

Job Description and Person Specification

Post title:	Engagement Coordinator – Peer Support
Responsible to:	Engagement and Co-production Manager
Responsible for:	N/A
Starting Salary:	£20,299.50 (pro-rata – equivalent to £10.41 per hour)
Hours:	Full-time – 37.5 hours per week (fixed term to 31 March 2022)
Location:	Greater Manchester (initially home-based)

Background

The Independent Mental Health Network (IMHN) represents a diverse community of **past, current and future users of mental health services**, as well as those with lived experience of mental health.

By working together, **we believe that we can be a force for positive change** in the way that mental health is treated, perceived, and recognised.

At our core, IMHN aims to:

- provide a safe space for people to confidentially share their needs and experiences of services, while we campaign for change by holding local providers to account
- act against discrimination, and promotes a positive understanding of mental health through education
- challenge current practice, so that we can increase parity of esteem and instigate worthwhile change, allowing people to access the care that they deserve.

Job Summary

The post-holder will be expected to coordinate engagement of people with lived experience of mental health to develop the availability and infrastructure of peer support across Greater Manchester. As part of the role, it will require working with a range of stakeholders, including: IMHN Board of Trustees, IMHN members, funders, providers of mental health services, peer-led organisations, etc.

This will also include providing support for representatives with lived experience of mental health problems attending meetings and engaging in shaping mental health support on behalf of the organisation.

The post-holder will ensure that projects are adequately planned and resourced. This includes supporting the team in delivering to high standards, on time and to budget.

The post-holder will be required to follow the governing documents and policies and procedures of the organisation at all times. This includes positively engaging with the culture of IMHN as a member-led organisation.



The post will be based in the Greater Manchester area, with the opportunity for flexible and occasional home working. This will include travel to meetings across the Greater Manchester area. The role may also include occasional evening and weekend working hours. Subject to the latest government guidelines in place for COVID-19, this post will include in person working, as well as online / remote working.

Please note: the successful candidate will also be required to undertake an enhanced DBS check.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Project Support

- Provide high quality administrative and project support to the Engagement and Co-production Manager.
- Provide project updates and reports via Excel and any other tracking systems as required.
- Carry out meeting administration – including booking rooms, equipment and taking minutes, liaising with project teams regarding arrangement for meetings.
- Support other strands of the programme of work as and when required.

2. Representation and Engagement Support

- Provide inbox management support to key email accounts, ensuring queries are responded to and actioned in a timely and appropriate manner.
- Attend meetings with representatives where appropriate to support them in making contributions to meetings and the development of mental health support.
- Develop background knowledge of areas of mental health that you are supporting lived experience representatives to engage with.
- Provide briefings and debriefings for lived experience representatives involved in our work.
- Contribute to the development of social media content for the organisation through highlighting the positive work representatives are doing to address issues within mental health services.
- Coordinate and organise events with relevant stakeholders, including our mental health conversation events.
- Support the development of a voice and influence strategy for the organisation.
- Support lived experience representatives to carry out their roles effectively. This includes supporting the gathering and analysis of insights and other administration.
- Support monitoring and evaluation of our activities in a proactive and coordinated manner.

3. Peer Support Development

- Facilitate and develop a peer support network across Greater Manchester.
- Provide high-quality support to peer support groups across the area. This may include setting up new groups and supporting existing ones.
- Demonstrate strong active listening skills to ensure people feel heard in groups.
- Demonstrate strong facilitation skills, ensuring all those who wish to participate, can.
- Support the development and delivery of training to volunteer peer support co-facilitators.
- Ensure groups operate safely and at appropriate venues.
- Ensure that as part of development of the peer support groups a diverse range of people can participate.
- Develop strong and effective working relationships with group members.
- Handle any matters relating to safeguarding concerns appropriately, making judgments on the need for the reporting to the safeguarding contact.
- Setup and deliver a series of shared learning events bringing together peer-led organisations to exchange knowledge and best practice.
- Support a grants process that will provide small amounts of seed funding to groups.
- Undertake a mapping exercise of peer support that exists across Greater Manchester to aid understanding and visibility of what's available, alongside making the case for what there needs to be more of.

4. Membership Support

- Help maintain a membership database for the organisation, ensuring that it is regularly reviewed and updated.
- Ensure activity that representatives are involved with is appropriately logged on our CRM system.
- Provide support and responses to queries and ideas from members, seeking advice and guidance from your line manager as appropriate.

5. Working with Stakeholders

- Ensure appropriate input and engagement is sought from varying levels of the organisation to ensure effective implementation of plans and protection of the reputation of the organisation. This may include soliciting advice and guidance from your line manager, members of IMHN, members of the Board of Trustees and external funders as appropriate.
- Maintain and develop effective working relationships with members and elected representatives of the network to support the achievement of organisational objectives. This should include communicating opportunities for our membership and wider networks to get involved in our work.

6. Volunteer Coordination

- Coordinate volunteers engaged with the organisation. This includes undertaking supervision, appraisals, and providing feedback to volunteers as appropriate.
- Provide timely support to volunteers to assist them in completing their volunteering activities to the best of their ability.

7. Miscellaneous / Other Duties

- Responsible for any other reasonable duties as required by the organisation.
- Always represent IMHN in a professional manner, acting as an ambassador for the organisation at all times.

Person Specification

Attribute	Essential	Desirable	How this will be assessed
Education and Qualifications		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educated to degree standard or equivalent experience • Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) trained or other appropriate qualification 	Application
Skills and knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the issues affecting people with lived experience of mental health problems • Excellent verbal and written communication skills • Excellent negotiation and interpersonal skills • Excellent IT and organisational skills • Understanding of safeguarding processes and how to work with potentially vulnerable adults • Knowledge of the principles of peer support and different models that are used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of risk management, General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and equalities legislation and good practice • Understanding of relevant health & safety legislation 	Application Interview
Relevant Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of coordinating projects and administration • Experience of engaging with a diverse range of communities • Experience of record keeping and the handling of sensitive and confidential information • Experience of working and building relationships with people with lived experience of mental health problems • Experience of undertaking research and reporting insights • Experience of working with a range of stakeholders • Experience of coordinating events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working in a mental health setting • Experience of working with volunteers • Experience of delivering training • Experience of casework, advice or advocacy • Experience of working in a democratic or membership environment • Experience of remote working 	Application Interview

<p>Personal Qualities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrable experience of working within a team • An approachable, problem-solving attitude • Ability to work unsupervised and on own initiative / proactively • Ability to manage competing demands and prioritise effectively • Flexible and adaptable approach • Ability to motivate others • Commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion • Commitment to challenging mental health stigma and discrimination • Commitment to managing personal effectiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lived experience of mental health problems 	<p>Application Interview</p>
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