



## JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>School:</b>	School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health
<b>Post title</b>	Postdoctoral Researcher Memory-making through therapeutic recreation for families of children with life-threatening conditions receiving palliative care at home: Adaptation of a digital storytelling legacy intervention.
<b>Level on Framework</b>	Level 1
<b>Post duration</b>	2-year Fixed Term Contract (FTE)

### **Dublin City University**

Dublin City University (DCU) is a leading innovative European University. It is proud to be one of the world's leading Young Universities and is among the world's top 2% globally. DCU is known as Ireland's University of Impact, with a mission to 'transform lives and societies' and focuses on addressing global challenges in collaboration with key national and international partners and stakeholders.

DCU has over 20,000 students in five faculties spread across three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra area of North Dublin. Thanks to its innovative approach to teaching and learning, the University offers a 'transformative student experience' that helps to develop highly sought-after graduates. DCU is currently No. 1 in Ireland for Graduate Employment Rate, and for graduate income (CSO).

DCU is a research-intensive University and is home to a number of SFI-funded Research Centres. The University participates in a range of European and international research partnerships. DCU is also the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

As a 'People First' institution, DCU is committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - a University that helps staff and students to thrive. The University is a leader in terms of its work to increase access to education, and is placed in the world's Top 10 for reducing inequalities in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings.

### **Background & Role**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for this 2-year fixed term FTE position as a postdoctoral researcher at Dublin City University. This position is funded by the Health Research Board Applied Partnership Awards and is available from May 2023. The post offers an exciting opportunity to join an interdisciplinary and inter-institution partnership between

academic-researchers at DCU and knowledge-users at Barretstown Children's Charity to co-produce knowledge that can have a real and sustainable positive impact on the lives of children and their families living with serious illness. Specifically, the research aims to systematically adapt a US digital storytelling legacy-making intervention integrating Barretstown's unique model of therapeutic recreation to tailor the intervention to the Irish context to achieve intervention-context fit, and to determine the feasibility and acceptability of the adapted intervention to families of children with life-threatening conditions receiving palliative care at home. The Postdoctoral Researcher will be based in the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health at Dublin City University Glasnevin Campus and will be required to engage in mobility working closely with our knowledge user at Barretstown.

### **Principal Duties and Responsibilities**

The post-doctoral researcher will play a critical role in developing, leading and supporting the adaptation of a digital storytelling legacy intervention to the Irish context and will work closely with the Project Steering Group, Adaptation Team, and Public and Patient Involvement Expert Advisory Panel. Reporting to the Principal Investigator the Postdoctoral Researcher will:

- Support and oversee project management coordination under supervision
- Take responsibility for conducting a specific schedule of research under the direction and supervision of the project's principal investigator
- Lead on conducting an evidence review of the US-based intervention
- Liaise with all academic researcher, knowledge user, and PPI contributor stakeholders, including co-applicants and collaborators, as required
- Support the expert PPI panel and assist with PPI activities across the research cycle
- Coordinate and co-facilitate multi-stakeholder consultations and focus group workshops
- Lead on analysis and interpretation of data from stakeholder consultations/focus groups
- Coordinate and co-facilitate adaptation brainstorming workshops, and compile data on adaptations required
- Co-produce the adapted intervention materials and resources
- Complete testing of the adapted intervention materials with families and interventionists
- Co-facilitate training and preparing the intervention delivery team
- Assist with the small-scale testing of the adapted intervention, including the conduct and analysis of post-intervention interviews with families and interventionist, and collection and preliminary analysis of outcome data at three time-points
- Analyse interventionist field-notes and log-books for adherence to manual instructions and reporting of any responsive adaptations
- Establish a mechanism for monitoring progress of work, identify potential risks and recommend solutions, report progress regularly to project steering group
- Contribute to annual progress reports, and engage in ongoing knowledge translation and dissemination activities including submitting manuscripts for publication and presenting at conferences, under the supervision of the Principal Investigator
- Assist the Principal Investigator in identifying and developing future research and funding initiatives
- Engage in appropriate training and development opportunities as required by the Principal Investigator, the School or Research Centre, or the University
- Carry out additional duties as may reasonably be required within the general scope and level of the post

### **Minimum Criteria**

Applicants should hold a PhD in a health or other relevant discipline (e.g., social science, psychology, allied health, health services research). In addition, it is desirable that the successful individual has:

- experience in effective networking and building strong working relationships within and across organisations, disciplines and professions;
- excellent communication, interpersonal and organisational skills, be able to take initiative and work under pressure to tight deadlines, and have the ability to work effectively as part of an interdisciplinary team;
- well-developed qualitative and quantitative research skills and a publication track record;
- experience and knowledge of psychosocial intervention mapping, design, and development is also desirable;
- an awareness of the ethos of palliative care and an ability to undertake research with appropriate sensitivity in the area of children's palliative care;
- interest in digital storytelling with some experience in Adobe suite desirable;
- experience of liaising with multi-stakeholders, and knowledge of engaged research and coproducing with public and patient involvement;
- strong leadership and influencing skills with expertise in project management and experience of working with communities and health service users.

**Candidates will be assessed on the following competencies:**

**Discipline knowledge and Research skills** – Demonstrates knowledge of a research discipline and the ability to conduct a specific programme of research within that discipline

**Understanding the Research Environment** – Demonstrates an awareness of the research environment (for example funding bodies) and the ability to contribute to grant applications

**Communicating Research** – Demonstrates the ability to communicate their research with their peers and the wider research community (for example presenting at conferences and publishing research in relevant journals) and the potential to teach and tutor students

**Managing & Leadership skills** - Demonstrates the potential to manage a research project including the supervision of undergraduate students