Part Time
Regional Partnership Coordinators

Job pack
Job vacancy

Hearts & Minds
A partnership connecting community-led perinatal mental health support services

Regional Partnership Coordinator

2 positions available: One will be based at Acacia Family Support in Birmingham and cover the West Midlands region and one will be based at Bluebell in Bristol and cover the South West region.

3 days per week @£26-£28k dependent on skills and experience

The main purpose of the role is:

To lead regional coordination and partnership program activity across your geographical region and work collectively with the other regional partnership coordinator and senior partnership coordinator on national partnership activities.

The 3 initial regions of the partnership are:

- The South West, based at Bluebell Care in Bristol
- Birmingham and West Midlands, based at Acacia Family Support and
- Cheshire and the North West, based at Smile Group.

Important information about the location of the role:

This is a regional role with elements of national work and travel. The successful applicant will be based at and employed by either Bluebell or Acacia Family Support. We are therefore asking applicants to consider and indicate their preferred geographical region/ charity base on the job application form. This role will predominantly be based at home with travel to the host charity offices and other locations across the country as and when required.
Context

Perinatal mental health issues affect 20% of all new mothers (NHS England), however, there is a clear lack of consistent support identified at a community level for those presenting with mild to moderate symptoms across England.

The Hearts and Minds Partnership is an exciting new England-wide partnership funded by the Community Fund’s Partnership Programme. The partnership has been developed by 3 registered perinatal mental health charities across England: Bluebell (based in Bristol and the South West), Acacia Family Support (Birmingham) and SMILE (Cheshire and North West).

All 3 charities are connected by a shared vision of connecting and developing community-led, grassroots perinatal mental health support services across England.

Our mission is to:

‘Improve the scope, scale and quality of user-led, local support services for families across England affected by mild-moderate perinatal mental health services.’

We have 5 key objectives:

1. The development of a coherent, connected partnership of perinatal mental health VCS groups and charities across England operating in perinatal mental health, with capacity for greater engagement, learning and sharing best practice
2. Families across England affected by perinatal mental health issues have better access to local, user-led perinatal mental health support services, operating below the threshold for specialist NHS services
3. Emerging and established individuals and community groups are better able to set up quality assured, cost effective and safe perinatal mental health support services
4. The development of a live, updated directory/map of trusted perinatal mental health VCS services – a ‘go to’ guide for families in local communities across England who are actively seeking support.
5. The partnership becomes an established conduit for effective communication and collaboration between strategic bodies and the perinatal VCS sector.
Geographical areas of work

Initially, our partnership will employ 3 regional coordinators (one will act as senior regional coordinator and has already been recruited) to lead regional coordination and programme activity across South West England, the Midlands and the North West. They will also work together on a national programme of work (see below). We are now recruiting for the 2 Regional Partnership Co-ordinators across the West Midlands and South West region.

The roles

Over the next 3 years, our 1 senior and 2 regional coordinators will support the development, training and growth of local perinatal mental health charities, groups, and individuals across their region.

They will also work together to develop a national programme of work that includes:

- Mapping perinatal support organisations and developing an England-wide online digital interactive map
- Running national and regional training events and workshops
- Developing a national toolkit and accredited capacity building resources for local, new and emerging perinatal VCS organisations
- Developing and running regional networks and a national partnership for local perinatal VCS groups and individuals.

This is a fantastic opportunity for someone who is passionate about supporting families affected by perinatal mental health issues and is also an exceptional project manager and self-starter.
Regional Partnership Co-ordinator

Specific activities

Ensure delivery of the strategic aims and objectives of the Hearts and Minds Partnership including:

- Mapping perinatal support organisations in their region and using the information to help develop an England-wide online map of VCS perinatal mental health groups and organisation
- Running regional consultation events to map local perinatal mental health services across England, introduce the aim of the Hearts & Minds Partnership, gather data and evidence gaps in services and organisations training needs
- Organising regional membership meetings and training workshops in how to develop a safe and effective perinatal mental health support services
- Creating an environment of trust and collaboration so that local perinatal VCS organisations see themselves as part of the Hearts and Minds Partnership
- Oversee the collection of quantitative and qualitative monitoring and evaluation data and information from their region that feeds into the evaluation of the Partnership

Work collaboratively with the other regional coordinators to:

- Develop a national toolkit and accredited capacity building training resources for local, new and emerging perinatal organisation – develop and work collaboratively with external contractors/specialist training facilitators
- Organise national partnership events and conferences
- Develop and continuously update an England-wide online map of VCS perinatal mental health groups and organisation
- Attend regional and national perinatal mental health alliances, forums and key partnerships to raise awareness of the gaps in services and campaign for investment and resources into the sector
- Work with external evaluators.
The work will also involve:

- Ensuring all work complies with data protection policies and legal requirements including GDPR and Safeguarding of both their host organisation and the Hearts and Minds Partnership.

- You’ll be employed by and work for either Bluebell or Acacia and as such will need to uphold and adhere to the host organisation’s ethos and values and working practices. Please note: Acacia Family Support is a faith-based Christian organisation and as such, an essential requirement for employment at Acacia is a commitment to Acacia’s mission, ethos and values. This includes a recognition of Acacia’s articles of faith.

- Attendance at meetings, events and training requirements as per the working terms and conditions of Acacia and Bluebell.

The Senior Regional Coordinator for the partnership (already recruited) will have overall responsibility for ensuring delivery of the strategic aims and objectives of the Hearts and Minds Partnership and will provide support and guidance to the 2 Regional Partnership Coordinators.

Your strengths

- You’ll have a strong track record of leadership skills

- You’ll be an agile thinker who can identify opportunities and new ways of working

- You’ll be an adept communicator who can manage multiple partnership relationships

- You’ll inspire confidence and be an exceptional project manager and self-starter

- You’ll be passionate about supporting and understanding the needs of families affected by perinatal mental health issues and will have your own lived experience

- You’ll be confident in organising and co-producing events and activities with others

- You’ll be a great networker, inventive, pragmatic, able to align activities to mutual benefit

- You’ll work well under pressure, be deadline-driven and able to cope with the dynamic environment of a small charity

- You’ll be happy to travel frequently across the region with less frequent travel to meet with other regional coordinators (using digital communication for remote working where applicable)

- You’ll be outgoing and enthusiastic and an exceptional networker and connector.
Your insight

- You’ll be able to think strategically and creatively and build plans with measurable and meaningful outcomes
- You’ll be user-led in your work, keeping local groups and networks’ best interests at the heart of decision-making
- You’ll be consistent in setting up and adhering to systems of monitoring and evaluating activities
- You’ll be empathetic and intuitive, given the sensitivity and vulnerability of families affected by perinatal mental health challenges
- You’ll be self-aware and proactive in your personal and professional development
- You’ll have the capacity to balance the rationality of the mind with the emotive influence of the heart.

Yours skills and experience

- Lived experience and professional experience of working in the perinatal mental health voluntary sector
- Leadership and project management skills and delivering against KPIs
- You’ll have great experience of delivering training and facilitating workshops
- You’ll have experience of developing compelling and insightful training programmes
- You’ll be very confident in Microsoft Office
- You’ll have actively used social media in previous roles to develop virtual communities and keep them engaged
- You’ll be a skilled presenter who can capture imaginations and have an impact
- You’ll be used to tracking data and using this to plan, monitor and react
- You will have experience of creating engaging communications and content for a variety of audiences and channels
- You’ll be a great motivator, inspiring people to take action, helping plan and steer activities
- You’ll have vision and the momentum to create a legacy from the work you do.