

Advance Statements Project

The UK Government has agreed to introduce legislation for advance statements. Black people experience more forced care, it is important we work with Black people to introduce advance statements in a way that works for them.

Advance Statements for Black African and Caribbean People

The Advance Statements Project is a research project on getting advance statements to work for Black African and Caribbean service users who have previously been detained under the Mental Health Act, their carers, and mental health staff.

We aim to work directly with these groups to create a process of completing and using advance statements that is acceptable and workable for all service users, their carers, and mental health staff.

What are advance statements?

An advance statement is a document that allows a service user to have a say in how they wish to be treated in the future if they become unwell or experience a crisis.

They are made with the help of family/friends, mental health professionals (i.e., your doctor, care coordinator or community mental health team), and people independent of your care (i.e., a general advocate, Independent Mental Health Advocate, or Independent Mental Capacity Advocate).

We will require service users, carers and mental health staff for Phase 1

Participants (service users or carers) will receive compensation for taking part:

- Phase 1 – Workshops: £15 voucher

Location

- Lewisham, Lambeth, Croydon or Southwark

Can you take part?

- A Service User aged 16 or over who has been previously detained under the Mental Health Act and identify as being Black British, Black African, Black Caribbean heritage or mixed heritage.
- A Carer/Informal Supporter of someone who is of Black British, Black African, Black Caribbean or mixed heritage.
- A professional/staff member who is likely to be involved in the advance statements process i.e., mental health professional, advocate, peer worker, support worker, an Approved Mental Health Professional, a General Practitioner, or a Section 12 approved doctor.

For more information about the project, you can email the research team:

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