

Job description

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Job Title | Peer Champion Coordinator |
| Department | Networks and Communities |
| Responsible to | 300 Voices Project Manager |
| Salary | £14,802 pro rata pa (Full time equivalent £24, 670 pa) Grade C of Mind's salary |
| Hours of work | Part-time: 21 hours p.w |
| Based | Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust, Birmingham |
| Length of contract | Fixed term contract to 31 March 2016 |

Purpose of job

Time to Change is an ambitious programme to end the stigma and discrimination faced by people with mental health problems, and is a partnership between the charities Mind and Rethink Mental Illness. The first phase of the programme ran between 2007 and 2011 with funding from the Big Lottery Fund and Comic Relief. The second phase, funded by the Department of Health, Comic Relief and the Big Lottery Fund, runs until 31 March 2015. Funds are being sought from all three funders for the programme to continue for a further year, until the end of March 2016.

The one-year programme will focus on developing and supporting local and regional networks to run anti-stigma activities across England and includes: a social marketing campaign; up-skilling and empowering individual social leaders; and events and activities that bring together people with and without experience of mental health problems (social contact). In addition, some targeted work will be undertaken with the following audiences: employers and employees; children and young people; African and Caribbean communities; and mental health professionals.

You will establish a peer network of young African Caribbean men with lived experience of mental health problems. You will provide relevant training and ongoing support to enable group members to support each other's mental health. You will also negotiate with rest of the Time to Change programme and 300 Voices partners in Birmingham and West Midlands to enable the network to sustain their influence on mental health and other services initiated by 300 Voices, and to integrate knowledge and skills from 300 Voices across the Time to Change programme.

Scope of the job

You will work primarily with young African Caribbean men with lived experience of mental health within the Birmingham and West Midlands. You'll also develop productive links with statutory services within the area, and with the rest of the Time of Change team.

Mind aims to ensure that the needs and interests of people with mental health problems, people with disabilities, women, men, black and minority ethnic communities, lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender and people of all ages are reflected in all its activities. You will be expected to contribute to this aim.

Key responsibilities

1. Establish and maintain positive relationships with a broad cohort of young African Caribbean men with lived experience in Birmingham and West Midlands
2. Secure participation of young African Caribbean male service users, who've worked with 300 Voices, in a peer support network
3. Devise and implement an induction programme for network members focussing on coaching, facilitation, negotiating and influencing skills
4. Assist the network in planning and coordinating activities.
5. Where appropriate, represent the network in negotiations with services and other agencies in Birmingham and West Midlands
6. Provide advice and support to the network in developing approaches to influencing services and other agencies in Birmingham and West Midlands
7. Facilitate constructive dialogue within the network, and between the network and the rest of the Time to Change programme
8. Contribute expert views and facilitate network contribution to discussions on Time to Change and 300 Voices legacy
9. Develop and oversee appropriate monitoring systems to track the impact of the network
10. Contribute to quarterly progress reports on Time to Change's work with African and Caribbean communities, including progress towards agreed targets
11. Undertake other duties that may from time to time be necessary, that are compatible with the nature and grade of this post.

Expectations

1. Attend and contribute to team and programme-wide meetings, training and the supervision and appraisal process.
2. The nature of the post will require some flexibility in terms of ways of working and revising priorities.
3. Occasionally to work unsociable hours, for example, attending evening or weekend meetings/conferences or travel to/out of London.
4. Ensure that all responsibilities and activities discharged within this post are consistent with the terms and spirit of Mind's Equal Opportunities Policy.
5. Contribute to working towards making Mind a greener workplace.

Person specification: TTC Peer Champion Coordinator

Essential criteria

1. Demonstrable and relevant experience of working collaboratively and effectively with people and organisations from African and Caribbean communities.
2. Excellent interpersonal skills, with proven experience of developing effective working relationships with a range of external stakeholders, and encouraging collaborative working.
3. Experience of working in partnership with statutory agencies.
4. Excellent planning and organisational skills with a proven ability to be flexible, to use own initiative, and to organise workload where there are competing priorities.
5. Good written and verbal communication skills, with experience of public speaking to a diversity of audiences.
6. Understanding of the principles of project management, including outcomes, targets and milestones.
7. Knowledge and understanding of the aims of equalities policies and a demonstrable commitment to challenging inequalities.
8. Substantial knowledge of the principles of consultation and involvement, with demonstrable experience of their successful application.
9. Demonstrable understanding of the importance of leadership by people from African and Caribbean Communities and people with mental health problems.
10. Excellent IT skills (including Microsoft Word, Excel, Power point, using intranet and website and social media tools).
11. Willingness and ability to travel throughout England and to occasionally work outside normal working hours.
12. Personal experience of mental health problems.
13. Solid understanding of peer support and its value.
14. Commitment to Time to Change and Mind's aims and objectives.

Desirable criteria

1. Understanding of discrimination in relation to mental health and Race.
2. An understanding of Mind and its networks, or similar structures within the voluntary sector.
3. Experience of working in mental health.
4. Experience of giving, receiving or coordinating peer support.