

# Family Connector



A **community/family led** way of working is when community members work together to create and achieve goals.

People living in the community make decisions and shape services together.

**Our approach**

Mencap Family Connectors use their lived experience to engage and connect with parent caregivers of children with SEND in their community. Working together with families and local services, they help to build a community where children and their families can thrive.

Family Connectors are based in the community. They provide direct support to families which complements what is already on offer locally.

This may include outreach, peer support groups, workshops, signposting, coproduction, translation into community languages. They work in collaboration with others across the borough to develop better opportunities and support for families.

**To help us make the best happen in local communities, we need the best team. We are looking for an individual who:**

- ☐ Is a champion of inclusion
- ☐ Is motivated and committed to community/family led ways of working
- ☐ Is passionate about co-production and co-facilitation
- ☐ Has community spirit as well as great local knowledge to share

What you will do	What you will bring	Your skills
<p>Facilitate peer support groups and develop parent caregiver networks to develop confidence, empower and engage families in their communities</p> <p>Co- facilitate or co-deliver support sessions with other service providers</p> <p>Harness your lived experience to support families on their journey</p> <p>Develop opportunities for co-production so that families can be involved in shaping better services and support across the community</p> <p>Empower families to understand their rights and entitlements through workshops or opportunities which will help them better support their child</p>	<p>Experience of being a parent or caregiver of a child with SEND</p> <p>Knowledge and experience of the SEND landscape and local assets</p> <p>An understanding of the challenges being faced by families</p> <p>A passion for supporting others and developing communities for the better</p> <p>Experience of supporting group work/community engagement</p> <p>Experience of collating information using MS Office (Word / Excel)</p> <p>Experience of co-production</p>	<p>Your lived experience and a commitment to using this to empower others</p> <p>Passion for inclusion of children and their families from all backgrounds and cultures</p> <p>Excellent interpersonal and relationship-building skills and an ability to genuinely engage with families</p> <p>Excellent planning and organisational skills</p> <p>Self-motivated, able to work on own initiative and to prioritise workloads effectively</p> <p>Local knowledge and information to share about your community.</p>

**Our approach**

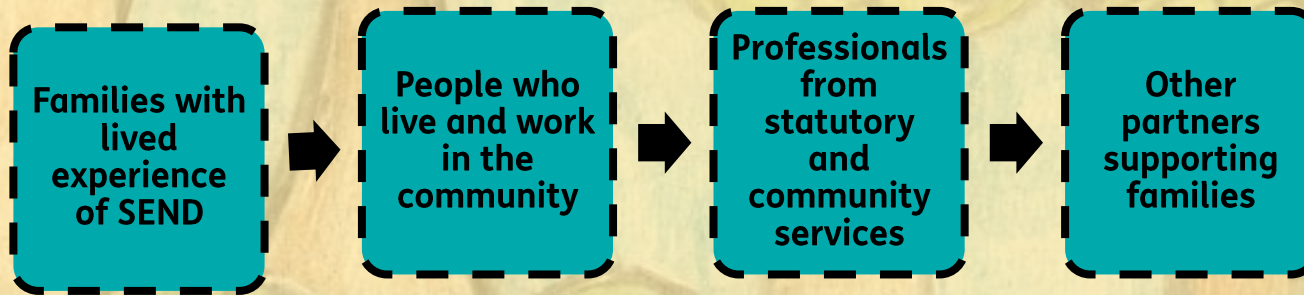
**All about you!**

**Co-production** is an approach where people, family members, carers, organisations, funders and commissioners work together in an equal way, sharing influence, skills and experience to design, deliver and monitor services and projects. **Co-production is as mindset and a way of working.**

**Co-Facilitation** is when there is more than one facilitator at a workshop or event. It allows you to share the responsibility with someone else, and each person brings their own strengths and lived experience.



# Who you will be working with



Hear about how our projects are helping families [here](#)



## Our values and this role

We are  
**Passionate**  
about making  
the world a  
better place

You will be **passionate** about the strength of communities, and passionate about community led and asset-based ways of working.

We are  
**Inclusive**  
of everyone

You will be **inclusive** by making sure you're working with diverse families from your community. This includes those whose voices might not always be heard.

We are  
**Brave**  
we challenge  
and try new  
things

You will be **brave** by encouraging families to have big ideas about what would make their community the best place for all people to live.

We are  
**Positive**  
in our work  
and with each  
other

You will be **positive** in how you work with your team. You will encourage them to share their own ideas and coach them to help them achieve their goals.

We are  
**Kind**  
to everyone

You will be **kind** and considerate in all of your communication, encouraging different ideas from people from diverse backgrounds.