

Developing a Lived Experience Advisory Panel for music therapy & dementia research

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Overview:

Our research is focused on using music to address the needs of people affected by dementia. To work towards new National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) grant applications, we wanted to form a group of stakeholders and experts-by-experience to ensure our new research proposals are meaningful and useful.

The participatory research fund helped us to establish a Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP), which includes individuals with a diagnosis of dementia and their carers/supporters.

Aim and objectives:

To embed public involvement, specifically with individuals with lived experience of dementia, into the funding application stage of our music therapy and dementia research proposals.



Funding of £6,847.68 will be used for:

- Paying for LEAP members' time to attend meetings and review documents
- Holding 1 hybrid meeting, for which we can support travel costs and provide lunch
- Holding 3 online meetings
- A 1-day per week research assistant to help organise and support LEAP meetings and contribute to grant development

Do you want to know more or be involved?

Stakeholders involved:

People with the following experiences are now involved in the LEAP:

- Individuals living with dementia or mild cognitive impairment
- Those who are caring for or supporting someone with dementia
- Those who have experienced hospitalisations while living with dementia
- Those who have had challenges access dementia services or receiving a diagnosis

Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement elements:

LEAP members will advise on the development of new research, including having input into the research questions, research design and the interventions.

Planned research outcomes:

The LEAP will help us to develop research that aligns with the needs of those affected by dementia. Specifically, this group will contribute to grant applications that aim to determine the effectiveness of music therapy for people with dementia and their informal carers.



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