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**Job Description – Expert by Experience / Quality Check (Mental Health)**

**Summary of the Role**

Inclusion Gloucestershire is commissioned by Gloucestershire County Council to carry out quality checks at Residential homes, Assessment and Treatment Units, Supported Living, Day Care and private settings across the county and sometimes out of the county. We also visit settings where individuals with mental ill health are subject to legal restrictions due to a criminal justice background. The purpose of these checks is to ensure that people with care and support needs who live in these settings are safe, healthy and happy, and that the care that they receive is appropriate to their needs.

We are committed to these checks being peer-led, meaning that a person who has lived experience of a disability, autism or mental ill health will talk to people who are receiving support services and they will input their views as part of the report. They will also take a key role in the follow up visits, speaking to people to find out if improvements have been made. We call this person an Expert by Experience. Often people with disabilities/mental ill health or autism find it easier to talk to an Expert by Experience who understands what life may be like.

This role may require Covid-19 vaccination due to the work with adults who have care and support needs.

**Job purpose: To accompany a Quality Checking Coordinator on visits and gather information directly from individuals. As an Expert by Experience you will contribute to the report by telling the Coordinator what you found out during the visit.**

**Reports to: Quality Checking Coordinator**

**Main Duties and Responsibilities**

The Expert by Experience will:

1. Complete appropriate training.
2. Attend Quality Checks alongside a Quality Checking Coordinator and talk with residents/tenants.
3. Feedback findings to the Coordinator so that they can be incorporated into the report.
4. Be aware and act on the need to report safeguarding concerns.
5. Help to keep participants and staff safe and confident in their surroundings and act on safeguarding and health and safety concerns in line with Inclusion Gloucestershire’s policies.
6. Advocating for Inclusion Gloucestershire and its projects at meetings and events and within your own appropriate networks.

This role profile is not exhaustive and may be subject to change to meet the operational needs of the charity.

**Essential Skills/Experience**

* Ability to identify good and poor practice in support services
* Lived experience of mental ill health
* Lived experience of the criminal justice system
* Good communication skills
* Ability to establish rapport
* Observant
* Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues
* Able to handle confidential information appropriately
* Able to work to instruction and with a track record of delivery
* Willing to learn and understand different areas of support
* Friendly, caring and understanding
* Reliable

**Desirable Skills/Experience**

* Understanding of inclusion and disability awareness
* Understanding of safeguarding (training will be provided)
* Experience of living or working with people with mental ill health
* Experience of living in a setting with legal restrictions in place

**Values and Personal Beliefs**

Inclusion Gloucestershire is driven by its values, at the heart of all that it does. Teams are expected to share and demonstrate these values:

* Make sure everyone is involved and included
* Empower choice and control through peer support and place Experts by Experience at the centre of our delivery
* Challenge when things aren’t right and give people with a disability, Autism and / or mental ill health a strong voice
* Treat people fairly and always behave in a way that is honest and trustworthy even when nobody is looking
* To be a caring and professional organisation who work together towards shared goals
* Work together to deliver exciting new ideas and support each other, our members and our community.