

NASP seeks partners to co-deliver regional development programmes to help communities recover from COVID

Introduction: The [National Academy for Social Prescribing](#) is working with partners to develop new regional development programmes to help local voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) groups provide innovative support for communities most impacted by COVID across England, including London, South East, South West, Midlands, East, Yorkshire & North East and the North West. This work will help social prescribing link workers to connect people most impacted by COVID to community support.

Our partners include Natural England, Sport England, Money and Pensions Service, NHS England and Improvement, Arts Council England and NHS Charities Together, who will be working with NASP to form regional support teams, helping local VCSE groups build strategic partnerships across sectors.

The brief: NASP seeks seven regional partners to help us deliver this programme. The new regional development programmes will be launched nationally in late October 2020 and will run to June 2021. The work will include co-developing and co-delivering regional programmes throughout this period. We need partners in place by early October 2020.

Key deliverables:

The successful regional partner will provide a named (full-time or equivalent) Regional Coordinator, who will lead this work on behalf of the provider organisation. The Regional Coordinator will report to the Head of Partnerships at NASP and will deliver the following:

- Co-developing the regional development programme within your region with partners within the regional team. There will be a national framework, summarising the different elements of the programme. Your role will be to translate this at a regional level into practical delivery.
- Ensure effective delivery of the new regional development programme within your region, coordinating the work of our regional partners.
- Provide development support for local VCSE groups within your region, who want to develop their activities for communities most impacted by COVID. Your support will help local VCSE groups make build strategic partnerships with local commissioners, local infrastructure agencies and partners from different sectors.
- Ensure that the programme works inclusively with all communities impacted by COVID, including Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities.
- Facilitate regular catch-ups with members of the regional team, promoting action and effective support for people involved in the programme. Help the team to identify, manage risks and manage resources, including regional budgets.
- Promote the regional development programme and the work of local VCSE projects in helping communities to recover from COVID.
- Work with partners to promote new funding opportunities for local VCSE groups.
- Work with partners to establish effective evaluation for the regional development programme, including who benefits, how they benefit and what impact the programme makes.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of the above, please email enquiries@socialprescribingacademy.org.uk

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- Work with social prescribing link workers and primary care networks (through NHS England) to support the capacity building identified as a priority for the local population.
- Work with existing social prescribing regional networks and existing networks to create an effective regional steering group for the regional development programme, which includes community leaders, local VCSE projects, development agencies, local authorities, social prescribing leaders and partners from other sectors, such as the arts, environment, sport and others.

Person Specification for the named Regional Coordinator role:

- Energetic self-starter who can demonstrate how they have worked proactively to support local VCSE groups and organisations.
- Excellent relationship builder, able to build trusting long-term relationships with leaders across local systems, including with people most impacted by COVID.
- Demonstrates practical commitment to reducing health inequalities and working inclusively with those communities most impacted by COVID, including BAME communities.
- Committed to promoting social prescribing and enabling link workers to connect people to community support for financial wellbeing, nature, arts and to help people be physically active.
- Strong connections with local VCSE infrastructure agencies, knowledge of the VCSE sector and understanding of the pressures that local VCSE groups face, especially under COVID, where resources have been stretched.
- Understanding of the health landscape within the region and the ability to build relationships with the key NHS partners locally.
- Able to nurture community leaders, standing alongside communities most impacted by COVID, support them to get their voices heard and help them create effective local community support.
- Great planner, able to organise and deliver the support programme with partners, identify risks and manage them together.
- Excellent communicator, able to raise the profile of social prescribing with the public and key stakeholders, alongside local community projects and partners.
- Systematic thinker – able to work with partners to create an effective evaluation framework for the programme.
- Good knowledge of the region you will be working in.

How to apply:

Suitable organisations are invited to submit a tender bid by **midnight 8th September 2020**. This should include:

- Summary of your organisation's suitability to deliver this work
- CV for the named person(s) delivering the Regional Coordinator role
- Two referees, latest Annual Report and organisational details
- Summary of your costs, including salary and hours of the named regional coordinator, budget for expenses, equipment provided and any other costs.

Funding and details:

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- Please note that the total funding for delivering this work per region is £45,000, inclusive of VAT, expenses, equipment, staffing and on-costs (30%).
- Successful providers will need to submit two invoices on 01/11/20 and 01/03/21.
- Regional Coordinators will remain employed by the provider organisation.
- Successful partners will provide equipment, including laptops, phones and travel expenses for the Regional Coordinators, within the budget.
- Regional Coordinators will be able to work from home, with regular travel across their regions and monthly national meetings, which may be online, depending on COVID.
- Interviews will be held in the week commencing 21st September 2020.
- Applications will be assessed on Ability to Deliver the Brief (60%) and Price (40%).

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