

AMBASSADOR FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Role Overview

Lack of connection to activities, support and self-management options in the community is frequently identified during visits to GPs and other service providers as a causal factor in reduced well-being or slow recovery. It is difficult for involved professionals to offer the time to address this.

Social prescribing is a way of linking people with activities and support in the community. GPs and other agencies can refer people to a Link Worker who will give people time to focus on what matters to them and consider what they wish to achieve to support their wider health and well-being needs. Link workers can then help identify community groups, agencies and other assets for practical and emotional support and support engagement if this is necessary. For GPs, this provides a non-medical referral option that can operate alongside existing treatments to improve health and wellbeing.

The social prescribing approach is not new and there have been services in some areas of Derbyshire that use this approach for a number of years. A new initiative as part of the NHS Long-Term plan is widening access to this type of support with the new Primary Care Networks of GPs employing Link Workers, alongside other new roles, in all areas as part of a new model of care that will reduce pressure on hard pressed acute and primary care services, and help patients to get more joined up care. At the request of NHS England, The Derbyshire Social Prescribing Advisory Group (SPAG) is supporting the development and delivery of a cross sector plan for social prescribing in the Derbyshire system. SPAG would like to recruit someone who has experience of a service that uses the social prescribing approach to represent the service receiver voice as a member of the Group. SPAG reports to the Derbyshire Place Board and your view will influence recommendations to this Board. SPAG may:

- discuss new initiatives
- initiate set up working groups that meet over a period of time to look at specific social prescribing related issues
- Take part in pieces of co-production/co-design work

SPAG **will not** take part in procurement and tendering processes

Out of pocket expenses for participation activities such as travel can be claimed with prior agreement of the CCG Engagement Manager.

Support to the role is provided by the CCG Engagement Manager and CCG staff who facilitate SPAG

Key tasks - patient/public ambassador

- To provide a patient and public perspective to considerations about the development and delivery of social prescribing services.
- To read and consider papers and commit to attending any meetings to provide a patient and public perspective.

- To draw on views and experiences from other members of the citizens panel To identify your own support, training and development needs and seek appropriate support from the Engagement Manager

Key requirements of the role

- Passionate about helping to develop and shape social prescribing services across Derbyshire
- Ability to articulate patients and public views from a broad range of perspectives sometimes beyond own personal experience
- Awareness of, and commitment to, equality and diversity considerations
- Awareness of general health and social care issues at a local level
- Maintaining confidentiality
- Openness and respect for other points of view
- Ability to voice opinions and to contribute to debate
- Ability to attend the majority of the 6 SPAG meetings per year
- Ability to make contact with other citizen's panel members

Key tasks and responsibilities - CCG

- To provide patient/public ambassador with a clear project brief/outline
- To provide a key contact for the patient/public ambassador to work with
- To ensure the patient/public ambassador is added to the distribution list so that they are a full and valued member of the project group
- To ensure that the voice of the patient/public is heard at the meeting
- To ensure that any out of pocket expenses, covered by the Policy, are paid in a timely manner
- To ensure that patient ambassador personal details are stored securely and not used for purposes other than those agreed with individuals

How to express an interest in this role

If you feel that you meet the criteria for this role please send an expression of interest to Christine Bell christine.bell1@nhs.net stating:

1. Your relevant experience to date
2. Why you think you might be suitable for the role
3. Your contact details

If you would like to discuss the role you can contact Christine Bell on 01332 888197