

brainstrust Support Specialists (3 roles available)

We are recruiting 3 new members of our support team, to deliver *brainstrust*'s revered support in

- Wales
- Central Southern England
- North of England

Salary: £26,000

Contract: permanent

Full time: 37.5 hours per week, home based

brainstrust has an exciting positive story of impact and changing lives for the brain tumour community, and we are looking forward to an exciting future where we can help even more people live the best life possible in the face of their diagnosis. Today we are looking for incredible people to be a part of this story.

Why we need you – our mission

Over 80,000 people live with a brain tumour in the UK. 16,000 more people are diagnosed each year. 20-40% of all cancers spread to the brain. Brain tumours are the biggest cancer killer of the under 35s. The disease is responsible for over 20 years of life lost in the typical patient, making it the most lethal cancer. What causes brain tumours is unknown and incidence is increasing. But we know that these statistics don't help you on the day you are told 'you have a brain tumour'.

We know a brain tumour diagnosis is confusing, isolating and overwhelming. We know these problems are exacerbated by not being able to access care and information quickly and easily. And we also know that access to proactive support, a community, and good information can improve knowledge and understanding, reduce anxiety, increase preparedness for events, instil control and improve satisfaction with treatment. That's why we're here.

This is an exciting opportunity to have real influence. Being diagnosed and living with a brain tumour in any region brings about unique challenges. We know that living with a brain tumour in London is very different from living with a brain tumour in mid Wales. As the person on the ground you will understand what these regional challenges are; you'll be solution focused and you'll use the joy of local to build a supportive community in your area. You'll make a big impact in a small and stable (but growing) charity as we continue to grow the sector for brain tumour support.

About you

You will be an excellent communicator, face to face, online, phone or email. You know the power of listening, and you will be the sort of person that brings focus and calm to difficult situations. Prioritising your workload is second nature, and you're energised and driven by a passion for learning and making life better for those with a long term and/or serious illness.

A degree is not essential, but a caring or communication skills qualification is desirable. It is important that you have a high standard of writing, and that you are on good terms with your computer, particularly MS office, email and maybe even salesforce.com or similar relationship management tools.

Working closely with the Director of Services, you will be trained to deliver *brainstrust's* revered, impartial and impactful coaching and information service for people living with a brain tumour, and their families. You will instil empowerment and control in those living with brain cancer in your region, dramatically improving their wellbeing.

If successful, you will play a key role in helping us towards our vision to be readily available to as many of the 80,000 people in the UK who are living with a brain tumour, including caregivers.

You will...

- Continue to build an impactful community for people with a brain tumour in your region through face to face, online, phone and email support, social media engagement and running workshops and events for brain tumour patients and their caregivers.
- Be willing to coach and be coached. Support and training will be provided.
- Support a network of patient support volunteers.
- Support with ensuring that every person living with a brain tumour in your region knows about us so that they can secure the best possible outcome for their situation.
- Refer potential fundraising opportunities to relevant members of the brainstrust team to ensure the sustainability of the project.

The work

You will help to ensure that brainstrust delivers a service which contributes towards our goal of 'instilling a sense of empowerment and control in everyone living with brain cancer' in the region.

What this looks like:

- Work collaboratively with local stakeholders to ensure that patient and carer information and support needs are available throughout the brain tumour journey
- Be informed about relevant health, social care and voluntary sector developments
- Assist with ensuring that information about the patient experience is used to inform decision-making about local service provision for people affected by brain tumours
- Represent brainstrust in health and voluntary sector local networks as appropriate and share the learning internally and externally.
- Ensure information, databases and patient records are maintained confidentially and safely in line with brainstrust's policy
- Support volunteers in service delivery with emphasis on user involvement
- Perform all duties in accordance with brainstrust's policies and procedures
- Undertake other tasks as appropriate to the role
- Work collaboratively with brainstrust team members, sharing knowledge and supporting with the delivery of the Charity's strategic plan.
- To support with monitoring and evaluation of the project.

Apply now

Please send your CV with a covering letter, stating what makes you the best person for the role and which region you are looking to work in. You should email your application to join.us@brainstrust.org.uk and if you have any questions you can call us on 01983 292405

Closing date 17th July with interviews week commencing 25th July.

*Brainstrust is a registered charity in England and Wales (1114634), Scotland (SC044642).
Registered office and postal address: 4 Yvery Court, Castle Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 7QG*