Advisory Board (Peer Support)

The Big Lottery Fund has awarded £3.2m for Mind and partners to deliver a two year programme from 2015 helping make peer support available to all.

Mind’s ambition is to play a part in enabling everyone in England with a mental health problem to have access to peer support. Consultation and research tell us this can be achieved by

(i) increasing the amount of peer support available;
(ii) building the case for the commissioning of community based peer support and
(iii) promoting the value of peer support.

We are looking for experienced individuals to work with Mind staff to form a Programme Advisory Board, details of the role and the programme follows:

Section 1: Key terms and purposes of the Advisory Board

Title: Programme Advisors X6

For: Programme Advisory Board (Peer Support Programme, Networks and Communities Dept)

Other Programme Advisory Board members:
Mind’s Director of Networks and Communities (Chair)
Mind’s Head of Leadership and Engagement
Peer Support Programme Manager
Peer Support Programme Officer
Leadership and Engagement Team Assistant
A representative of the Big Lottery Fund (TBC)

Hours: Approximately four days a year until the end of 2017

Payment: £200 per day (to include half day meetings, preparation and travel.) Reasonable travel expenses will also be reimbursed for each meeting (Advisor meetings, Advisory and ambassadorial work.)

Location: Mind’s London offices and teleconference (as appropriate)

The Programme Advisory Board will have the role of ensuring scrutiny across the entire programme and have an advisory role in the programme’s strategic direction and oversight.

The Head of Leadership and Engagement and Peer Support Programme Management team will be seeking advice from this board to ensure successful delivery of the programme’s objectives.
Section 2: Details of the two year programme

We will make peer support available in nine selected areas across England through a programme of three key strands:

(i) **Develop the peer support market:**
- Award 45 grants to support grass roots peer support.
- Coach and mentor 216 grass roots peer support groups.
- Ensure peer support reaches currently underserved Black and minority ethnic (BME) and rural communities.
- Expand online peer support.

(ii) **Support the commissioning of effective community based peer support:**
- Evaluate the impact of peer support provision on service user defined and clinical outcomes.
- Provide advice, information and evidence for commissioners and policy makers and facilitate events to bring stakeholders together to share learning.

(iii) **Promote peer support:**
- Raise awareness of the value of peer support and how to access it amongst 40,000 people.
- Provide information about peer support to people with experience of mental health problems, service providers and commissioners.
- Develop evaluation and influencing resources for the voluntary sector.

This project has the following key milestones:

**Year 1:**
- 9 locations selected for programme to take place in.
- Grants awarded to 45 grass roots peer support organisations.
- Marketing, communications and local media campaign launches in nine areas.
- 9 voluntary and community sector projects deliver peer support in line with agreed principles, engaging local commissioners in the process.

**Year 2:**
- 216 grass roots peer support organisations receive coaching and mentoring.
- 9 local sites hold the third of three hub events bringing together grants projects, commissioning projects, commissioners and other interested organisations and groups together to network, share good practice and for mutual support.
- Development and marketing of Mind’s online peer support completed so that it reaches 6,000 people with mental health problems.
- Mind’s media and communications activity completes with 30million people having had an opportunity to view it.
- Evaluation completed and demonstrates the effectiveness of peer support and related underlying principles.
Section 3: Responsibilities of Advisors

1. Advise on activities that contribute towards the achievement of the Programme’s outcomes

2. Act in an expert advisory role and provide good quality advice and expert opinion to ensure the objectives of programme are reached

3. Ensure scrutiny across the Programme by supporting effective monitoring and evaluation

4. Act as ambassadors for the programme e.g. attend local programme meetings, speak out in the media

5. Work alongside specific projects within the programme, and as an ambassador for the programme, over a set number of days, allocated to programme areas related to advisor experience

6. Provide expertise, specifically relating to working effectively with people with experience of mental health problems people from BME communities and rural communities

7. Make recommendations for how peer led leadership can be sustained through all aspects of the programme

8. Receive and review reports from the Management Board and use these to inform the provision of good advice and expert opinion

Section 4: Expectations

- To attend Advisory Board meetings and read minutes and papers in preparation for meetings
- Members will be expected to remain in their positions throughout the lifetime of the programme
- To ensure equality of opportunity is promoted and sustained through all aspects of the programme’s work and relationships
- To act in good faith with due care and diligence for the best interests of the programme
- To contribute to forging consensus, working with mutual respect for the benefit of the programme
- To actively participate in meetings
- To respect confidentiality of matters discussed at the Advisory Board, and work in accordance with Mind’s data protection polices and guidance
Section 5: Competencies for Advisors

This section outlines the range of expertise that will be required from our Programme Advisory Board. Applications that demonstrate a wide range of these criteria will be considered favourably by the recruiting panel.

Experience

1. Personal lived experience of mental health problems
2. Experience of working effectively with people from Black & minority ethnic communities and rural communities
3. Experience of working effectively alongside people with experience of mental health problems
4. Experience of giving, receiving or developing peer support
5. Experience of reviewing, monitoring and evaluation data
6. Experience of strategic planning
7. Budget management experience
8. Substantial experience of leading or advising on project development and delivery

Knowledge

1. An in depth understanding of mental health peer support including challenges, best practice and research

Skills/Abilities

1. Evidence of constructive contribution to discussion

Applications

Apply in writing to engagement@mind.org.uk with your CV detailing how you meet each aspect of the above competencies.

Closing date for applications is Monday 5 January 2015

We will invite shortlisted candidates to a selection process in London week commencing Monday 19 January 2015

Please email engagement@mind.org.uk if you have any queries about the programme or the Peer Support Advisory Board.

D. Marshall Nov 2014