



Irena Rowlinson

Support Worker Co-ordinator

Location: Buckinghamshire

Skills & Attributes

- Extensive experience working with adults with complex needs in both residential and community settings. Has worked with a wide range of clients including (but not exclusively) people with brain injury, neurological disorders, dementia, learning disabilities and mental health difficulties.
- Irena has a kind and empathetic approach which builds a foundation of trust between her and her clients, the clients' families and support teams.
- Experience in managing a team of support workers as team leader for a client with a traumatic brain injury and complex needs.
- Irena has a strong work ethic and prides herself on her use of initiative and creativity in her work. She likes to work methodically and in an organised fashion to ensure tasks are completed and reviewed effectively.
- Irena utilises reflective practice through clinical and line management supervision to maintain a focus on continuous development of professional practice and learn from experiences. Irena is keen to undertake training and attend webinars to keep her knowledge relevant and up to date.

Employment History

COOCI Associates LLP 2022 to present – Support Worker Co-ordinator

- Supporting clients to employ their own support teams, including setting up packages of care, management of recruitment and induction.
- Ongoing management and support of care packages including; contract writing, rota, training, compliance, monitoring of documentation and payroll.
- Supervising and managing of support staff with a focus on encouraging personal development. Management of staffing issues in both a formal and informal route, working closely with insurers to work within the parameters of Employment Law.

Directly Employed 2019 to present – Brain Injury Team Leader

- Providing support to a gentleman with a traumatic brain injury.
- Liaising with therapy teams, case managers and client's family to ensure the delivery of a bespoke plan of care to the client.
- Supervising the running of the package and the support workers within the team
- Completing admin tasks such as managing the rota, updating care plans, writing monthly reports, arranging training and conducting staff supervisions.

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Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust – Honorary Assistant Psychologist

- Working alongside psychologists to deliver community-based treatment programmes for people with complex schizophrenia
- Independently managing a caseload of work, specifically with people who were unable to access treatment in the hospital (due to anxiety or agoraphobia).
- Creating bespoke treatment plans to fit the individual needs of the patient
- Assisting psychologists to run group therapies

Prior to the above-mentioned roles:

- Irena began her career in care work in several nursing homes, providing care for elderly people with dementia and/or other neurological disorders.
- After graduating, Irena began working in brain injury rehabilitation in a residential service for people with complex brain injuries. She then worked for an agency as a brain injury support worker, providing support work to a range of clients with brain injuries within their own homes

Qualifications and Training

Qualifications

MSci Psychology (1:1) University of Nottingham (2018)

<u>Training</u>

- Care Certificate (2019)
- Essential Management Skills (2021)
- Bladder and Bowel Management Following Brain Injury (2022)
- Gastrostomy Medication Assessors Course (2021)
- Emergency First Aid (2022)
- PEG Training

Interests and Hobbies

Outside of work, Irena enjoys spending time with her dog, going on walks and attending training classes. She loves the outdoors in general and also likes running and horse riding. She likes to visit new places and exploring new towns and cities.