

Lived Experience Consultant and Peer Researcher: ARC Project



Application Pack



About Us

Survivors Voices is an abuse survivor-led organisation engage in research, peer support and activism. We facilitate a Survivor Researcher Community and specialise in supporting the full participation of people with lived experience in research. We work with adult survivors of all kinds of abuse. You can read more about us on our [website](#) and in the information below.

We work with universities and individual researchers to support their participation work with survivors. This project is led by Dr Sania Shakoor from the Wolfson Institute of Population Health, Queen Mary, University of London. Survivors Voices' role is to support lived experience involvement in the project, through recruiting and facilitating an advisory group, and undertaking peer research interviews. This will be the main focus and responsibility of this post.

About the Project

The research project aims to explore the lived experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV) and its impact on mental health amongst South Asian communities in London. We will investigate the role of individual and societal factors, and intergenerational experiences of IPV in understanding the development of poor mental health amongst Survivors of IPV. We will interview members of the South Asian community with experience of IPV about the impact on their mental health. The advisory group will be involved in planning, data analysis and creating and disseminating the findings.

The project will start as soon as someone is appointed in late January/early February and is due to be completed by the end of 2024.

About the Role

This is a freelance role, for a minimum of 75 hours over the year. Induction, training and support will be provided by Survivors Voices and the research team. Peer support and development is also offered through our Survivor Research Community.

Under the supervision of our Director, Jane Chevous, your role will have two main responsibilities:

- To recruit and support an advisory group of 6-8 members, including people with lived experience and specialist service providers. The group will meet three times: at the start of the project to advise on ethics and plans; mid-way to review findings and themes from the interviews; and towards the end to co-produce and share the findings.
- As peer researcher, supported by the research team, to undertake interviews with 15 participants with lived experience of IPV. This will include time to help recruit participants, establish safety and offer support/debriefing after the interview.

The interviews will take place in London, in an accessible venue. The advisory group will most likely meet online via zoom.

How to Apply

Further information about the role and how to apply are below. There is an application form to complete and return, along with a CV. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to meet online with Jane Chevous and Dr Sania Shakoor. Video applications that provide the same information are also welcome.

If you have any questions, would like help with your application, or an informal discussion about the role, please contact Jane jane@survivorsvoices.org.

Role Description and Person Specification

Role title:	Lived Experience and Peer Research Consultant
Responsible to:	Survivors Voices
Work-base:	Home based, with some in-person work in London

About Survivors Voices

- Survivors Voices is a survivor-led organisation that turns the pain of abuse into the power to transform trauma
- We are part of a Community Interest Company, registered as Reshapers CIC. This means our aim is to improve the lives of the communities we work with and any profits we make must be used to benefit the community
- See our [website](#) for more information about who we are, what we do and how we work.

About the role

This is a freelance role with the Survivors Voices project. It is not an offer of employment.

Purpose: the purpose of the role is to provide lived experience support and facilitation to survivors engaged in projects with Survivors Voices.

Survivors Voices will provide support with good practice, and access to training and supervision. All expenses are paid and free training supplied.

Key responsibilities

Your main responsibilities include:

- helping to recruit and facilitate lived experience advisory groups
- providing peer support for researchers and research participants with lived experience
- undertaking peer research with people with lived experience
- co-facilitating our lived experience and researcher communities and groups

You will be expected to:

- work responsibly and safely according to the policies and guidance provided by Reshapers and Survivors Voices
- take part in required initial training, and regular peer supervision, team meetings and occasional further training for your role (which may be virtual)
- provide references and a current DBS check as required.

Survivors Voices Responsibilities

We will support you in your role by:

- providing a named contact for supervision and support
- providing relevant training, resources and peer support
- involving you in decisions that affect you and reviewing your role at least annually
- keeping you informed about the company and its activities, as a stakeholder.

ARC Project

We are recruiting for work with the ARC project, researching the impact of intimate partner violence (IPV) on mental health in the South Asian Community.

Other work, paid and unpaid, in our lived experience projects and community may also be available but is not guaranteed.

Skills and experience

You have experience of abuse or violence/trauma/mental health issues

You have excellent listening and facilitation skills in group and one-to-one settings

You are committed to inclusivity and anti-oppressive practice

You can hold boundaries and use reflective practice to work authentically and safely

You can work collaboratively in a team, giving and receiving care and support

You can work to the principles of our Survivors Charter

You have experience of research as a participant or researcher, or an interest in this work

You share our passion to ensure the voice of people with lived experience is heard and impacts research, policy and practice.

Applications from members of the South Asian community with experience of IPV are especially welcome. Lived experience of abuse/IPV is a genuine occupational requirement of the role.

