# Lothian Clinical Academic Pathways Partnership

# Clinical Academic Research Gateway Funding

# First Steps into Research Opportunities 2025

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Institution & Department  Research Centre (if appropriate) | Learning Disabilities - Knowledge to Action Research Group (KAR- LD)  School of Health and Social Care, Edinburgh Napier University |
| Contact – name, role & email | Dr Natasha Spassiani (Lecturer) and Prof. Nicola Ring.  [N.Spassiani@napier.ac.uk](mailto:N.Spassiani@napier.ac.uk). [N.Ring@napier.ac.uk](mailto:N.Ring@napier.ac.uk) |
| Research Project/Programme Title | Learning Disabilities Knowledge to Action Research Group – a 1st Steps taster research placement |
| Details of Research Project / Programme – *including funder, team members, methodology, stage of implementation* | This placement is with the interdisciplinary KAR-LD research group at SHSC. The group has members from LD nursing, disabilities studies, psychology and the allied health professionals working in various settings. All KAR-LD members are engaged in research to improve the lives of those living with LD and their carers whilst developing research capacity and capability in this field. |
| Opportunities for candidate  *e.g. attending meetings; data collection; data management; analysis; ethics application; dissemination activities*  (bullet points) | KAR-LD can offer a wide range of research learning opportunities to a 1st steps award participant that would enable them to see research in action across the research process e.g., project planning, funding application development, ethics applications, data collection and analysis on a wide range of projects and topics. Working with those with LD to actively involve them in the research process is central to the KAR-LD. Opportunities to be involved in such activity and research dissemination will also be included in this placement. |
| Any other considerations or information for potential candidates? (e.g. potential links to other projects, networking opportunities, specific skills needed) | This collective placement to the KAR-LD will involve the award recipient also developing their LD research network. This will be a bespoke placement developed to suit the research learning needs of the award recipient. No specific skills or experience required - we will develop a placement that best suits the awardee. |
| Dates available (awards likely to be made Feb/Mar 2024 for start in Mar/Apr 2024) | 1st Feb. 2024 |
| Mentor(s) | Lead mentors: Dr Natasha Spassiani, Prof. Nicola Ring and Sam Abdullah. Other KAR-LD members will act as mentors where appropriate. |

Please return to Andy Peters, AHP Research & Development Facilitator, NHS Lothian [andy.peters@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:andy.peters@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk)