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| Position: | Patient Champion |
| Hours: | 4 hour session every month |
| Rate of pay: | £100 per session |
| Contract: | 3 year fixed-term |
| Mandatory requirement: | Applicant must be a registered patient at Spectrum Health |

What is a Patient Champion?

In summary, a patient champion is an individual within an organisation who volunteers, or has a job role, to facilitate change within healthcare. They advocate change, promote it, and are instrumental in ensuring it is implemented.

More specifically at Spectrum Health the post-holder will be pivotal for promoting new ideas for change, they will also support the vision of our organisation and encourage and motivate others to be inspired by their ideas too. As such, the post-holder is important for helping to move new ideas or innovations through initiation and development all the way to implementation.

Roles and Responsibilities the Patient Champion

The role of patient champion in healthcare is an important one. It brings forward change and ensures that our services are constantly improving and working towards a better standard, benefiting both the health service and its service users.

The post-holder has the responsibility to identify gaps and inefficiencies in the way our organisation operates, and must be confident in their ideas and able to speak out. They must value providing high quality care and ensuring that care never falls below this standard. They must also be able to lead the change necessary for improving things internally at Spectrum Health.

The changes that the post-holder bring about can be large, sweeping changes that affect thousands of our patients, or they can affect just a few. For example, they may see the need to bring about an entire new system of working across our organisation, or they may make some smaller adjustments that are just as essential and important.

As an example, an NHS organisation implemented a 'continence champion'. This person brought in a lead clinician for continence assessments and they order any necessary supplies immediately. Prior to the appointing of this champion, a patient would have had to wait for a District Nurse to do this – delaying what they need and affecting their level of care. This change saw the organisation receive an 'outstanding' rating from the CQC: a true mark of the high quality care that they are delivering.

Benefits of Patient Champions

Gaining an outstanding rating, as mentioned in the example above, is just one of many benefits that appointing champions can lead to. In fact, the benefits of having a champion are wide-ranging and can include:

- A higher quality of care for our patients.
- 'Real policies' that make a real difference to patients.
- Improved ratings.
- Increased staff knowledge.
- Greater staff morale.

- A better workplace environment.
- A Patient focussed direction of travel.
- A critical friend from a patient perspective.

Life at Spectrum Health

Spectrum Health is new organisation that formed in April 2020 and is committed to evolving the services it provides. The post-holder will be required to attend monthly board meetings with the Senior Executive Partner and the Senior Management Team and they will play a key role in making decisions from a patient perspective.

To apply, please send a covering letter and CV to:

spectrum.health@nhs.net.

The vacancy shall not be restricted by an application end date and will remain opening until the most suitable individual is appointed.