Terms and Conditions

Rate: £35 per hour for 75 hours minimum (possible extension, subject to funding) over 1 year January-December 2024

Expenses

As a freelancer, you will be covered by our Public and Employer Liability insurance. We will reimburse travel expenses for meetings or training you attend if agreed in advance with your designated contact. We are unable to pay for travel time. We will agree milestones with you and a payment schedule related to achieving these, either monthly in arrears or by milestone. You are responsible for any requirements to register and pay income tax or insurance, and must have permission to work in the UK.

Jane Chevous

Director Reshapers CIC, January 2024

Post Name: Freelance Lived Experience Consultant

Please complete all the sections below. We ask all freelancers to complete this so our team is a safe, enjoyable and rewarding place to work. You are welcome to submit some or all of the information by video or voice recording instead, if you wish.

About you

Full name, including title	
Date of birth	
Address line 1	
Address line 2	
Town/City	
County	
Post code (essential)	
Email	
Mobile phone	
Daytime phone	
Nationality	
Citizenship status <i>(we may need to confirm that you have the right to work in the UK)</i>	

Working with us

Please provide details of your experience in relation to the role you are interested in, so we can ensure you are in the best role and have the right support.

For safeguarding purposes, we require every worker to provide a CV with complete job history. Please attach your CV to your application. We can provide a blank CV template if you need one.

Experience: <i>(please summarise the experience you bring to the role you are interested in. It may be from your work, voluntary roles or your life experience.)</i>	
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Qualifications and Training <i>(Please list any recent training and qualifications relevant for the role you are applying for. e.g. Safeguarding training.)</i>	
Why do you want to work with us?	

References

Please provide contact details of two referees, normally your current employer/tutor or a character reference. We will contact them (by email if possible) to fulfil our safeguarding responsibilities.

Name	
Organisation	
Position	
Relationship to you	
Address	
Email	
Phone number	

Name	
Organisation	
Position	
Relationship to you	
Address	
Email	
Phone number	

Support

Do you have a disability or impairment? This includes a physical or mental health condition or learning disability can affect your normal day-to-day activities.

Yes No Are you registered disabled? Yes No

If you have answered Yes to either question please provide details of any reasonable adjustments you may need us to make or other ways that we can help you to get the best from your work with us.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Checks

If your role will include any unsupervised contact with children, young people or regulated activities with adults we will ask you to consent to the relevant Disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau. This is to ensure we safeguard everyone we work with. You do not have to consent to these checks being carried out, but if you don't consent we may change or end your role with us.

Data protection and Confidentiality

The information that you provide on this form and that we receive from your referee will be used to complete your appointment and ensure our practice is safe. Information will be shared confidentially only with your named supervisor and the Directors as required. We will keep your details securely and confidentially, according to Data Protection and Privacy legislation and will not pass information on without your permission. The only exceptions to this are if information you disclose to us leads us to suspect that anyone is at risk of significant harm, when our safeguarding procedures will apply; or if required by law for example to prevent or detect a criminal act. Please see the Staff Handbook for further information.

Declaration

Please sign below to confirm that your information is correct and that you are happy for us to use and keep your details for appointment and safeguarding purposes.

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the information given on this form is correct. I understand that providing misleading or false information may disqualify me from appointment or end my role with Reshapers.

I give my permission for Reshapers to keep my details for appointment and safeguarding purposes. I understand information will be held confidentially, except where safeguarding or legal procedures apply.

Signed:

Date:

Please return this form to jane@survivorsvoices.org marked CONFIDENTIAL

About Survivors Voices



Who we are

Survivors Voices is an abuse survivor-led organisation that turns the pain of abuse into power to improve responses to trauma. We work with survivors of all types of abuse.

We are part of Reshapers CIC, a non-profit organisation. Our work is undertaken by an experienced network of volunteers and freelancers from a variety of backgrounds. We are all 'experts by experience'.

What we do

We run **peer support** groups and **creative healing retreats** for survivors, and **peer networks** for survivor researchers, writers, activists and those in faith settings.

We **educate** about abuse and trauma-informed practice. We can speak at your event or run training or workshops.

We **research** survivor experience of abuse, safeguarding, help-seeking and recovery. We can help you to engage well with survivors in your research project.

We promote **dialogue** and **change** through activism, such as **LOUDfence**.

We **publish** research and resources for survivors and those who work with them.

We work anywhere to engage and amplify the **voice of survivors**. If you are a survivor who needs support or wants to be heard, a professional or service who wants to listen, or an ally who wants to support us, we want to hear from you. connect@survivorsvoices.org

Connect with us

Sign up to our newsletter and learn more about us and our work on our website www.survivorsvoices.org

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/survivorsvoicesuk/>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/voiceofsurvivor>