affected by early loss/trauma.
- Experience in facilitating group work is an advantage.
- Specific experience in working in the field of adults impacted by adoption and foster care is highly desirable.

Qualifications

A recognised third level practice qualification (minimum Level 7 on the QQI) in one of the following:

- Social Work
- Social Care
- Psychology
- Psychiatric Nursing

Relevant therapeutic qualification is desirable such as Counselling, Psychotherapy, Art Therapy or Family Therapy, although not essential.

Barnardos is an equal opportunity employer.

We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all.