



# MALE MEN'S SHED FACILITATOR(S)

## Employment, Secondment and Specialist Sessional Opportunities

*Bullion Hall, Chester-le-Street*

|                     |                                                                                            |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Programme</b>    | Men's Shed - weekly mental health and wellbeing group                                      |
| <b>Location</b>     | Bullion Hall, Chester-le-Street                                                            |
| <b>Duration</b>     | 18- 20 months funded programme                                                             |
| <b>Session</b>      | Weekly – Thursdays 6.00-8.00pm                                                             |
| <b>Remuneration</b> | Salary / secondment contribution / sessional fee to be agreed according to the arrangement |

### About the opportunity

Bullion Community Resource Centre (BCRC) has secured new funding to strengthen and develop the Men's Shed, an established weekly group meeting at Bullion Hall for men experiencing significant mental health and wellbeing difficulties.

The group has developed from a strong peer and lived-experience base and has focused particularly on addiction, suicide risk and mental health struggles. New funding will allow us, for the first time, to introduce paid external facilitation alongside the experience and strengths already present within the group.

We are looking for an experienced male facilitator - or potentially several facilitators with different areas of expertise - who can build trusting relationships, provide structure to sessions and help participants explore difficulties, develop coping strategies and identify realistic routes forward.

### The programme

Over the funding period, the Men's Shed will work through a rolling programme covering four key areas:

- Addictions
- Anxiety, Depression and Anger Management
- Suicide Prevention
- Managing Change, Loss and Transition

We do not expect one person necessarily to be a specialist in every area. We therefore welcome interest from people able to facilitate the whole programme as well as practitioners with particular expertise who may wish to deliver defined blocks or individual elements.

### What are we trying to achieve?

The programme aims to:

- reduce the negative impact of poor mental health on participants and their families;
- improve participants' mental health and wellbeing and help people move towards less intensive support where appropriate;
- enable participants to stay well and connected within their communities;
- support wider wellbeing through access to activities, community resources and opportunities such as volunteering.

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Company No. 4046498. Registered Charity No. 1084105.

Registered Office Bullion Hall, South Approach, Chester le Street, Co. Durham DH2 2ES



## Working alongside ManCrafted

Bullion Hall is working alongside ManCrafted, which includes members and former members of the Men's Shed. ManCrafted provides a more socially focused opportunity for men at Handcrafted, Front Street, Chester-le-Street, on the same evening as the Men's Shed.

This arrangement is intended to help the Men's Shed retain its focus on participants with higher-level mental health and wellbeing support needs, while providing a less intensive social opportunity for men who are ready to move on or whose primary need is social connection. We recognise that people's circumstances change and that participants may move between the two groups over time.

## Who are we looking for?

We are looking for someone who can create a safe, respectful and non-judgemental environment in which men feel able to talk openly about difficult and sometimes highly personal experiences.

Relevant backgrounds could include mental health, counselling, recovery or addiction services, suicide prevention, men's wellbeing, community support, social care or another appropriate field. Relevant lived experience is welcomed where it can be used safely and appropriately within a facilitated group setting.

You should be able to:

- facilitate sensitive and sometimes challenging group discussions;
- engage men who may be reluctant to use traditional mental health or support services;
- recognise distress, safeguarding concerns and escalating risk, including risk relating to suicide or self-harm;
- respond appropriately to immediate concerns and work within BCRC's safeguarding arrangements;
- maintain appropriate confidentiality and professional boundaries;
- support participants to identify strengths, coping strategies and realistic next steps;
- recognise when somebody needs support beyond the scope of the group and signpost or escalate appropriately;
- work constructively with BCRC staff, ManCrafted and relevant external services.

The role is intended to provide skilled group facilitation, support and wellbeing-focused activity. It is not a clinical treatment role.

## We are open to different ways of working

Rather than restricting the opportunity to one contractual model, BCRC is interested in discussing the arrangement that best meets the needs of the Men's Shed and the successful applicant(s). This may include:

- a fixed-term, part-time or sessional employed facilitator role for the funded period;
- a secondment arrangement with another organisation able to release an appropriately experienced member of staff to work with the group; or
- commissioning self-employed independent practitioners to deliver defined specialist elements or blocks of the programme.

The final arrangement, responsibilities, remuneration and working pattern will be agreed before appointment.



## Safeguarding and checks

Because the group works with men who may be experiencing significant distress and vulnerability, successful applicants will be expected to work within BCRC's safeguarding, confidentiality, data protection, incident reporting and risk-management arrangements.

Appointment will be subject to checks appropriate to the role and contractual arrangement. These are expected to include satisfactory references and an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. Independent practitioners will also be expected to provide evidence of appropriate insurance and any relevant professional registration, qualifications or training.

Past convictions or cautions should not be seen as a bar to applying and will be treated with reference to the aims of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

## Occupational requirement - male applicants

This opportunity is restricted to male applicants.

Having regard to the nature and context of the work, BCRC considers being male to be an occupational requirement for this role under Schedule 9, Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010.

The Men's Shed is a men-only support setting in which participants may discuss highly sensitive and personal experiences, including mental health, suicide, addiction, anger, relationships, loss and significant life experiences. BCRC considers that a male facilitator is necessary to support the privacy, dignity, trust and effective engagement of participants within this particular service.

## How to express an interest

We would be pleased to hear from individuals or organisations interested in all or part of this opportunity.

Please send a short expression of interest telling us:

- about your relevant experience, qualifications and/or lived experience;
- which of the four programme areas you would be interested in facilitating;
- whether you are interested in the whole programme or particular blocks/sessions;
- whether you are interested in employment, secondment or independent sessional work;
- how you would approach facilitating a group of men with significant mental health and wellbeing needs;
- your availability for the weekly Men's Shed session;
- where relevant, your proposed salary expectations, secondment arrangement or sessional/hourly fee.

## Informal discussion and applications

For an informal discussion or further information, please contact:

**Belinda Lewis, Chief Officer**

**Bullion Community Resource Centre**

**Tel:** 07391577041 **Email:** [belinda@bullionhall.com](mailto:belinda@bullionhall.com)

**Closing date:** 12 noon Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September. **Interviews to be held on Thurs 24 September 2026**

**BCRC welcomes applications from suitably experienced people and is committed to equality, dignity, safeguarding and the wellbeing of everyone involved in its services.**

