



Summer 2019



Here's Advocacy

RECOVERY ADVOCACY

We are delighted to have received funding from both the Highland Drug & Alcohol Partnership and the Scottish Recovery Consortium, to develop the provision of advocacy for people with drug and alcohol issues in the Highlands.

We are currently seeking volunteers with lived experience, both individuals and those affected by another's substance use.

Our volunteers of every age come from all walks of life, are good listeners and care about people. Even a few hours per month can be of help.



We provide free training to anyone who is interested and who has the necessary qualities. Your expenses are paid. Please get in touch to find out more about this rewarding role – we need volunteers from across the Highlands.

We have locally based Co-ordinators, who will support you, in Lochaber, Caithness & Sutherland, Ross & Cromarty, Skye & Lochalsh and Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey.

For more information about becoming a volunteer advocate, about advocacy support, or if you would like someone to give a talk to your group, please get in contact with us - see details below.



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DRUG & ALCOHOL RECOVERY

The Scottish Government acknowledge that, there are strong and clear links between: poverty; deprivation; mental health and wellbeing; health inequalities; repeat offending; victimisation; and drug addiction.... addressing wider inequalities such as housing, income, education and health can play an important role in reducing drug misuse.

Recovery Advocacy support was identified as a key issue by the Scottish Recovery Consortium after extensive consultation with communities across Scotland.

In addition, Highland Drug and Alcohol Partnership, after consultation with stakeholders, has also identified advocacy provision as a priority need for people accessing its services.

People with drug and alcohol addiction represent one of the most marginalised groups in the Highlands and also the most stigmatised.

We hope that the Recovery Community will be extensively involved in Advocacy Highland – both in terms of accessing the support that we offer, but also in delivering key elements e.g. through recruitment, volunteer advocacy, training and mentoring.



In addition our project forms part of a wider approach based on the Scottish Government's new Rights, Respect and Recovery Strategy to 'listen to the voices of lived and living experience to develop, design and deliver treatment, recovery services, interventions and approaches'.

Thanks to everyone who voted for us in the Scottish Finals — sadly we didn't win but we were so pleased to have been nominated in Scotlands Business Awards



Thank you

**Thank you
to the
Highland
Drug & Alcohol
Project
and the
Scottish Recovery
Consortium
for the
recent funding**

Keep this date in your diary

Advocacy Highland AGM

19th September 2019



Advocacy Funding

NHS Highland has awarded the I:I Advocacy contract, following the recent tendering process, to Advocacy Highland.

We are delighted to receive this core funding, particularly with a five year contract.

This gives us much needed stability and allows us to continue to provide this statutory advocacy support under the terms of the Mental Health Care & Treatment (Scotland)(Act) 2003.

Thank-you



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