



## MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE IS LOOKING FOR A A POLICY AND RESEARCH OFFICER

### ABOUT POSITION

Mental Health Europe (MHE) seeks to expand its dynamic team in Brussels. We are hiring a full-time (80% part-time position can be considered) Policy and Research Officer.

**Purpose of job:** The Policy and Research Officer will support MHE's work in the field of mental health across different policy and research fields.

**Duration:** 1 year fixed-term contract, with the possibility of extension to a permanent contract after the first year.

**Starting date:** ASAP

### Responsibilities:

1. Carrying out work on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with regards to persons with psychosocial disabilities;
2. Providing political intelligence, strategic support and expertise in the field of mental health, disability and fundamental rights, including on the rights of vulnerable groups;
3. Conducting research and producing reports on policies and promising practices related to psychosocial disability, human rights, and mental health and its determinants;
4. Supporting MHE's work on mainstreaming mental health in EU policies;
5. Supporting the organisation of MHE events related to mental health and human rights
6. Co-ordinating and supporting the work of MHE's Committees and task forces and fostering close links and co-operation with MHE's members;
7. Contributing to the development of policy campaigning and advocacy strategies, preparing statements, position papers, briefings in collaboration with the Communications and Policy Managers;
8. Liaising with relevant institutions, human rights bodies, and other organisations active at the European level;
9. Representing MHE at meetings and events across Europe;
10. MHE being a small office, other tasks may be assigned from time-to-time.

## **Requirements for the position**

### **Essential:**

- Master's level or higher education and a minimum of 2 years (after internships) of relevant work experience in the area of mental health policy and/or human rights;
- Knowledge of the EU institutions, relevant EU and International policies in the human rights and mental health field, along with experience of policy advocacy work;
- Strong research and analytical skills;
- Good policy awareness with the ability to interpret and communicate policy developments;
- Understanding of and commitment to the psychosocial model of mental health and social model of disability;
- Fluency in English – native level (written and spoken). Language skills will be tested during the interview with a writing exercise;
- Excellent writing skills (research and advocacy reports, articles, project proposals, other publications);
- Strong communication skills and ability to communicate clearly and concisely to a variety of audiences;
- Excellent organisational skills, ability to work autonomously, prioritise, take initiative and meet deadlines;
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work in a small, busy, international team and to collaborate with a varied membership;
- Willingness to travel;
- Computer literacy.

### **Desirable:**

- Good knowledge of other European languages;
- Experience with a European/international NGO;
- Experience of working in a membership organisation.

### **What we offer:**

- The possibility to contribute to better mental health for all;
- A full-time position (80% part-time position can be considered) with a 1 year fixed-term contract, with the possibility of extension to a permanent contract after the first year.
- A competitive NGO salary, according to experience and in line with MHE's salary scales;
- Work in a friendly, creative, flexible working environment at the heart of the Brussels EU district in a small, dynamic, open minded and international team;
- Hospitalisation insurance, contribution to public transport, pension scheme, and lunch vouchers;
- MHE is an equal opportunities employer.

**Applications should be submitted to MHE Director Claudia Marinetti: [claudia.marinetti@mhe-sme.org](mailto:claudia.marinetti@mhe-sme.org) by 08 April 2020. Please specify in the email subject "Application for MHE Policy & Research Officer post".**

All applicants must be qualified, eligible and able to work in Belgium. We are unfortunately not able to provide financial assistance to relocate to Brussels/Belgium.

Applications should include only the following attachments:

- A cover letter (no longer than 1 page) explicitly describing how the candidate's profile matches the different job requirements described above and what is the motivation for the post.
- A document (no longer than half a page) where the candidate addresses the following question: *What do you see as the three key priorities in 2020-2021 for the rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities at European level and how can you contribute?*

- A CV, including details of two persons who can be contacted for references

**Closing date for applications: 8 April 2020**

**Date of interviews: week commencing 13 April 2020**

**Starting date employment: as soon as possible**

We thank you for your interest in our vacancy. However, due to the large number of applications foreseen, we regret that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

#### About Mental Health Europe

Mental Health Europe is a European non-governmental network organisation working for the promotion of positive mental health, the prevention of mental distress, and the improvement of care and community-based recovery. We continuously champion social inclusion and the protection of the rights of (ex)users of mental health services, persons with psychosocial disabilities, their families and carers. We raise awareness to end mental health stigma throughout Europe. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is the foundation of our work. More at: [www.mhe-sme.org](http://www.mhe-sme.org)

