

SANDWELL ADVOCACY

PERSON SPECIFICATION

INDEPENDENT ADVOCACY PRACTITIONER – Parents, Advocacy Guidance and Empowerment (PAGE) Project

ESSENTIAL:

- A knowledge and experience of providing one to one issue based advocacy.
- Experience of supporting individuals who have a learning disability or autism.
- Experience and understanding of issues relating to the particular health and social care needs of individuals who have a learning disability or autism.
- Sound knowledge and understanding of the fundamental concepts and principles underpinning the effective delivery of advocacy practice within an empowering framework.
- Ability to develop trusting and effective advocacy partnerships with individuals who have a learning disability or autism that are underpinned by an adherence to promote an individual's independence, dignity and respect.
- Possessing good communication skills, the ability to listen, negotiate and promote the concept of informed choice and user involvement.
- Demonstrate ability to effectively promote and raise awareness of issues affecting individuals who have a learning disability or autism and the work of the PAGE Project within a range of health and social care settings, utilising effective presentation methods appropriate for each situation.
- Demonstrate a commitment and understanding of equality of opportunity and an ability to work in a non-judgemental, enabling way and where necessary appropriately challenge discriminatory behaviour and practices.
- Self-motivated and able to work on own initiative, organising and planning tasks, keeping to work programme and meeting set performance indicators linked to the service specification and assessed operational outcomes.
- A commitment to ensure equitable access to the PAGE Project as directed by the needs of those who access the service.
- Ability to maintain positive relationships within the team, offering support to others and contributing to overall effectiveness of advocacy provision.
- Ability to maintain and respect confidentiality.

- Ability to undertake appropriate training in relation to the post and the needs of the organisation.
- Ability to travel locally (particularly when conducting advocacy visits to meet the requirements of the post), regionally and on occasions nationally to attend such events as conferences and training days.
- Experience of report writing and presentation of statistical information and provision of monitoring information for funders.
- A knowledge and understanding of procedures around safeguarding and protection of vulnerable adults.

DESIRABLE:

- Ability to communicate with people who use non-conventional methods of communication.
- Possess (or be willing to work towards) achieving the National Certificate/Diploma in Independent Advocacy Qualification.
- To hold a current full driving licence and have access to a car.