

Job Description – Dementia Peer Support Coordinator (Peer Support Service)

Peer support service

This innovative project, funded by Brent's Clinical Commissioning Group, recognises and values the skills and talents of people living with dementia. Our mission is to empower a team of peer supporters (and their carers) to support their newly diagnosed peers. The successful applicant will recruit and co-ordinate a team of dementia peer supporters and will help them to share their experiences through the provision of advice, support and the development of enjoyable and culturally relevant activities. The Team can in turn empower and support their peers to live well and independently with dementia in the community within a wider social model of care.

Dementia Peer Support coordinator The main purpose of the post will be:

- To develop a service for people with dementia and their family carers, which utilises the knowledge, skills and experience of people with dementia to assist others and to identify their needs and access services.
- To provide an enriching and empowering environment for people with dementia, building their confidence, harnessing their skills and experience and affording self-esteem and satisfaction
- To recruit, train, develop, supervise and mentor appropriately skilled people with dementia as peer supporters.
- To coordinate the provision of peer support to people with dementia and their carers helping to maintain their independence, improving their sense of well-being, and putting them in control of their lives.
- To ensure on-going emotional support, advice, guidance and information to people with dementia and their carers provided predominantly by people with dementia and family carers.
- To identify the range of support available to people with dementia and carers in Brent, liaise with them as necessary and develop a library of accessible information and resources both digital or physical.
- Publicise and promote the service including social networks.

Person Specification – Dementia Peer Support coordinator.

All of the following requirements are essential, unless marked with a * when they are desirable, and will be assessed from a combination of information provided from the application form and interview process.

Education and qualifications	Application	Interview
NVQ Level 3 or equivalent qualification and or skills and experience	x	x
Experience and Skills	Application	Interview
An understanding of dementia through personal and or professional experience	x	x
An understanding of the challenges faced by people living with dementia and their family carers		x
Direct experience of working with statutory, voluntary, community and faith groups and services.	x	
Experience of working with and engaging marginalised communities	x	x
Knowledge of recent advances in dementia care and support		x
Experience of service development, delivery and reporting.	x	x
Experience in promoting new project including the use of social media *		x
Ability to assess the needs of people with dementia and their carers	x	x
Good communication skills particularly in relation to clients with communication, memory or cognition difficulties		x
An understanding of the need for client confidentiality and the challenges when caring for people with dementia		x
Good organising and time management skills	x	
Experience of record keeping and report writing	x	
* Knowledge of relevant legislation including the Health & Safety and the Mental Capacity Act	x	
Personal attributes / qualities		
A positive attitude towards and recognition of the personhood of the individual living with dementia		x
An understanding of the values and principles of a peer support model	x	x
Able to represent the needs of the organisation and clients externally		x
Commitment to and understanding of equal opportunities	x	
Understanding of the inclusion agenda and its relevance within a diverse society, with a growing number of people living with dementia		x

Disclosure Barring Service (DBS)

- This post is subject to a satisfactory criminal records disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).