



National Suicide Research Foundation

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<http://www.facebook.com/NationalSuicideResearchFoundation>

Promoting research and understanding into suicide and self-harm since 1994

Prof. Ella Arensman, Chief Scientist

Dr. Paul Corcoran, Head of Research

Dr. Margaret Kelleher, Medical Director

Eileen Williamson, Chief Executive Officer

Researcher in Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

Applications are invited for the post of Researcher in Mental Health and Suicide Prevention at the National Suicide Research Foundation (NSRF).

The NSRF was founded in 1994 and its mission is to provide a nationally and internationally recognised body of reliable knowledge from a multidisciplinary perspective on the risk and protective factors associated with suicidal behaviour, with the aim of providing a solid evidence base for policy development and intervention in the prevention of suicide and the management of patients presenting with self-harm.

Role Summary

The Researcher in Mental Health and Suicide Prevention will have a background in psychology, medicine, public health or an associated health related discipline. The post holder will be responsible for the overall co-ordination of the NSRF's LE Panel, working in conjunction with the NSRF LE Advisory Group, to recruit LE Representatives for the panel and to organise the co-design activities of the panel. This is a unique opportunity for the researcher to apply his/her skills to an important area of suicide prevention and mental health research.

The role will be complemented by research tasks related to implementing and evaluating a multi-level suicide prevention programme in collaboration with the **European Alliance Against Depression (EAAD-Best)** and providing technical support for international self-harm surveillance and suicide prevention projects as commissioned by the **World Health Organisation (WHO)**.

Directors: M Kelleher J McCarthy B McGale E Cassidy M O'Callaghan J O'Brien K Galway D Flynn C Bradley E Kelleher

National Suicide Research Foundation is a registered Business Name of Suicide Research Foundation Company Limited by Guarantee

Registered in Ireland under number 224676 Registered Office 1 Perrott Avenue College Road Cork

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What is lived and living experience input?

Lived and Living Experience follows the principals of Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE). LE informed research is research carried out 'with' or 'by' members of the public with lived experience rather than 'to', 'about' or 'for' them. For us in the NSRF, LE input involves ingraining the voices of people with lived and living experience into all aspects of our research and practice.

Why do we need LE input?

- To ensure that our research is influenced by principals of **citizenship, accountability, and transparency**.
- To ensure that our research is **acceptable, accessible, sensitive, and representative** of the perspectives of people with lived experience.
- To facilitate **open and collaborative dialogue** between the people with lived experience and NSRF researchers.
- To show that the NSRF is **considerate of the impact of its research** and that the organisation is committed to ensuring **inclusive and patient-centred research**.

Key duties and responsibilities of Researcher in Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

The researcher will work closely with the NSRF LE Advisory Group, the EAAD-Best Project Lead and the WHO Collaborating Centre for Surveillance and Research in Suicide Prevention (WHOCC) co-directors, and will assume the following responsibilities:

- Create and manage all materials related to the LE Panel in collaboration with the Advisory Group
- Finalise a recruitment plan and co-ordinate recruitment of LE Representatives. Recruitment sources include: the NSRF website, NSRF research projects, Local/National support groups, community organisations and other NGO's, GP surgeries and emergency departments
- Coordinate meetings with LE Representatives to facilitate introductions and co-design tasks.
- Schedule and chair meetings of the LE Advisory Group and coordinate an annual meeting of all LE Representatives
- Coordinate the roll out of a short, written survey of experiences as a LE Representative and prepare an evaluation report. The purpose of this survey is to provide an opportunity for feedback on experiences and for us to improve how the panel works, as needed
- Facilitate debriefings with LE Representatives in their preferred form, if requested (e.g., telephone, virtual) and collaborate with the designated NSRF staff in the instance that a LE Representative expresses thoughts of suicide or self-harm
- Facilitate the wider implementation of the EAAD-Best 4-level intervention in at least 3 counties in Ireland (preparations have started in Cork and Kerry), in collaboration with key stakeholders
- Finalise optimisation of EAAD-Best training and awareness campaign materials
- Facilitate the evaluation of the EAAD-Best interventions and iFightDepression
- Contribute to EAAD-Best publications
- Contribute to the development of a business model and grant applications to sustain the EAAD-BEST model in Ireland

- Co-ordinate technical support for countries internationally in implementing self-harm surveillance systems and national suicide prevention programmes in collaboration with the WHOCC co-directors
- Deliver training workshops in self-harm surveillance and national suicide prevention programmes at international level
- Liaise with key stakeholders in the WHO and ensure project deliverables are met

Essential Skills/Criteria:

- A qualification (or equivalent experience) in a mental health/public health discipline e.g. psychology or an associated health related discipline
- Experience in implementation research in mental health or a related area
- Experience in delivering training workshops to healthcare professionals, policy makers and other relevant populations
- Experience of working as part of a team, with strong organisational and time management skills to support a team in working to deadlines
- Capacity to multitask and work closely with project leads and on one's own initiative
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Skills in data entry, data analysis and interpretation
- Scientific writing skills with the ability to write for various audiences

Desirable Skills/Criteria:

- Experience of working with individuals with lived experience or Public and Patients Involvement and Engagement (PPIE)

Salary – Full-time

Salary will be in accordance with the IUA Researcher Salary Guidelines, Post-Doctoral Researcher PD1, Point 1, €41,209.00 gross (Scales 01/10/22) per annum. The appointment will initially be for a period of 12 months with the prospect of prolongation of the term of employment subject to review and funding availability.

For informal enquiries on the post, candidates should contact:

Mr Niall McTernan, Research and Operations Manager, National Suicide Research Foundation.

Email: niall.mcternan@ucc.ie

To Apply:

Applicants are requested to send a cover letter detailing relevant experience, skills and motivation for applying together with a full CV along with the names of two referees to Ms Eileen Hegarty, NSRF Operations Manager by email at eileen.hegarty@ucc.ie. Closing date for applications is 16th December 2022.

Shortlisting will apply and suitable candidates will be notified of interview date and time as soon as possible. Interviews for this position are expected to take place in early 2023 .

The NSRF, at its discretion, may undertake to make an additional appointment(s) from this competition following the conclusion of the process.

The NSRF values diversity as well as celebrating, supporting and thriving on the contributions of all staff members. The NSRF is proud to be an equal opportunities employer and encourages applications from everybody, regardless of age, care-giving status, disability, ethnicity, gender and/or gender identity or expression status, nationality, marital status/civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion/creed, and/or sexual orientation. The NSRF is committed to supporting all staff through flexible working schemes, family-friendly policies, training and development, and staff networks. It values the enrichment that comes from a diverse community and seeks to promote equality, prevent discrimination and protect the human rights of each individual in line with equality legislation.