

Practice Development Unit (PDU) Lead

Nottingham Community and Voluntary Service (NCVS) is at the heart of Nottingham's voluntary sector, and prides itself on keeping the voluntary sector connected to issues affecting it. We are looking for an individual that can develop and grow our existing Practice Development Unit (PDU), which we have hosted in partnership with Opportunity Nottingham since 2017 and will now be delivering with the new Changing Futures programme.

This is an exciting opportunity to take the PDU to the next level, increasing cross-sector partnerships to influence system change and understanding how to embed the PDU as the learning tool and platform for the local system in the future.

This role will ensure that everyone working with people experiencing Severe and Multiple Disadvantage (SMD) is encouraged to be part of a Practice Development Unit to share good practice, learning and support each other when working in this challenging arena.

Hours: 35 hours per week

Salary: £27,500 per annum

Closing date: 12 noon on Monday 4 July 2022

Interview date: Week commencing 11 July 2022

The role is initially for 18 months with a possible extension dependent on funding. Secondments will be considered.

Download an application pack:

<https://www.nottinghamcvs.co.uk/about-ncvs/vacancies-at-ncvs>

The role involves:

- Developing and growing an established Practice Development Unit to share good practice for those working with people experiencing SMD
- Developing shared learning materials, events and communities of practice, and working with facilitators to deliver learning programmes
- Planning events and learning sessions, including online learning facilities
- Developing, producing and distributing regular e-newsletters and other mailings to members.
- Identifying new funding streams and working with partners to define a sustainability plan for the PDU after the end of the Changing Futures programme.

Our ideal candidate will have experience of working with people experiencing SMD and have excellent research, communication and influencing skills. We require an individual who can develop effective relationships with a wide range of agencies working across a variety of disciplines in the strategic public, private and voluntary sectors.

A detailed job description and person specification is provided in the application pack.

People with lived experience of SMD are central to the Changing Futures programme and the PDU. It is therefore important that your values reflect what people with lived experience of SMD want to see from those working in the programme:

You need to be non-judgemental and understand the power and importance of kindness and showing respect in order to receive it. You need to be able to put yourself in the shoes of the people that the Changing Futures programme will be supporting and be committed to seeing the person and not the label.

You also need to be committed to challenging inequality, understanding that inequality and experience of discrimination can have a big impact on a person's life and on how they engage with services and the support available. You need to be willing to listen in order to really hear and understand people's experiences, their views and ideas. You also need to have a real desire and willingness to learn and grow, with a commitment to your own personal development.

Overall, we are looking for someone that is clearly passionate about improving the lives of people that face severe and multiple disadvantage and who can use that passion to bring about change.

About Changing Futures

Changing Futures is a specialist programme running until April 2024, providing intensive direct support to people experiencing Severe Multiple Disadvantage (SMD), while supporting the coordination of statutory and non-statutory services including housing, probation, mental health, primary care and substance misuse to work around the needs of people experiencing SMD.

The ambition of the Changing Futures Programme in Nottingham is to build upon the work of Opportunity Nottingham, accelerating system change in Nottingham City, evidencing how resources held across partners can be maximised to achieve better outcomes for people experiencing SMD, as well as reducing pressures on frontline staff and services. The programme is funded by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and the National Lottery Community Fund. The lead Partner of the main Changing Futures service in Nottingham is Framework Housing Association.

About NCVS

NCVS is a welcoming, supportive and culturally diverse organisation at the heart of Nottingham's voluntary sector (registered charity no. 1070790). We positively welcome applications from all sections of the communities in which we work.

We expect high standards from our staff, and in return you can enjoy flexible working hours, excellent annual leave entitlement, generous pension and training and personal development opportunities.

NCVS is a disability confident employer. We are positive about disabled people. We guarantee to interview all disabled applicants who meet the minimum criteria for our vacancies. NCVS is proud to be a Living Wage employer. All our staff receive the Living Wage at a minimum for the work they do.

