

The William Templeton Foundation for Young People's Mental Health (YPMH) is seeking a Communications Manager

Initial 6-month contract with possibility of longer-term role

Employment

YPMH (www.ypmh.org) is a charity focused on accelerating the translation of research into innovative early interventions that can be used in self-care, the health and social care system, and the wider mental health ecosystem to improve the mental wellbeing of young people. Our current focus is on depression in young people. We aim to help:

- Prevent the development of first-episode depression in children and young people, enable recovery from depression, and enable people to remain in remission
- Build communities resilient to depression.

YPMH has recently completed a four-year collaboration [University of Cambridge IfM](#). The full findings are described in the publication [Changing Minds, Changing Lives](#), which was published in April 2023. Key outputs from the project include:

1. A model of vulnerability factors and mechanisms for the development of depression in young people over the life course that has helped identify key opportunities for innovation.
2. Forty five validated unmet needs and over fifty projects to address them that can enable the prevention, early detection, diagnosis, management and treatment of depression in young people.
3. Clear recommendations for how people and organisations across society can work more effectively to prevent and intervene early to address depression.
4. Areas for further research needed to underpin impactful innovations in the future.

The role

We are seeking a Communications Manager, based in Cambridge, to:

- Lead dissemination of the findings described in *Changing Minds, Changing Lives*, including:
 - Recruitment of delegates to an event to be held in Cambridge in January 2024, and to a series of online events to be held in November and December 2023.
 - Generating enquiries for participation in collaborative projects to address the identified unmet needs.
 - Increasing awareness, understanding and support for: YPMH's vulnerability factors and mechanisms model; unmet needs and innovation projects; and research priorities.
- Support YPMH's fundraising programme, including:
 - Content to support grant applications to foundations, trusts and corporations.
 - Donations by individuals, and events such as a [piano recital in Cambridge](#).

Activities

Key activities include developing and implementing a communications plan to achieve the above aims to engage the following people and organisations:

- Solution providers, including charities, businesses and industry groups.
- Organisations engaging with young people: Schools and trusts; colleges and universities; employers; custodial institutions.
- Health and social care, including public health; primary, secondary and tertiary care; social care; integrated care boards.
- Researchers, research translation and innovation support organisations.
- Funders, including charities and foundations; corporations; high net worth individuals.
- National and regional policy makers and regulators.

Compensation, terms and location

- Salary up to £40,000 per annum. 10% employer contribution to defined benefits pension.
- 6-month employment contract with possibility of extension, subject to funding.
- The role is based at [ideaSpace West](#), Cambridge, with the option of hybrid working.

Reporting

The role reports to the Founder of YPMH.

The opportunity

The YPMH Communications Manager role is an opportunity to:

- Help address a vital societal need by contributing to the mental wellbeing of young people.
- Contribute to YPMH's development, growth and impact.
- Build on YPMH's outputs to date to enable the scale-up of YPMH's game-changing approach to young people's mental health.

What we are looking for

- **Qualifications:** An excellent first degree. Ideally, an additional communications qualification.
- **Experience:** 5 or more years in a similar role communicating with multiple audiences.
- **Skills:** Excellent planning and execution, and written and verbal communication. Working independently. Planning, prioritising and delivering to achieve goals.
- **Traits:** Effective, friendly and professional communication. Self-sufficient.

Application

The closing date for applications is Monday August 21st, 2023. Please send your curriculum vitae together with a covering letter to peter.templeton@ypmh.org

Further information

What people are saying

The University of Cambridge Institute for Manufacturing issued a [press release](#) in April 2023 regarding *Changing Minds, Changing Lives*. Quotations from the press release include:

- Dr Jon Wilson, Consultant Psychiatrist for Central Norfolk Youth Service, Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust who concluded: "This is a fantastic, timely document. It will be essential reading for any policymakers wanting to understand the drivers for our national mental health crisis."
- Professor Peter Jones, Department of Psychiatry, University of Cambridge said: "Understanding and responding to depression in young people, like virtually all mental health disorders, is a contested professional space. This report from IfM and the Foundation for Young People's Mental Health is a most welcome approach that should act as a Rosetta Stone for different explanatory models and offer hope of real, interdisciplinary progress for prevention, early identification and treatment."
- Alex Christopoulos of the Aviva Foundation noted "By identifying gaps in the system and how they can be fixed, the report identifies the kinds of innovative collaborations needed to make a real difference to young people. It challenges different stakeholders in society – from education to health, policymakers to community leaders, industry and employers – to understand their role in building more supportive, resilient communities that are responsive to the needs of young people. The Aviva Foundation is proud to have supported the report. The initiative will make an important contribution to the evidence base that informs how depression in young people is understood, prevented, managed and treated."