



HOMELESS HEALTH PEER ADVOCACY SERVICE

Who it's for and how to refer

WHO WE ARE

The Homeless Health Peer Advocacy (HHPA) service supports people experiencing homelessness to address health issues.

This service is coordinated by Light Project Peterborough (LPP) who are a charity supporting those in need within the city.

Our Peer Advocates have all experienced homelessness themselves. They go through a rigorous selection procedure, including DBS checks, attend a comprehensive training programme, and receive support and supervision to enable them to carry out the role safely.



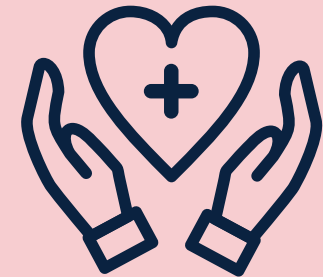
WHO THE SERVICE IS FOR

We work to improve people's confidence in using services and increase their ability to access healthcare independently.

- Are you struggling to help a client to engage with support services?
- Are appointments being missed regularly?
- Do clients have a challenge communicating their situation or needs in health appointments?

A Peer Advocate can help someone who is:

- Aged 18 or older
- Experiencing homelessness or living in temporary accommodation
- And is in need of support with medical or other appointments related to homelessness



HOW WE CAN HELP

What we do

- Support to attend medical or other appointments
- Help to advocate on a client's behalf (if they wish)
- Signpost clients to a range of health services



What we don't do

- Give health advice or make choices for the client
- Handle medication or any medical equipment

IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH SUPPORT

Everyone has a **right to good health** and a **right to access healthcare**.

However:

- The experience of homelessness results in deaths 35 years earlier than those in stable accommodation. The **average age of death** for someone who is homeless is just **44 years**.
- In 2018, two people experiencing homelessness died every single day in England and Wales, many from preventable health problems.

(www.groundswell.org.uk)

LPP wants to see change and our Peer Advocacy service will make a positive difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness in Peterborough.

REFERRALS

Do you want to refer yourself or an individual experiencing homelessness to receive support in accessing health services?

Contact Graham (Peer Advocacy Coordinator) for more information or to request a referral form.

Email:

Graham.Fairbairn@lightprojectpeterborough.org.uk

Phone:

07362 535751

