

## Opportunity to become a Young People's Advisory Group (YPAG) member for the McPin Foundation



### About the Opportunity

We are looking for 5 people aged 13-24 with direct experience of mental health difficulties to join the YPAG. The YPAG is a group formed of 10 young people, who meet every 3-4 months to learn about and advise on children and young people's mental health research. They also provide written feedback about different mental health research projects. The group is formed of people of different ages and backgrounds. The Closing date for this is **14<sup>th</sup> December 2018**.

Group members will have the chance to shape mental health research by advising on a range of projects, meet other young people interested in mental health, as well as meet mental health researchers. To see an example of how the YPAG have been involved in mental health research before at McPin, [click here](#)

You do not need to have any research experience to become a YPAG member. We will provide any training that you need. We will also do our best to meet any additional needs that you may have.

### Who are we looking for?

- aged 13-24 and live in a reasonable distance within London
- Have an interest in mental health
- Have direct experience of mental health difficulties
- Willing to learn new skills & about mental health research

### What's required of me?

- Be able to work respectfully in a group with people who are different from yourself
- Some travel to London for meetings, every 3-4 months on Saturdays (with a suitable adult if you are under 16)
- Have an email address and access to the internet to communicate in between meetings, and willing to do some work outside of meetings

### Why Become a YPAG member?

- You will learn more about mental health and research
- You will gain an opportunity to work with researchers and gain valuable transferable skills for your CV/personal statement
- You will meet new people and form new connections
- You will get to develop your own interests and passions surrounding mental health and research

- Your involvement could really make a difference in how we understand young people's mental health. This is especially important at a time when young people's mental health services are in desperate need of change

**Other things you should know:**

- We will reimburse all reasonable travel expenses
- You will be paid £80 per meeting you attend and any work you do for that meeting, and lunch & refreshments will be provided
- You will receive training
- We can give members references for courses or future employment
- We are looking with a range of different backgrounds and experiences

There are 5 spaces available. Please use the application form to tell us a bit more about your interest and experiences in mental health.

**What happens next?**

The deadline for applications is **5pm on Friday 14th December 2018**. Successful applicants will be notified before the end of the year. Note that the selection process will not be based entirely on the quality of applications. We will be selecting based on a range of experiences, so that we can increase the range of experiences and backgrounds in the group. Please send completed application forms to: Please send completed application forms to: [racheltemple@mcpin.org](mailto:racheltemple@mcpin.org)  
For paper copies, please send to: **The McPin Foundation, 32-36 Loman St, London SE1 0EH**

We will be holding our first meeting in January/February. We will ask members for their availability before confirming a date. Members are welcome to travel and/or attend meetings with an adult if they would prefer.

Please note that for successful applicants under the age of 18, we will need to ask your parent or guardian for consent prior to you joining the group.

Need more information? Please contact:

**Rachel Temple at [racheltemple@mcpin.org](mailto:racheltemple@mcpin.org) or telephone 020 7922 7877**

The information you give us will be kept confidential and stored securely at the McPin Foundation offices in accordance with the Data Protection Act. We will only use your details to contact you about the Young People's Advisory Group unless you actively consent to receive other news and information relating to the McPin Foundation.