

Supplemental digital content for Agrawal S, Nicoll G, Carr RH, et al. Collaborating with service users to select psychiatry residents committed to health equity and social justice. Acad Med.

Supplemental Digital Appendix 2

**Open Call for Service User Working Group Members, General Adult Psychiatry
Residency Program, University of Toronto**



Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS) Service User Committee

Seeking new committee members!

The Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto is committed to selecting excellent psychiatry residents for the Postgraduate training program. Since 2016, people with lived experience of addiction and mental health issues have played a crucial role in the selection process for new psychiatry residents at the University of Toronto. As the people served by psychiatrists, service users have valuable knowledge on what makes a good psychiatrist and which applicants fit that description. Currently, the Service User Committee involved in the selection process is seeking individuals who wish to make a positive impact on the future of psychiatry in Canada.

What's involved?

Joining this committee involves working alongside fellow service users, psychiatrists and psychiatry residents to provide input into resident selection as part of the Canadian Resident Matching Service ([CaRMS](#)) process. This committee is focused on identifying and prioritizing the needs, values, and concerns of service users as it relates to the selection and training of future psychiatrists. Involvement consists of attending meetings, providing input into resident application questions, and the planning of orientation activities for selected residents. There are approximately six meetings per year, and an honorarium is offered for each meeting. Members of this committee also have the option of assisting with reviewing applicant files each year.

Due to COVID-19 and ongoing physical distancing requirements, prospective members of the group will need to have access to either a phone or internet to join meetings. The file review process, as it is currently structured, requires access to the internet through a phone or computer.

Who are we looking for?

Candidates should have lived experience of mental health issues and/or addiction (which we refer to as service users herein). We are looking for committee members who are passionate about service user engagement and demonstrate an ability to think critically and work from a variety of frameworks (e.g. anti-oppression, health equity, anti-racist, disability positive, etc.). Interest in learning about or familiarity with service user research and knowledge is an asset. You must have excellent communication skills and be able to engage with fellow service users, psychiatrists, and psychiatry residents in an open, genuine and collaborative process. If you are interested in taking part in applicant file review, you must be comfortable with reviewing multiple written documents, including letters of recommendation, personal essays, and resumes.

We recognize that there is no “one size fits all” term to encompass those with lived experience of mental health issues and addictions. Whether you identify as a service user, user/survivor, patient, ex-patient, mad, or something else altogether, we would love to hear from you! You do not need to have a formal diagnosis to apply. We are committed to recruiting a diverse group of committee members who represent the service user community in Toronto. Individuals from marginalized and minority groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

Review process

Applications will be reviewed by a subset of current committee members and will consider:

- Different types of experience and expertise (e.g. personal, professional, community, academic)
- Demonstration of skills/values covered in this call including: critical thinking and analysis, attention to health equity and anti-oppression approaches, communication skills, familiarity with/passion for service user engagement
- Prioritizing individuals from diversely situated identity groups

How to apply

To apply, please complete the application [REDACTED] by July 30th. We will be hosting an online info session about this opportunity on July 15th at 4:00pm. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please contact [REDACTED]