

Opportunities with Involve and Leaders Unlocked:

4 x Freelance Youth Engagement Coordinators for MH:2K

One role in each of:

- **Birmingham**
- **Central Lancashire**
- **North Tyneside**
- **Nottingham and Nottinghamshire**

Deadline for applications: 5pm on Wednesday 22 November

The Opportunity

MH:2K is an innovative project to enable young people to influence decisions about emotional wellbeing and mental health.

Involve and Leaders Unlocked are seeking four freelance Youth Engagement Coordinators to join our teams to work on MH:2K in Birmingham, Central Lancashire, North Tyneside, and Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

The successful candidate will be a proactive youth engagement professional, with a passion for empowering young people to influence change.

About MH:2K

MH:2K enables young people to explore mental health issues and influence decision-making in their local area.

It empowers 14-25 year olds to:

- Identify the mental health issues that they see as most important;
- Engage their peers in discussing and exploring these topics;
- Work with key local decision-makers and researchers to make recommendations for change.

Nationally, MH:2K is delivered by a partnership of Involve and Leaders Unlocked, and is supported by the Wellcome Trust.

Locally, the project is working with organisations including:

- Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group;
- Preston City Council, Chorley Council, South Ribble Council, NHS Greater Preston & NHS Chorley and South Ribble Clinical Commissioning Groups;
- North Tyneside Council and Clinical Commissioning Group;
- Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Groups, Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council.

How it works

In each local area, MH:2K involves five stages of work:

- **Recruitment:** Working closely with local partners, we recruit a team of proactive young people as 'Citizen Researchers'. This group brings together a diverse cross-section of the youth population, including those with direct experience of mental health issues and individuals from at risk groups.
- **Design Days:** We support the Citizen Researchers to explore key national and local information about youth mental health. The Researchers determine which mental health issues are most significant for their area. They receive training in research, event design, facilitation and public speaking.
- **Roadshow:** The Citizen Researchers co-design and deliver workshops to engage a much wider number of young people on the priority topics. The workshops stimulate informal learning and gather young people's views on what's working, what's not, and potential solutions.
- **Results Day:** The Citizen Researchers co-analyse the Roadshow data and extract key findings. The Researchers work with local decision makers and researchers to develop strong, practical recommendations for change.
- **Big Showcase:** The Citizen Researchers present their findings and recommendations to key local stakeholders at a media-friendly event. The Showcase includes facilitated conversations about next steps. The project results are fed back to all the young people who took part.

In each local area, an Advisory Panel of key local decision-makers, researchers and other stakeholders informs the project's work throughout its lifetime.

The Youth Engagement Coordinator roles are centered on supporting the Roadshow stage of the project.

Role specification

The Freelance Youth Engagement Coordinators will:

- Be the day-to-day point of contact for Citizen Researchers and their parents, carers and key workers.
- Maintain Citizen Researchers' enthusiasm and engagement with the project during the Roadshow stage.
- Manage and maintain an up-to-date schedule of activity for the MH:2K Roadshow in the relevant local area. The schedule of events will be agreed with the Involve/Leaders Unlocked Project Manager.
- Work closely with the Citizen Researchers to deliver around 25 Roadshow events with young people in education and community settings. These events will be delivered using MH:2K event designs, templates and resources.
- Collate data gathered from young people at the Roadshow events in a clear and consistent manner using the templates provided, and submit this at regular intervals to the Involve/Leaders Unlocked Project Manager.
- Report progress to the Involve/Leaders Unlocked Project Manager at regular, agreed intervals.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Attributes

We are looking to recruit four individuals – one based in or near each of Birmingham, Central Lancashire, North Tyneside, and Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. These individuals must be willing to travel around the relevant area to attend events. The individuals should possess the following qualities:

- Experience of working with young people and communities, including vulnerable groups and those whose voices often go unheard.
- Excellent oral communication skills, including experience leading workshops or events for/with young people.
- Highly organised, with good attention to detail.
- Highly personable with a 'can-do' attitude.
- Technically competent in Microsoft Word and Excel.
- Sensitivity to diversity and an ability to work effectively with people from a range of cultural backgrounds.
- Understanding of, and commitment to, the principles behind MH:2K
- An understanding of Safeguarding principles particularly in relation to protecting Young People and Vulnerable Adults

Please note: The successful candidates will be subject to a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check.

Education and experience

Essential:

- Experienced in the coordination and administration of projects and events.
- Experience of working in a youth or community engagement role.
- Experience of research or consultation, particularly with young people.

Preferred:

- It would be an advantage if qualifications were held in a relevant field such as youth work, or health and social care.
- Experience in events management.
- Experience of designing and delivering training would also be an advantage.

Location and duration

- These freelance contracts are offered in the first instance from January to April 2018.
- The Youth Engagement Coordinators will each work 30 days over this period (days to be agreed upon appointment).
- The Youth Engagement Coordinators will be asked to work flexibly. Some Roadshow events may take place in the evening or at weekends, depending on availability.
- The Coordinators will need to travel to attend meetings and events across the relevant local area. When preparing for, or collating data from events, they will need to work from home.

Pay

The Youth Engagement Coordinators will each be paid a fee of £100 per day and will need to invoice Involve/Leaders Unlocked at the end of every working month.

This fee does not include travel and expenses, which will be claimed in addition, in line with the Involve/Leaders Unlocked Expenses Policy.

Tax and insurance

As freelance professionals, the Youth Engagement Coordinators will be responsible for their tax and insurance arrangements.

To apply

To apply for this position please email your CV and a cover letter to:

- **For Birmingham and North Tyneside:** Sarah Allan at sarah@involve.org.uk
- **For Central Lancashire, and Nottingham and Nottinghamshire:** Rose Dowling at rose@leaders-unlocked.org

Please ensure your cover letter details your interest in the role and how you match the specification.

The **deadline for applications is 5pm on Wednesday 22 November.**

Interview dates

Interviews will be arranged with shortlisted candidates for:

- Birmingham: Wednesday 29 November
- Central Lancashire: Monday 27 November (tbc)
- North Tyneside: Monday 27 November
- Nottingham and Nottinghamshire: Wednesday 29 November

For more information

To find out more about Involve please see <http://www.involve.org.uk/>

To find out more about Leaders Unlocked please see <http://www.leaders-unlocked.org>