Become an advisory group member for the Agency, Social Identity & Justice in Mental Health project

What’s the Project?

This project will explore how young people feel helped or harmed by mental healthcare interactions. Mental healthcare interactions offer access to treatment and support from services. However, conversations with young people have revealed that sometimes, services seem to speak a different language to young people. This can lead them to feel that they are not involved in decisions about their own care, like their needs have not been met, and ultimately, that their sense of their agency is not being respected. Therefore, this project is interested in how young people feel enabled to be ‘active agents’ in their care and identify solutions they feel will help, rather than harm them.

To explore this, the project will:

· collaborate with young people, their families, clinicians and academics across philosophy, ethics (the study of what is right and wrong), psychology and neuroscience (the study of the brain) to investigate agency, identity and justice in youth mental health.
· analyse verbal and non-verbal communication in mental healthcare encounters involving young people to examine how young people’s sense of agency is encouraged or hindered in these encounters
· Ask young people to identify their preferences on how best to interview them about their experience of agency and justice
· develop a new study idea to explore the effect on the developing brain of high and low agency in social interaction.

**What’s the opportunity?**

We are looking for five young people aged 13-25 with lived experience of mental health problems to act as advisers on this project. Drawing from your lived experience of mental health problems, you will have the opportunity to shape this project to ensure that it is effective, appropriate and relevant for young people. As part of the advisory group, you will attend face-to-face meetings (some virtual) with other members of the project team.

**What’s required of me?**

- Be aged 13-25 with lived experience of mental health problems
- Live within reasonable travel distance of London
- Attend four advisory group meetings a year with the other young advisers and members of the research team
- Be contactable via email

**What will be provided?**

- Payment of £75 per face-to-face meeting
- Payment of £50 per zoom meeting
- Doodle polls sent to determine your availability to attend meetings
- All reasonable travel expenses reimbursed
- Lunch and refreshments provided

**I’m interested! Who do I contact?**

Please get in touch with contact@mcpin.org with your name, age, address, mental health experiences and reasons why you are interested in the role.

**What’s the deadline to apply?**

The deadline to apply for this role is **Monday 20th April 9am**.