



Thursday, 14 October 2021

West Yorkshire Health Equity Fellow Proposal



Health Equity Fellowship Programme is part of the [West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership Health Inequalities Academy](#), working towards the ambition to equip all staff with an understanding of the individual and collective action we can take to create a more equitable health and care system.

We have set [strategic ambitions](#) to reduce health inequalities. The need for these ambitions has been reinforced by health inequalities made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Addressing health inequalities requires a whole system approach from strategic planning and leadership to community level service delivery. This fellowship programme seeks to develop colleagues across West Yorkshire who understand the foundations of health inequity and have the knowledge, skills, and courage to build more equitable organisations and communities.



The fellows will be expected to dedicate one day a week of their time to attend health equity training and work on a health equity project. The projects could be delivered in the applicant's usual place of work or it could contribute to wider joined up or system approaches taking place across the area.

Funding is available to support applications from the voluntary community social enterprise sector to backfill time for successful applicants for a minimum of five fellowship positions, from the 30 available.

Programme benefits for fellows

- Opportunity to enhance fellows' learning, skills, and capability to address inequalities through the successful delivery of a health equity project
- Opportunities to expand professional networks through engagement with other fellows
- Link with local public health mentors to embed learning and generate cross-sector relationships
- Attending training delivered by Health Education England and University of Leeds offering access to materials, seminars, and other educational opportunities designed to support the fellowship
- Participation in the West Yorkshire Health Inequalities Academy and Communities of Practice
- Exposure to experts, programmes and organisations pioneering positive change
- Publication of health equity projects on the West Yorkshire Health Inequalities Academy website and across the partnership
- Fellows will be part of a national pilot and learning which will be shared via NHS England / Improvement across the country.



Who can apply for the West Yorkshire Health Equity Fellowship?

- The fellowship is open to all employees in West Yorkshire health and care organisations irrespective of their current job role or current job grade
- Applicants must confirm prior support/commitment from their employing organisation that they will have protected time to participate fully in the fellowship programme.
- Committed to the delivery of a Health Equity Fellow Project
- Agree to undertake the formal learning programme for health equity fellows, which will be a blended approach of in person and online study, for half a day per month over a six-month period within the fellowship.



Recruitment and selection

- West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership will be offering 30 places for Health Equity Fellowships. **Applications will open for expression of interest on Monday 1st November 2021 and will close on Friday 3rd December 2021**
- Applications will be made via expressions of interest
- Expression of interest will include a request for applicants to provide a brief description of a health equity issue in their organisation that they would like to work on during the fellowship
- Consideration during selection will include demonstrated prior commitment and/or passion to improving health equity and reducing inequalities.

- Fellows maybe requested to interview if the programme was to be oversubscribed.

Foundation public health programme

The formal learning programme for health equity fellows will run for half a day per month over a six-month period within the fellowship. It is supported by the Faculty of Public Health and administered through the University of Leeds. It will include:

- Introduction public health; the context and climate of practice
- The Leadership 'Toolkit'
- Coaching skills
- Prevention and a life-course approach to public health
- Tackling inequalities; wider determinants of health
- Health protection
- Quality improvement approaches to reducing health inequalities
- System leadership to reduce health inequalities
- The training is accredited, and fellows will receive a certificate from the University of Leeds on completion of the course.



A lunch and learn session for interested colleagues will be held virtually on Monday 1 November 2021, further information will be available in due course.

For further information please contact

Sarah Smith, Consultant in Public Health, Programme Director, Improving Population Health
sarah.smith23@nhs.net or

Emm Irving, Public Health Specialist, Senior Manager Improving Population Health
emmerline.irving@nhs.net