



Project Manager: Social Prescribing Innovations Programme

The National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP) is looking to appoint a Project Manager for the Social Prescribing Innovations Programme. This is an exciting new opportunity for someone looking for a challenging, senior role with responsibility for overseeing one of the organisation's six national programmes.

The Social Prescribing Innovations Programme is a strategic partnership between NASP and the Royal Voluntary Service.

NASP is a newly registered charity and company limited by guarantee. Our goals are to promote social prescribing and to bring about a social revolution in wellbeing, as set out in the NASP [Strategic Plan](#).

Royal Voluntary Service's (RVS) mission is to inspire and enable people to give the gift of voluntary service to meet the needs of the day in their communities and seeks to ensure this is harnessed to greatest effect in the delivery of social prescribing.

Pay band for: £45 - £50k FTE, per annum, depending on experience.

We would welcome both freelance and secondment applications. In both situations a 3 month probationary period will need to be completed with freelance candidates, moving onto NASP payroll after the probationary period. For secondment applications we would welcome a 12 month secondment, with the option to extend for a further year.

Duration: 2 years with the possibility of extension.

Hours: Full time

Background

NASP is often approached by national organisations wanting to grow and spread their community activity offers. National organisations can lack knowledge and understanding of the health landscape, in particular how to work with local health commissioners and other key decision makers along the social prescribing referral pathway. Furthermore, they often have some funding, but not enough to enable their activity to be spread across the country or to test delivery in a new geographical area.

So, NASP and RVS have come together in a new strategic partnership to deliver the Social Prescribing Innovations Programme with the aim of helping national Voluntary, Community, Faith & Social Enterprise (VCFSE) organisations (and their national partners from the public and private sector) to develop innovative social prescribing

activities and COVID recovery offers, equipping local communities with relevant opportunities which local social prescribing link workers can refer people into.

The Programme also includes a Social Prescribing Accelerator Fund which will support national organisations and partner agencies to increase the reach and effectiveness of the social prescribing offers they have developed/piloted.

The projects within the Programme will help to support people's physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing needs and reduce health inequalities, by supporting national organisations to focus their social prescribing and COVID recovery offers on social groups and parts of the country most impacted by COVID and health inequalities, including older men, those groups most at risk of suicide, children and young people, and Black, Asian and Ethnically Diverse communities.

It will benefit people and communities by increasing the scale and quality of local community activities, improving awareness and access to these activities across the health system particularly amongst link workers and health commissioners. It will also enable people in national organisations to get involved in community activities, as volunteers and peer champions.

The Programme will provide valuable information to NHSE, Integrated Care Systems, commissioners and providers on the critical success factors that need to be in place for social prescribing to play a valuable role in local health economies.

This is a dynamic learning initiative that will build the growing body of evidence and best practice to support long term delivery of social prescribing.

Purpose of the role:

This is a new Programme and for the first three months the Programme Manager will work with the Programme Director to prepare the programme plan & budget for approval in July. Thereafter the Programme Manager will work on the delivery of the Programme. Key elements include:

- A learning programme, which brings national organisations together to understand the social prescribing landscape and how social prescribing and COVID recovery activities are being commissioned across England.
- Peer support for national organisations, where they can share ideas about how to scale and spread innovation both within and between sectors.
- Increase understanding of and support for the role of volunteers and peer champions in delivering social prescribing offers

- Bespoke 1-1 development support to help national organisations to spread and scale innovative social prescribing and COVID recovery activities.
- Connecting national organisations to health and care commissioners across Integrated Care Systems; developing two-way learning that understands and responds to pressures and drivers and so build mutually beneficial partnership approaches.
- Harness the reach and expertise of national organisations to encourage local leadership and boost local community capacity.
- Deliver data to help build an evidence base of successful social prescribing schemes.
- Deliver data on the critical success factors that will support the spread of schemes to new health economies
- Manage the relationships with specialist advisers
- Budget Management - including day to day management, raising and processing payments and reporting

Essential criteria:

- excellent project management and organisational experience at a senior level in a relevant sector.
- at least 3 years relevant experience as a senior project manager including planning and budgeting.
- ability to be work under pressure, prioritise work and be flexible in delivery.
- strong experience of supporting organisations to work in partnership with communities.
- Self-starter, proactive, energetic leader with a collaborative mindset.
- Experience of working at a senior level, including playing a role in influencing internal and external stakeholders.
- excellent partnership and communication skills, written and verbal, both internally with peers and senior management, and externally with partners and stakeholders.

- knowledge and awareness of NASP's ambition with experience in at least one sector (Health, Arts & Culture, Nature, Physical Activity, Financial well-being)
- knowledge of VCFSE sector and the pressures faced as a result of COVID when resources have been stretched.
- Excellent people manager, able to oversee and motivate staff and wider stakeholders working on the Social Prescribing Innovation Programme.
- Commitment to promoting equality and diversity in all aspects of your work.

Reporting to: Director of Programmes

Recruitment

At NASP, we are passionate about creating an inclusive workplace that promotes and values diversity. We know that different ideas, perspectives and backgrounds create a stronger and more creative work environment which means that we welcome applications irrespective of people's age, disability, sex, gender identity and gender expression, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, or other personal circumstances. We also welcome applications from neurodiverse candidates.

We seek to support candidates with relevant lived experience recognising that first-hand experience of what NASP seeks to achieve around Social Prescribing is just as valuable as employment history. We are committed to interview candidates who identify as Black, Asian, Ethnically Diverse or who are disabled.

We have processes and policies in place to ensure that all applications are treated fairly throughout the recruitment process and that we make reasonable adjustments for those who require it. Applications are welcomed from applicants who wish to apply for a position on the basis of a flexible working arrangement. Should a candidate be successful after interview stage, this request will be accommodated within the needs of the role.

NASP seeks to be a truly 21st Century employer and organisation and know that supporting our staff's wellbeing is central to that. For us, our staff are one of our greatest assets.

Please note that whilst NASP has office space at Southbank Centre in London, due to COVID-19, this work will currently be undertaken remotely from home, using Microsoft Teams for daily/ weekly meetings and planning sessions. This will be reviewed in line with Government guidelines.

How to apply

Please send the following to recruitment@nasp.info by 1200 (midday) on 12th May.

- Covering letter outlining how you meet this brief and when you can start
- Your CV
- Expected day / month rate
- Names and contact details of 2 referees, including from latest employer/ contracting organisation

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 18th May, so please keep that date free. For more information and an informal conversation, email questions to above address.