



The Challenging Behaviour Foundation

making a difference to the lives of people with severe learning disabilities

Role Description: Project Worker: Engaging young people

- Responsible to:** Policy Lead
- Hours:** 22.5 hours per week
- Based at:** The Challenging Behaviour Foundation office, Chatham, Kent (5 minute walk from the train station). Hybrid working considered.
- Length of post:** 3 years (subject to successful delivery of years 1 & 2)

The Challenging Behaviour Foundation (CBF) is an independent registered charity that supports children, young people and adults with severe learning disabilities whose behaviour challenges and their families. We support, equip and empower families through our individual Family Support work, which informs our Strategic Influencing work to drive change nationally based on best practice evidence.

Everyone has the right to have a say about their own life and about wider issues that impact on them. This includes children and young people with severe learning disabilities and profound and multiple learning disabilities. In reality, we know that these young peoples' perspectives are seldom heard.

Building on previous project work (Valuing the views, Stop Look and Listen to Me and Seldom Heard) the postholder will establish a youth panel and, in collaboration with our partners at the University of Kent and project advisory group, creatively engage young people with complex needs and support their views to be heard at a local and national level to achieve change.

A hybrid working arrangement will be considered. Weekly attendance at the Challenging Behaviour Foundation office in Chatham is required. The role will also require regular travel to work directly with young people with learning disabilities, stakeholders and funders.

OBJECTIVES:

- Delivery of the CBF Blagrove "Young People in Policy Making" project
- Undertaking research, impact, and influencing work which meets the objectives of the CBF

- Supporting the CBF's work to influence change in national policy and practice, through direct engagement with young people with severe learning disabilities
- Working collaboratively with other organisations and stakeholders to plan, deliver and report on the project
- Contributing to the CBF's other project work exploring, identifying, and sharing best practice to influence change in national policy and implementation

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Responsibilities will include:

1. Establishing and co-ordinating a project advisory group. This may include:
 - Identifying, recruiting and supporting members to the advisory group
 - Planning and organising advisory group meetings in collaboration with colleagues
 - Preparing papers for advisory group meetings, including co-development of the project plan
 - Delivery of actions agreed at advisory group meetings and co-ordination with advisory group members regarding progress of agreed actions
 - Researching and reviewing information to contribute to the project
2. Engaging young people with severe and profound learning disabilities to hear their views. This may include:
 - Scoping organisations already providing support to young people with learning disabilities to host a youth panel
 - Attending relevant training e.g. Talking Mats
 - Setting up a working agreement with an organisation supporting young people with complex needs
 - Recruiting young people with severe and profound learning disabilities to form a youth panel
 - Assessing capacity and gaining consent or consulting on best interests
 - Risk assessments
 - Building relationships with young people and their supporters
 - Regular meetings with young people to hear their views on key issues
 - Maintaining positive relationships with family carers and other communication partners throughout the project
3. Influencing key stakeholders at a national and local level responsible for the development, regulation, commissioning and delivery of support and services for this group of children and young people.
 - co-producing communications with children and young people
 - Development of a manifesto
 - Linking with colleagues in the policy team to identify opportunities to share the views of the youth panel
 - Supporting organisational planning at the Challenging Behaviour Foundation
4. Developing an evaluation framework. This may include:

- Working with the Blagrave Trust learning partner and project working group to develop an evaluation framework
 - Recording and collating evidence about the project
 - Producing reports on progress of the project plan & regular updates
 - Ensuring regular engagement and participation in learning partner events to share achievements, learning and successful models and approaches.
5. Contributing to internal and external communications of the CBF, including:
- Communicating with a range of stakeholders and CBF networks via email or otherwise
 - Producing materials and posts for social media, in a range of formats
 - Submitting articles for the CBF's "*Challenge*" newsletter
 - Updating relevant information on the CBF database as required
 - Updating relevant areas of the CBF website as required
6. Ensuring regular communication with other members of the CBF team, including:
- Contributing to team meetings
 - Contributing to regular adult and children policy meetings
7. Any other tasks as determined by the Line Manager

This role requires standard employment checks and the appropriate Disclosure Check