

# peerfest

## Peerfest 2017 – Lived Experience Reference Group Role Description

### 1 Background

Peerfest is a national annual event celebrating the importance, power and diversity of peer support. It's a welcoming, inclusive and inspirational event bringing peers together to network, share knowledge and best practice through workshops, creative activities, debate and The Marsh Awards.

Peerfest is overseen by the cross-organisational Peerfest National Planning Team, with delivery carried out by the organisations and groups that can best demonstrate their ability and motivation to meet the application criteria.

### 2 Purpose

The purpose of the lived experience reference group is:

- To provide support and guidance for the successful delivery of Peerfest 2017.
- To promote Peerfest 2017 and ensure a diverse peer-led voice influences its development.
- To provide perspectives on the development of Peerfest 2017 and ensure the event retains the principle of being “peer-led”.
- To assist in identifying appropriate organisations, groups and individuals that may wish to get involved in Peerfest 2017 and deliver workshops / take place in a market stall.

### 3 The Role

The aim of the role is to ensure that Peerfest remains true to its ethos of being Peer-led and input from a diverse group of people with lived experience of mental health issues.

**A lived experience representative on the reference group will:**

- Provide a service user perspective on the development of Peerfest 2017.

- Use any personal lived experience of mental health in a constructive way to represent an objective view.
- Be available to attend Reference Group meetings which will normally take place in the evening.
- Prepare for Reference Group meetings by reading agenda and papers.
- Understand that they will be asked to respect the confidentiality of items discussed by the Programme Board.

**The sort of experience, knowledge and skills that we are looking for in this role include:**

- Membership of, or involvement with, a peer-led group which would enable your contribution to be informed by the views of other people with lived experience of mental health issues; or
- The ability to represent wider community views that will add value to Peerfest 2017; and
- Experience of working on, and with, multi professional groups e.g. NHS Trust Boards, other people with lived experience, School Governors, Private sector business, charity, community, cultural or faith groups; and
- Ability to demonstrate listening, negotiating and influencing skills, with a personal style that is challenging and constructive, but not confrontational; and
- Ability to be solution focused, and to act as a critical friend to the development of Peerfest 2017; and
- Ability to work with others in a team, and demonstrate a commitment to non-discriminatory principles and values.

#### **4 Support**

**Bristol Independent Mental Health Network (BIMHN) will provide the following support to lived experience representatives on the Reference Group:**

- An allowance of £12.00 per hour for attending the meetings, and reasonable travel expenses for travel, in accordance with BIMHN's involvement policy for re-imburement of expenses. You will need to check if this impacts any means-tested benefits.
- Support to carry out your role from a named member of BIMHN.

#### **5 Timescale**

The monthly meetings will run from August 2017 until October 2017.

We are asking people to submit an application of no more than 400 words saying how they meet the criteria. If you need more advice or help please feel free to contact Tom.

**Applications should be emailed to [contactbimhn@gmail.com](mailto:contactbimhn@gmail.com) or posted: c/o Glenn Townsend, Bristol CCG, 5th Floor, South Plaza, Marlborough Street, Bristol, BS1 3NX.**

For more information about this role please contact Tom Renhard, Representation & Accountability Officer for BIMHN: [contactbimhn@gmail.com](mailto:contactbimhn@gmail.com)

**Promoting and supporting diversity**

We value and promote diversity and are committed to equality of opportunity for all. We particularly want to hear from people from black and minority ethnic communities, LGBTQ+ communities and younger adults.

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