



MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE IS LOOKING FOR A A POLICY MANAGER

ABOUT POSITION

Mental Health Europe (MHE) is looking for a motivated full-time Policy Manager to join its dynamic team in Brussels.

Purpose of job: The Policy Manager will lead MHE's policy and advocacy work towards the mainstreaming of mental health in EU policies, including social, disability, employment and other relevant policies.

Duration: 1 year fixed-term contract, with the possibility of extension to a permanent contract after the first year.

Starting date: ASAP

Responsibilities:

1. Leading MHE's work on mainstreaming mental health in EU policies, with a particular focus on disability (e.g. EU disability strategy, deinstitutionalisation, human rights) and social policies (e.g. European Pillar of Social Rights, European semester, employment, youth, housing);
2. Providing political intelligence, analytical insights, strategic support and expertise in the field of mental health, disability and EU policy;
3. Alerting MHE as well as the membership about threats and opportunities at the EU level of relevance for mental health;
4. Contributing to the development of policy campaigning and advocacy strategies in close cooperation with the Communications Manager: preparing advocacy materials, position papers, briefings, and other user-friendly publications;
5. Supporting the organisation of MHE events and capacity-building seminars in relation to EU policies of relevance for mental health and/or psychosocial disability;
6. Co-ordinating and supporting the work of MHE's Committees and Task forces and fostering close links and co-operation with MHE's members;
7. Co-ordinating and supporting the work of the Policy and Research Officer in their activities on the rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities and of the Policy and Advocacy Officer in the implementation of health and SDG related policy activities;
8. Liaising with relevant institutions and organisations active at the European level;
9. Representing MHE at meetings and events across Europe;
10. MHE being a small office, other tasks may be assigned from time-to-time.

Requirements for the position

Essential:

- Master's level or higher education and at least 5 years of relevant work experience (after internships) in the area of mental health policy and/or disability;
- Excellent knowledge of the EU institutions, relevant EU and international policy in the disability and mental health field, along with experience of policy advocacy work;
- Strong analytical thinking and policy awareness with the ability to interpret and communicate policy developments;
- Understanding of and commitment to the psychosocial model of mental health and social model of disability;
- Fluency in English – native level (written and spoken). Language skills will be tested during the interview with a writing exercise;
- Excellent writing skills (research and advocacy reports, articles, project proposals and reporting, other publications);
- Strong communication skills and ability to communicate clearly and concisely to a variety of audiences;
- Excellent organisational skills, ability to work autonomously, prioritise, take initiative and meet deadlines;
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work in a small, busy, international team and to collaborate with a varies membership;
- Willingness to travel;
- Computer literacy.

Desirable:

- EU and International policies and legislation in the human rights field;
- Good knowledge of other European languages;
- Experience working for a European/international NGO;
- Experience of working in a membership organisation.

What we offer:

- The possibility to contribute to better mental health for all;
- 1 year fixed-term contract, with the possibility of extension to a permanent contract after the first year.
- Work in a friendly, creative, flexible working environment at the heart of the Brussels EU district in a small, dynamic, open minded and international team;
- A competitive NGO salary, according to experience and in line with MHE's salary scales;
- Hospitalisation insurance, contribution to public transport, pension scheme, thirteenth month, and lunch vouchers;
- MHE is an equal opportunities employer.

Applications should be submitted to MHE Director Claudia Marinetti: claudia.marinetti@mhe-sme.org by 02 April 2020. Please specify in the email subject "Application for MHE Policy Manager post".

All applicants must be qualified, eligible and able to work in Belgium. We are unfortunately not able to provide financial assistance to relocate to Brussels/Belgium.

Applications should include only the following attachments:

- A cover letter (no longer than 1 page) explicitly describing how the candidate's profile matches the different job requirements described above and what is the motivation for the post.

- A document (no longer than half a page) where the candidate addresses the following question: *What do you see as the three key priorities in 2020-2021 for mental health at EU level and how can you contribute?*
- A CV, including details of two persons who can be contacted for references.

Closing date for applications: 02 April 2020

Date of interviews: week commencing 06 April 2020

Starting date employment: as soon as possible

We thank you for your interest in our vacancy. However, due to the large number of applications foreseen, we regret that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

About Mental Health Europe

Mental Health Europe is a European non-governmental network organisation working for the promotion of positive mental health, the prevention of mental distress, and the improvement of care and community-based recovery. We continuously champion social inclusion and the protection of the rights of (ex)users of mental health services, persons with psychosocial disabilities, their families and carers. We raise awareness to end mental health stigma throughout Europe. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is the foundation of our work. More at: www.mhe-sme.org

