**Community Peer Researcher (Sandbox)**

**Role Description**

***Role Title:*** Community Peer Researcher

***Location:*** Portsmouth

***Commitment:*** Up to 10 hours a week for 12.5 weeks / Involvement payments will be offered at £15 an hour (max 125 hours per project)\*

***Purpose:*** To learn research skills, develop and complete a research project, share your research questions and findings with people from the community, and people in professional roles, develop your skills, connect, be active, take notice, and keep learning. You will be recruited into our Sandbox community researcher project and will be helping us learn about the value of community research.

***Role requirements and commitment:***

* Time to commit to 10 hours a week from mid-September to mid-December 2023 (essential)
* Interest and experience in the focus topic (essential)
* Previous involvement in Sandbox research development events (desirable)

***Qualities/Experience/Skills****:*

* Confidence in communicating.
* Approachable
* Personable with a positive, can-do attitude
* Attentive, compassionate listener
* Non-Judgemental
* Self-starter, able to manage your time and problem-solve
* Well-organised
* Basic IT skills (emails/MS Word)

***Training and research activity:***

You will bring to the programme the life experience and knowledge you have developed and your willingness to learn and develop in your role as Community Researcher.

You will participate in training and support to learn about community/peer research. This will be delivered by Solent NHS Trust, most likely at their St Mary's Hospital site.

With the support of this training, develop a project proposal and deliver a research project that focuses on one of the three Sandbox research areas:

o *Cultural understanding of faith-based needs and practices at a time of mourning*

*o Understanding suicide risk (and potential supports) for local young people*

*o The challenges with access to respite care for families with children with Special Educational Needs*

You will summarise your research plan, activities and findings in a report at the end of the project.

***Your Supervision***:

You will be supported in your role by the team at Solent Academy and your local supervisor for the Sandbox project. Your Sandbox supervisor will act as your guide on your project.

***If you are interested in this opportunity, please complete the form below and send it to the email address provided by 5pm on Tuesday 15th August***

**\*Involvement payments will be made through Portsmouth Hospitals University Trust's Research Finance team, following completion of monthly timesheets. Please note that the person accepting payment for involvement accepts the responsibility to inform any relevant tax or benefit agency as to the amount earned. Further details about support available can be discussed with individuals who are interested in this opportunity.**

**Community Peer Researcher (Sandbox)**

If you are interested in this opportunity, please complete the following information and send it by email to: [Gail.mann@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:Gail.mann@portsmouthcc.gov.uk) by Tuesday 15th August. If we get interest from more than one person per topic, we will use the information you provide below to help us to decide who to offer the opportunity to.

Full name:…………………………………………………………… Preferred name and pronouns……………………….

Email address:………………………………………………………Contact number:…………………………………………….

1. Are you able to commit up to 8-10 hours per week for the period between mid-September and mid-December 2023? **Yes/No** (note: it is ok if you are away for a short holiday during this period - but do let us know.)
2. Have you been involved in any of the Sandbox development sessions? **Yes/No**
3. Which of the Sandbox projects are you interested in:

o Cultural understanding of faith-based needs and practices at a time of mourning

o Understanding suicide risk (and potential supports) for local young people

*(Note that we already have a community researcher for the respite care project listed above, from our Sandbox core team.)*

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| Tell us a bit about yourself and what excites you personally about this opportunity **(maximum 300 words)** |

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| Tell us about why this topic is important to you **(maximum 300 words)** |

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| If you are not successful on this occasion, would you like us to keep your details so you can be contacted if other peer researcher opportunities arise? **Yes/No** |

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| The first training session is likely to be on either Tuesday 12th September from 12.30-2.30, or Thursday 14th September from 12.30-2.30 - most likely in the training rooms at St Mary's Hospital in Portsmouth. Please indicate your availability below, stating yes for both dates if you can attend either session:  Tuesday 12th September from 12.30-2.30 **Yes/No**  Thursday 14th September from 12.30-2.30 **Yes/No** |

Thank you for your interest in this project - from the Sandbox team.