

## **Mental Health Implementation Network (MHIN)**

### **Role description: Deputy Programme Lead**

#### **The Mental Health Implementation Network**

The Mental Health Implementation Network is led by [NIHR Applied Research Collaboration \(ARC\) South London](#), working closely with [NIHR ARC East of England](#) as well as the other [13 ARCs nationally](#).

The MHIN [launched a scoping exercise in April 2021](#) to identify specific areas of mental health care in England where there is a high level of unmet need, and which could be addressed through existing evidence-based solutions at scale. There was an excellent response to the scoping exercise, with mental health trusts, charities, social and educational services, and research organisations, helping to identify more than 90 mental health needs in England.

MHIN researchers then aligned these needs with those identified by other studies in England since 2015 and a review of national policy documents. Using this approach, the researchers have identified four broad topics of mental health need and their accompanying solutions in England: Children and young people; Comorbidities; Inequalities; Addictions. Working under the four topics, the team will identify mental health interventions that meet the needs of patients and health systems, may be ready for implementation, and are supported by evidence of effectiveness, including NICE guidance. The next stage will be to implement and evaluate implementation of interventions in the 4 priority topics.

#### **About the role**

The MHIN programme consists of seven workstreams and four project groups. MHIN has an overall budget of £1.875 million (with an application for an additional £1.875 million currently being considered by NIHR) and will be implemented in collaboration with all ARCs nationally. An indicative budget of up to £500k is allocated for the delivery of each project (once additional funding is approved).

The MHIN programme is led by Professor Colin Drummond (ARC South London), with Professor Jesus Perez (ARC East of England) as Deputy Lead. With the departure of Professor Perez we are seeking to appoint a Deputy Programme Lead for the MHIN programme from an ARC region historically underserved by mental health research relative to population need, including but not limited to the north of England. We are making this appointment to reflect the wider scope and geographical reach of the MHIN programme which has taken place since its inception in 2020.

The Deputy Programme Lead will work closely in conjunction with the programme lead and co-investigators on the MHIN programme, including workstream leads, project leads, programme manager, project staff and the secretariat. The Deputy Programme Lead will be appointed for the duration of the MHIN programme, i.e., from immediately until September 2023. This is a part-time role suitable for someone already working in the field. The indicative time requirement/salary for the role is 10% Full Time Equivalent.

The Deputy Programme Lead will be expected to have worked in a senior leadership capacity in mental health implementation research, preferably in one of the four project topics, at a regional or national level, and will be familiar with the research evidence, policy, implementation and service delivery issues relevant to the MHIN programme. An existing connection with one of the 15 NIHR ARCs would be helpful, as the projects will be conducted in collaboration with the ARCs.

NIHR's National Priorities Programme for Mental Health, including Children and Young People's Mental Health

The following priority areas are the focus of these four project groups:

1. [Community engagement systems for people from ethnic minority communities to improve access to mental health care \(project 1\)](#).
2. [Integrated physical and mental health care for people with severe mental illness \(project 2\)](#).
3. [Improving Access to Psychological Therapies \(IAPT\)-style services for children and adolescents, especially in schools \(project 3\)](#).
4. [Integrated care protocols for co-occurring mental illness and substance misuse \(project 4\)](#).

The position of Deputy Programme Lead is integral to the role that the MHIN will play in providing a clear and structured environment to support delivery of the programme within the ARC regions, including underserved areas. We are therefore seeking an experienced, creative and strategic individual, who is keen to support implementation research at multiple project sites nationally as part of MHIN's ongoing work.

### Key responsibilities:

1. In conjunction with the programme lead, provide leadership on all aspects of the MHIN programme to ensure delivery of the MHIN programme's objectives.
2. Take responsibility for leading key areas of MHIN work, which will be agreed with the programme lead, reflecting the strengths and expertise of the post-holder.
3. Contribute to and work with workstream and project group leads in supporting the strategic development and functioning of the mental health implementation network (MHIN). This involves working with a variety of internal and external stakeholders.
4. Identify and incorporate initiatives aligned to patient and public involvement and engagement; health inequalities and disseminate across the project groups and the network.
5. Manage and actively promote strong, credible relationships with key stakeholders.
6. Deputise on occasions for the programme lead in meetings and other MHIN activities

### How to Apply

You can submit your application **by 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022**. Please include a brief one-page statement of your reasons for applying for the role of Deputy Programme lead and a short (2-3 page) CV including current and previous roles held, research grants, publications and relevant regional or national roles in the field of mental health implementation. Please send your CV and statement to Ms Flavia Bertini, MHIN administrator at [flavia.bertini@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:flavia.bertini@kcl.ac.uk)

Applicants from underserved areas, and people from ethnic minorities are particularly encouraged to apply.

We would like the applicant to start in April as we have an MHIN programme launch event on April 27th, 2022.

### Find out more about us here:

[Further information about the programme can be found here](#)

### Questions

Prospective applicants for the role are encouraged to contact Professor Colin Drummond for an informal discussion Email: [colin.drummond@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:colin.drummond@kcl.ac.uk)