

North West
Social Science
Doctoral Training
Partnership



Economic
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Research Council

Breathe Easy North Staffordshire Community Group – Student Consultant

Community Partnerships and Ecosystem
Mapping for Lung Health Support

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Project Outline

Breathe Easy North Staffs is one of 100 or so small, patient volunteer run community groups spread across the UK that support local people who suffer from lung conditions. They are affiliated to Asthma and Lung UK, the national charity for lung health, although they are independent in their activities.

The primary objective of the group is to support people to self-manage their condition and so “live their best lives”. However, people are not just simply medical cases, but much more complicated. Most people with a lung condition have other medical conditions, and all of them live in a community environment with its challenges. All this complexity needs to be considered when planning the delivery of support. It means that Breathe Easy, as a support group, need to work closely and in harmony with the other resources in the community to efficiently and comprehensively provide the support people need.

Project Overview

This placement aims to help Breathe Easy North Staffs (BENS) strengthen its adult community engagement by analysing the local health and wellbeing ecosystem. The project involves stakeholder mapping, partnership strategy design, and exploration of collective impact models suited to grassroots health groups working within complex systems of care and public health.

Key Objectives

- Map key organisations in Staffordshire’s health, community, and voluntary sectors relevant to lung health
- Conduct a systems analysis of collaboration barriers and opportunities among stakeholders.
- Identify examples of effective multi-agency partnerships in community health support
- Propose a model for BENS to engage with and potentially lead coordinated community outreach

Required and Desired Skills

This is a very current topic with the government wanting to move healthcare more into the community and seeking greater collaboration with the community. Stakeholder complexity is a challenge. There is a wide range of disciplines who could add value to, and find interest in doing, the research.

Perhaps most suitable for PhD students in Health and Wellbeing (Public Health), Social Studies / Policy, Sociology, and Community Development.

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Timeframe

This placement will be able to be delivered as a part-time or a full-time placement.

Delivery of the project

This placement is a fully remote opportunity.

Ethics Approval

Not Applicable.

Equality and Diversity commitments

“We confirm our alignment to your commitments. We are not aware of any EDI barriers to this study.”

How to apply

To apply for this role, please complete the ‘Expression of Interest form’ available on the NWSSDTP website (<https://nwssdtp.ac.uk/ripps/>), using the job title mentioned in the NWSSDTP advertisement

Once completed and discussed with your supervisor, return the completed form to Ellie Sandman (ripps@liverpool.ac.uk)

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