**Wanted: Organised & Flexible Manager to take a lead on the London Hearing Voices in Prisons & Secure Units Project (temporary)**

**14 hours per week, 11,290 – 11,949pa, initially 4 months (August until November 2014)**

The London Hearing Voices in Prisons & Secure Units project is a unique project with a national and international reputation. Launched in 2010, it was set up with the challenging aim of establishing a sustainable network of Hearing Voices Groups in London's prisons. There are now 6 Hearing Voices Groups in HMP Holloway, Wandsworth, Pentonville, High Down & Gartree with a number of other groups in development. The core belief of this project is that it is more effective to build capacity within the prisons to develop groups than to provide them as external agencies for a limited time period. We are interested in culture change, so as well as co-facilitating a limited number of groups we spend time mentoring and training prison staff to better support people struggling with voices in secure services.

We are currently funded by a combination of charitable trusts and income from training, and our current remit includes supporting the development of groups in selected regions outside of London between 2014-2017.

The prison project is composed of a 14 hour per week manager, 14 hour per week development worker and some volunteers/sessional workers as required. The project is one part of the wider London Hearing Voices & Beliefs Project, including: Voice Collective youth project and the London Paranoia & Distressing Beliefs Network. It works alongside Mind in Camden's Phoenix service and our Minor Tranquilliser Support Service (REST).

This post is cover pending decisions on the management structure and the advertisement of a substantive post.

**The Role**

The successful candidate will manage the Hearing Voices in Prisons & Secure Unit project, including a 14 hour per week development worker and a small team of volunteers / sessional workers. They will take a lead on the projects development, ensuring that it meets the targets agreed with funders to develop Hearing Voices Groups and provide training. They will work with the development worker and volunteers to ensure the ethos of the Hearing Voices Network remains central to all Hearing Voices Groups within the project, liaising with partner agencies to help embed the approach within institutions. They will ensure up to date records are kept of activities, and support the development worker to provide training and mentoring to group facilitators and prison workers on 'hearing voices' and related topics. Subject to prison vetting, they will have the opportunity to co-facilitate Hearing Voices Groups when required.

**Skills and Experience Needed**

The successful candidate will have the following knowledge/skills/experience:

**Knowledge/Understanding**

* Clear and in depth understanding of the Hearing Voices Network approach to voices/visions.
* Clear understanding of the principles & practice of Hearing Voices Groups
* An awareness of some of the challenges facing people who hear voices in prison
* A clear understanding of equal opportunities and how this relates to this project
* Knowledge of the provision of mental health services in prison/secure units (essential)

**Experience**

* Providing line management or supervision to staff or volunteers
* Facilitating groups or networks
* Working in mental health services for at least 2 years (in a voluntary or paid capacity)
* Developing and delivering training courses or workshops
* Developing projects or initiatives (in either a paid or voluntary capacity)
* Facilitating Hearing Voices Groups (desirable)
* Attendance on Hearing Voices Group Facilitation Training (desirable)
* Lived experience of hearing voices, seeing visions and/or other unusual perceptions/beliefs (desirable)
* Experience of working in forensic, prison or related services (desirable)

**Skills**

* Excellent written and spoken communication skills
* Ability to deal calmly with conflict and challenges
* Ability to work with groups from different backgrounds, cultures & professions
* Project management
* Excellent organisational skills
* Excellent problem solving skills and the ability to work flexibly to overcome challenges
* Developing & delivering training courses/workshops
* Self-reflection and awareness
* Intermediate or above computer skills
* The ability to use your personal experience of voices/visions to inform your work (desirable)

**If you would like to apply for this post:**

Send your CV and a personal statement outlining **how you meet the requirements of the post** (as detailed above). **Most weight will be given to the personal statement** and the CV itself is for background information.

Personal statements must be **limited to 2 sides of typed A4 paper** (minimum font size: 11pt). Illegible applications, or those that exceed 2 sides of A4 will not be considered). We will then short list applicants on this basis, inviting successful applicants to an interview.

**Deadline** for applications: Monday **14 July, 3pm**

**Interview**: Wednesday 23 July

**Send your applications (CV, personal statement and diversity monitoring form) by email or post to:**

Rowena Dean, Mind in Camden, Barnes House, 9-15 Camden Road, London, NW1 9LQ

Email: [rdean@mindincamden.org.uk](mailto:admin@mindincamden.org.uk)

For more information about the requirements of this post, email Rachel Waddingham, [rwaddingham@mindincamden.org.uk](mailto:rwaddingham@mindincamden.org.uk).

**Please note:** People with a disability who meet all essential requirements are guaranteed and interview. If this applies to you, please make this clear in your personal statement/covering letter/email.

Enc. Hearing Voices in Prisons & Secure Units booklet, Equal Opportunities monitoring form