**Expert advisor for Dementia**

**Ref: Recruitment of an Expert Advisor for Dementia Workstream in the South West Mental Health Programme Team**

The South West Mental Health Team supports work across the South West region to deliver patient focussed improvements in outcomes and experiences. This is being achieved by linking professionals and organisations together to achieve results for patients that are best delivered through an integrated, whole system, approach.

**South West Dementia Workstream, Expert Advisor:**

As part of the Dementia work programme in NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West, we are currently looking to recruit an outstanding individual to provide leadership to the Dementia work stream.  The post offers an exciting opportunity to make a real difference in the South West Region, to ensure that the overall work programme deliverables are met whilst also supporting the delivery of the objectives outlined in the NHS Long Term Plan (LTP).

This is initially a 12 month role, requiring two days per week. Employer agreement is required and recharge via the employing organisation will be arranged via MOU (Memorandum of Understanding).

The person we are seeking needs to:

* Act as a champion and expert source of advice for all those involved in dementia care in the South West;
* Link to a number of regional and national initiatives to support the development of the Dementia service in the SW, including supporting the improvement of diagnosis, increasing access to Dementia and memory assessment services and ensuring the promotion of access where there are inequalities;
* Support the development of a structure to support the Dementia work programme to include the continuation of the Dementia Improvement Group;
* Attend and be an active member of local, regional and national meetings, as directed by the programme manager, with the ability to Chair and co-chair when required;
* Engage with  key stakeholders across the SW, including HEE, commissioners, providers, experts by experience, VCSE and others across the spectrum of the dementia pathway and establish relationships with colleagues in other regions;
* Be an experienced individual currently working within Dementia Services;
* Demonstrate evidence of ongoing learning and development;
* Be able to commit to 0.4 WTE (2 days a week) for a 12 month period.

You will be supported in this role by the South West Mental Health team and will work closely with the Mental Health programme manager that leads on Dementia.

The  main objectives of the role will be to lead and deliver strategy and ensure engagement is central to the work of the Dementia Workstream in the South West, through:

* Working closely with the Mental Health Programme Manager;
* Being visible and providing expert and corporate leadership on behalf of the South West Dementia work programme;
* Understand, communicate and support the implementation of national policy relating to the Dementia programme and support in delivery of the objectives of the Long Term Plan in the South West;
* Provide professional leadership to the South West Dementia work programme;
* Providing advice and leadership to organisations who deliver South West Dementia Services (Commissioners and Providers);
* Facilitate  constructive relationships with the mental health commissioners with regards to the Dementia programme;
* Foster and promote a culture of expert engagement and influence ensuring South West Dementia Services deliver high quality services;
* Communicate the focus on quality and outcomes from national through to local level and supporting network organisations to feed ideas and input back to NHS England and NHS Improvement – South West;
* Ensure that Dementia links and is prioritised in all other relevant work programmes in the SW;
* Proactively engage and seek the views and perspectives of Dementia voluntary organisations and providers to identify and shape key quality outcomes and care pathway improvements for the Dementia work programme, and represent these views and perspectives through the regional and national NHS England and NHS Improvement work streams for Dementia;
* Engage and develop collaborations for quality improvement across whole health communities for the realisation of equitable access to quality care and the achievement of outcome ambitions for patients;
* Act as a champion, committed to co-design and co-production work with peers and people with lived experience of dementia and their families ensuring their voice is at the heart of activities;
* Work with national level bodies ensuring alignment of policy and service transformation for patients;
* Contribute to the creation of an inclusive working environment where diversity is valued, everyone can contribute, and everyday actions ensure we meet our duty to uphold and promote equality.

If you would like to apply for this role, please send a brief resume (max 500 words) demonstrating:

* Why you would like to provide expert advice and leadership to the Dementia work programme;
* How you demonstrate the skills and qualities required in order to meet the demands of the role;
* Your career to date with leadership positions you hold/have held.

We are keen to recruit to this post as soon as possible, please submit expressions of interest by  0900hrs Friday 29th October 2021. We plan to interview on the morning of Thursday 4th November 2021.

Please submit your application/expressions of interest to: [england.southwestmh@nhs.net](mailto:england.southwestmh@nhs.net)

For an informal discussion about the role, please contact me, Ruth Hall [ruthhall@nhs.net](mailto:ruthhall@nhs.net) or 07796 994459. Please note I do not work Fridays and I am on A/L 11th to 15th October. On these days please go via [england.southwestmh@nhs.net](mailto:england.southwestmh@nhs.net) with any queries.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in this opportunity, please feel free to share this email with them. This includes those in the voluntary sector, non-statutory services, and local authority.

Kind regards

*Ruth Hall*

Mental Health Programme Manager, Nursing and Quality

**Enabling the development and transformation of mental health services in the South West**

NHS England & NHS Improvement – South West Region

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**Please note I don't work Fridays**