**Participation request**

**Recruiting to the National Psychological Professions Workforce Group Youth Network and Advisory Panel**

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| **Title** | Young people (aged between 16 and 25) to be members of the Young Peoples' Advisory Network for the National Psychological Professions Workforce Group. |
| **Description** | We want to work with young people who have experience of using psychological services in the NHS. We want to develop a young peoples' network so we can hear what young people have to say about our work. At the moment we have projects about the public understanding of the psychological professions and involvement of people in the training of the psychological professions. |
| **Background information to this project** | The National Psychological Professions Workforce Group is a group that is overseeing the expansion of the psychological workforce in England. It is funded through NHS England/Improvement and Health Education England but based in Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.  We need to hear what young people have to say about our work. We have lots of different projects we are working on.  These include; Increasing the public understanding of psychological professions and Increasing Expert by Experience involvement in training of psychological professions. |
| **Frequency of activity** | A youth advisory network will meet every two months for 1.5 hours. To set the group up we will have two meetings where we will give you information. This is so that our meetings are interesting and feel safe and comfortable to take part in. We will ask you to attend a first meeting to find out more. We will then ask you to decide if you want to continue your involvement. |
| **Preparation time** | There won't usually be very much preparation time needed for these initial meetings. However, if you become involved in additional activities you will need to prepare. Often there might be half an hour's reading. You can be paid for this. |
| **Period of time of this activity** | This role is until September 2022. |
| **Training and Support** | You will be given two hours training session to become part of the network. |
| **Pay** | Once our network is set up we will be able to pay you. However, you may be interested in this role as a volunteer. It is sometimes possible to arrange this so please ask. Our involvement pay rate is £16.13 per hour. |
| **Any restrictions or special requirement** | You must have either accessed psychological therapy in some form or, wanted to access psychological therapy and been unable to access psychological therapy or, are a young carer/family member with experience of helping others access psychological therapy. |
| **Specific role Skills** | * You must be able to work in a group * You need patience - we can't change the world - we have to do things one small step at a time * You need to be able to share your ideas about our projects, (enjoy talking) * You need to be able to listen |
| **Personal attributes** | * Kindness * Willing to abide by the group agreements for each meeting |
| **Support and training** | To take part you will be offered an initial chat so I can tell you more about the role, if you decide to continue this will be followed by two hours training. Following each meeting there will be an opportunity to take part in a debrief. |
| **Literacy and Numeracy and computer skills** | You are welcome to apply if you have some difficulties with computer, numeracy or literacy skills. However, we do meet on Teams and you need to be able to use Teams to take part. |
| **Selection method** | We aim to recruit across the country. We are looking for representatives from diverse geographical areas, ethnicities and backgrounds. We will recruit on the basis of the skills described above and your answers to the question below. |
| **How to apply and by when** | Please send us an email (**No more than 200 words)**  Please tell us why you would like to be involved in this work with the Psychological Professions, what you think you will bring to the network and where you live in England.  Please send this to [Laura.Lea@nhs.net](mailto:Laura.Lea@nhs.net) by January 7th 2022.  If you need help with writing the email, please contact Laura by email or phone at 07738 756992.  We will acknowledge your email and then let you know what is happening next. |