



Volunteering Opportunity with Amnesty International Ireland

Mental Health and Human Rights Leaders

Amnesty International Ireland (AI) has a long-term goal of making real in Ireland Article 12 of the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, that all people have the right to the highest attainable standard of mental health.

This campaign has been ground-breaking in its development, working in partnership with an advisory group of experts by experience to determine exactly the changes that are needed. You can be apart of this exciting campaign.

Our two-year programme of work will run until June 2011 and will seek a social approach in response to mental health that is focused on people's rights, in particular the right to live a full life in the community. The campaign will focus on using the human rights framework to demand action from Government. In order to demand that this changes we need to mobilise individuals to take action and contact their elected representatives to make mental health a political priority. You can help to achieve this.

As a Mental Health and Human Rights Leader you will:

- Provide a local point of information on AI's campaign within your community; for example by addressing local community groups.
- Proactively network to create new supporters for the campaign and link with other groups active on mental health issues; for example by holding networking evenings.
- Engage directly with local elected officials by lobbying them on the issue of mental health
- Encourage and train people to take action on mental health and human rights in ways that are appropriate to them – by delivering lobbying training, leading delegations, assisting people to identify decision makers.
- Be familiar with AI's campaign goals, materials and resources
- Be willing to attend occasional updating/training sessions with AI
- Engage with local media in order to raise the profile of the campaign
- Participate in community based anti-discrimination initiatives led by AI
- Complete feedback forms and maintain regular contact with the head office.

In return we'll give you the support you need:

- All new volunteers will receive training on AI's work, delivering talks and training, and engaging new supporters

- You will be supported by a dedicated member of staff who has responsibility for the personal support of volunteers.
- Comprehensive resources and how-to guides for holding events, training and for developing regional strategies.

Experience:

No formal experience is necessary. AI will provide you with full training. Your commitment and passion to human rights and mental health will be your greatest asset.

In particular, you do not need formal training in human rights or mental health, though obviously this would be an advantage.

Commitment:

Time commitment is flexible. We would aim for volunteers to carry out one action at least every two months.

Benefits:

This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone who would like to boost their skills and gain experience in the voluntary sector. The skills used such as public speaking, time-management, training and community sector engagement are very attractive to potential employers.

Application forms are available on www.amnesty.ie/mentalhealth

Closes: 19 August 2009
To Apply: mentalhealth@amnesty.ie
Website: www.amnesty.ie/mentalhealth

For more information call Barry Johnston on 018638300



Mental Health and Human Rights Leader Application Form

Amnesty International Ireland
 First Floor, Ballast House, Westmoreland Street, Dublin 2 Tel: +353 (0) 1 863 8300
 E-mail: mentalhealth@amnesty.ie
 Web: www.amnesty.ie/mentalhealth

IMPORTANT NOTE: Due to the high level of interest in volunteer work with Amnesty International Irish Section, we are unable to accommodate every applicant. **You may attach a CV to this application form if you wish.**

Date of application:	
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Personal Details	
Name:	
Address:	
Telephone	
Email:	
Emergency Contact:	
(Note to overseas applicants: please provide contact details of someone living locally)	

Are you a fluent speaker of English?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have fluent written English?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Availability

Please note that Leaders are required to be available for at least **six months**. Training will be provided commencing in **September 2009**.

I am available: Mornings Afternoons

Starting Date: _____

Would you like to receive regular updates on Amnesty International's mental health and human rights campaign? Yes No

Would you like to receive updates on other volunteering opportunities and other campaigns with Amnesty International? Yes No

In the space given below, please state why you are interested in becoming a Mental Health and Human Rights Leader. Feel free to include any information that you think will be relevant. You can attach extra pages if you wish.

Declaration (Confidential):

Have you ever been convicted of a Criminal Offence or been the subject of a Caution or of a Bound Over Order?

Yes No

Signed: _____

If yes, please state below the nature and date (s) of the offence (s):

Nature of Offence

Date of Offence

I confirm that nothing within my personal or professional background deems me unsuitable for a post that involves working with children.

Confidentiality Statement

In the course of you work, you may be dealing with information that is confidential e.g. embargoed reports, refugee and prisoner files, and finance and business procedures. Such information should never be disclosed during or after your work in the Irish Section office to any person or organisation without the express permission of the Directorate.

I agree to maintain the confidentiality of information relating to Amnesty International

I confirm that all of the information contained in this application is true to the best of my knowledge.

References

Please provide the names and addresses of two people whom we could contact for a reference (not relatives).

Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
Telephone:	Telephone:

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this application. **Please attach your CV if including one and return it with this application.**

Signed: _____

Date: _____

For Office use:
