



Blood Cancer UK: Community Researcher Role Description

Title: Blood Cancer UK Clinical Trials Community Researcher x4

Reports to: The Social Innovation Partnership (TSIP)

Remuneration: £98.63 per day (London Living Wage £13.15 per hour; plus

expenses)

Duration: 29 July 2024 - 30 April 2025, with the possibility of extension **Timing**: Approx 20 hours per month, with the possibility of extension

Location: London

Application deadline: 20th July 2024, interviews will happen on a rolling basis

About the project

Over 40,000 people in the UK are diagnosed with blood cancer each year, and more than 250,000 people live with it. Many blood cancers can't be treated with surgery or radiotherapy, so for some, joining a clinical trial is the best and only option. A <u>clinical trial</u> is a test that researchers undertake with people to find out if a new medicine or treatment is safe and works well.

Some types of blood cancer are three times more common in certain ethnic groups than in others. Despite this, due to inequity in the health system, they are some of the least likely to engage with clinical trials. Blood Cancer UK wants to learn more about the experiences of Black and Pakistani people living with blood cancer in London and better understand why these inequities exist. To do this, they are working with The Social Innovation Partnership (TSIP) to find out what makes it hard for these communities to access the help they need. This work has been funded by Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS).

The role of Community Researchers

Research identified some potential barriers and facilitators for people from Black and Pakistani backgrounds to access clinical trials and information relating to blood cancer. We want to ensure that the experience of these ethnic groups are centralised during the co-creation process, we are looking for 4 community researchers to support and share their expertise. When we say co-creation, we are referring to the process of working with the community to develop and create ideas that meet the needs Black and Pakistani people affected by blood cancer.



We are looking for 2 Community Researchers from the Black community and 2 Community Researchers from the Pakistani community.

Community Researchers will be trained in various research methods and then supported to co-facilitate workshops, lead local engagement and assist in the development of content. Community Researchers will take part in the following activities during the programme, shaping these as we work together with the wider project team.

This will include:

- Attending Community Researcher virtual training sessions
- Engaging with people who have been affected by blood cancer living in your local community
- Co-creating a safe space for those involved in the project
- Asking and questioning our approach to the project
- Co-developing workshop and listening session content with TSIP to support co-design of the programme
- Co-designing pre-work which can be shared with participants
- Co-designing workshop materials
- Attending and co-facilitation at in-person and digital workshops
- Attending virtual meetings with the wider project team to discuss findings

Working hours will be flexible and agreed with Community Researchers at the beginning of the programme. People interested in filling this position must be able to work in the UK.

Who are we looking for?

Essential

- You must be from a Black or Pakistani background
- Someone with a connection to cancer or blood cancer. This can be through family, friends or your own experience.
- Living or working in London
- Able to work in the UK
- Over the age of 18
- A trusted member of the community who has links and is connected with local groups
- Someone who is able to create safe space for people to speak and share views



You do not need to have a background in research to apply

Desired

- Passionate about health inequality, cancer or blood cancer
- Direct lived experience of blood cancer
- Knowledge of a community language

What does Community Researcher Success look like in the scope of this project?

For community researchers to be equipped to

- Conduct their own co-facilitated engagement with the community, share insights on workshops, listening sessions, activity development and data.
- Have the work of the community researchers be of value.
- Co-own the knowledge that is produced

How to apply?

If you are interested in the role, please contact Veronica Awuzudike by emailing <u>veronica.awuzudike@tsip.co.uk</u> for further information.

To apply click here: Community researcher application form

About us

Blood Cancer UK

Blood Cancer UK is a national charity and a community dedicated to beating blood cancer by funding research and supporting those affected. Since 1960, we've invested over £500 million in blood cancer research, transforming treatments and saving lives. Everything we do in the next five years will be based on a single aim – to stop people dying of blood cancer or its treatment. Blood cancer is a type of cancer that affects your blood cells. Over 40,000 people are diagnosed with blood cancer each year in the UK, and over 250,000 people are currently living with blood cancer. It is the fifth most common cancer, and the third biggest cancer killer in the UK. Blood cancers include Lymphoma, Myeloma, Leukaemia, MDS and MPN.

The Social Innovation Partnership (TSIP)



TSIP envisions a world where the voices and experiences of service users and community members are an important part of conducting balanced research and project work. We want to ensure that more people who are living in a place, and who are experiencing the challenges that organisations are trying to "solve" in that place, are more involved in both local research and the social projects that come out of that research.

Learn more about our partnership here