

Job Description – Health Navigator (Polish speaking)

Fix Term Role: October 2024 – October 2026

Autism Independence

Autism Independence was established in 2013 and has supported families from ethnic minority, specialising Somali families in Bristol who have a child or children with an autism diagnosis. In the Somali community, there is no word that describes autism, yet research shows that there are higher rates of autism in migrant communities in Western countries.

Our vision is to educate and empower people with autism and their families and help overcome taboos and stigma around disabilities. We support families, whose first language is not English, to access mainstream health, social care and educational services by offering tailored support and advice. We help them in a range of areas, including overcoming language barriers, running a support group, and helping them obtain the Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) for their child.

Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of the services we provide. We value the importance of creating an environment where parents network, socialise and support each other along with bringing together different communities.

About the role

This is an exciting opportunity to work with an established and respected Bristol-based organisation and supporting people with autism and/or a learning disability and their families to reach their full potential to access health, education and social care services.

The health navigator will be supporting people from minority ethnic communities to navigate and understand the health system, as well as navigating the education and social care system if required. It is vital that a holistic approach is taken to ensure families get the right support in place either for themselves or for someone they are caring for.

Research shows that health outcomes and life expectancy for autistic people and people with a learning disability from minority ethnic communities are poor. Research also shows that language support can make a positive difference to the way in which people access services.

Support will be offered to families in the following ways:

- Attending autism assessments
- Supporting with autism diagnosis
- Getting people on to the learning disability register

- Going to annual health checks for people with a learning disability who are 14+ and following through on health action plans
- Support with medical appointments and/or signposting to other health support services
- Supporting annual reviews for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP)
- Coffee mornings with different service providers to build direct connections with families we support
- Outreach work/ attending network events
- Contributing to city-wide consultations supporting health SEND agenda

Essential criteria

The successful candidate must have the following skills:

- Experience of either working with children and young autistic people with or without a learning disability, through personal experience or by having a relevant degree or professional experience
- It is essential that the person applying for this role can speak Polish
- Good organisational or planning skills, including organising activities
- Good relationship management skills
- Experience of using Microsoft: word, excel, Google
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

Desirable skills

- Knowledge of NHS Long Term Plan
- Knowledge of the Autism Act, Health and Social Care Act, Care Act, Disability Act, Education Act, Mental Health Act and Equality Act
- Knowledge and understanding of Safeguarding
- Audit and evaluation skills – record keeping
- Critical thinking
- Collecting and analysing quantitative and qualitative data

Our offer

- 20 hours per week
- Annual Salary of £12,480



Autism
Independence



- Flexible Working Hours
- Working from the office
- Training and supervision provided
- Holidays and pension contributions

Closing Date: 13th September 2024

Interview Date: September 2024 (exact date to be confirmed)

Start Date: 14th October 2024