Occupational Therapy Sustainability Volunteers 2016-17

Job Description

Three voluntary positions offered – to support the development of sustainable practice within occupational therapy.

**Host organisation:**

Centre for Sustainable Healthcare

Cranbrook House

287-291 Banbury Road

Oxford OX2 7JQ

t: +44 (0)1865 515811

[www.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk](http://www.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk)

CSH is an independent charity working with clinicians, healthcare managers, local community and service users to create a higher quality, cost-efficient, more sustainable health service. CSH has developed and pioneered the Sustainable Specialties approach to transforming healthcare, and hosts the Occupational Therapy Sustainable Practice Network (OT Susnet).

**Contact person:**

Ben Whittaker

Occupational Therapy Programme Lead

[ben.whittaker@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk](mailto:ben.whittaker@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk)

**Details:**

CSH is offering three voluntary positions within the Occupational Therapy Programme to UK-based occupational therapy practictioners, students or educators. Each volunteer will focus on one of the three following areas of work:

1. Developing the resources on the webpages for OT Susnet, a network for occupational therapists, students and educators interested in exploring sustainable practice.
2. Supporting the inclusion of sustainability within occupational therapy education, and exploring UK courses where sustainability issues have already been incorporated.
3. Writing case studies about current sustainable occupational therapy practice, including the involvement of occupational therapists in the NHS Forest.

Volunteers will be asked to make montly posts on OT Susnet.

Benefits for the volunteer: The positions will give volunteers a unique opportunity to: learn about sustainable healthcare, especially as it relates to occupational therapy practice and education; contribute to developing OT Susnet, which supports the embedding of sustainability in occupational therapy both nationally and globally; gain CV points; and develop skills in writing, web content management, web-based research, networking, designing surveys and producing case studies.

Start and finish dates: To start as soon as possible in November 2016 and work for six months until May 2017.

Time commitment: Four hours per week.

Location: Desk space can be provided in the CSH office in Oxford. Alternatively, work can be carried out from home.

Expenses: Travel expenses using public transport can be reimbursed for activites directly related to your work with us, as agreed in advance with CSH staff.

Supervision: Successful candidates will be supported by Ben Whittaker (Occupational Therapy Programme Lead at CSH) through monthly supervision, phone support and regular email contact. Supervision will preferably take place during Monday working hours by Skype or phone calls.

**Application process:**

* Applications are invited by curriculum vitae and covering letter, should be sent to: [ben.whittaker@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk](mailto:ben.whittaker@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk) Expressions of interest should include why you think you would be suitable for this position and what you would bring to it, which role(s) you would most be interested in, and confirm your experience and commitment.
* Closing date: Monday 14th November, 9am.
* Interviews by Skype: Week beginning Monday 21th November 2016 (tbc)

**Further information:**

To find out more about sustainability in occupational therapy, please see:

* WFOT position statement on environmental sustainability. Available at: <http://www.wfot.org/ResourceCentre/tabid/132/cid/31/Default.aspx>
* COT briefing paper on sustainable development: <https://baot.co.uk/briefings/sustainable-development>
* CSH website: <http://sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/what-we-do/sustainable-specialties/occupational-therapy>
* OT Susnet: <http://networks.sustainablehealthcare.org.uk/network/ot-susnet>

For any further queries about the voluntary posts please contact Ben Whittaker at CSH: [ben.whittaker@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk](mailto:ben.whittaker@sustainablehealthcare.org.uk)

Occupational Therapy Sustainability Volunteer 2016-17

Person Specification

**Essential characteristics**

* Registered occupational therapist, occupational therapy student or occupational therapy educator
* An understanding of CSH’s aims and objectives, and the four principles of sustainable clinical practice
* Enthusiasm for improving the economic, environmental and social sustainability of occupational therapy services
* Evidence of ability to organise and manage own work
* Excellent written and verbal communication skills
* IT skills - proficiency in:
  + word processing and data spreadsheets
  + use of email

**Desirable characteristics**

* Demonstrates previous commitment to sustainable development
* Understadning of issues relating to climate change, sustainable development and health
* Experience of leading or managing behaviour change
* Use of online discussion forums and blogs