

## **spunout: Research & Evaluation Manager** **(<https://www.activelink.ie/node/112147>)**



### **Job Title: Research & Evaluation Manager**

**Reporting To:** Head of Governance & Strategy

**Location:** Remote (Ireland) with a requirement to attend the office (Dublin 2) for meetings/training as required

**Start date:** Immediately

**Contract duration:** Permanent

**Hours of Work:** Full-time, 39 hours per week

**To apply:** Via Application Form

**Remuneration:** €54,700 to €59,772 per annum (Internal Grade: Manager Grade 3)

**Probationary Period:** 6 months

**Benefits:** 25 days annual leave (exclusive of public holidays), financial support for further education, two days positive mental health leave annually, and access to the four-day working week programme.

**To Apply:** [Apply via this form only no CVs accepted](https://communitycreations.bamboohr.com/careers/56)(<https://communitycreations.bamboohr.com/careers/56>)

**Closing Date:** Closing Date for applications is 04/12/2024

### **About spunout**

spunout is Ireland's youth information and support platform, working towards an Ireland where all young people are supported and empowered to thrive. spunout has a range of free, accessible and free services that are there for you whenever you need them. If it matters to you, it matters to us.

Through our platform and channels, spunout shares factual information on mental health and wellbeing. We provide immediate, free and anonymous text support to anyone who wants to talk. We share the stories and experiences of young people across Ireland to amplify our voices, and so that we all feel a little less alone. We can also connect you to trusted services and resources around the country for further support.

Our aim is to support young people to be informed, feel empowered and heard, and to support our peers to access opportunities and services to help us achieve our full potential.

spunout is by young people, for young people and we work collaboratively with other young people to support our mental health and wellbeing. A community of young contributors and volunteers powers our services, guides the work we do, and ensures we stay true to our values and mission.

### **About the role**

spunout is seeking a **Research & Evaluation Manager** to establish and lead a strategic, high-quality research and evaluation function which effectively demonstrates our impact on young people's mental health and wellbeing in Ireland. In

this full-time role, you will oversee the development and implementation of comprehensive research and evaluation initiatives, producing insights that drive continuous improvement across our services and influence public policy on youth mental health. This role is central to spunout's mission of elevating young people's voices and ensuring our services are evidence-driven and youth-centered.

As Research & Evaluation Manager, you will work closely with the Governance & Strategy team to craft actionable, data-informed recommendations. You'll develop relationships with academic and governmental partners, manage complex data analysis, and produce compelling, accessible reports to guide service improvements and shape national youth mental health policy. This is a unique opportunity to pioneer a research and evaluation function in a leading youth organisation, contributing directly to our vision of inclusive, effective, and evidence-based support for young people.

We're looking for a candidate with a proven track record of integrating young people's perspectives into impactful research and evaluation work, ideally within youth mental health or a related field. If you are passionate about translating research into practice, influencing policy, and driving strategic improvement in youth mental health services, we'd love to hear from you.

## **Key Duties & Responsibilities:**

### **Research and Evaluation Strategy**

- Lead on the development and implementation of a comprehensive evaluation system to measure spunout's impact, which is aligned to the organisation's existing theory of change and measurement framework.
- Lead the development and implementation of a research strategy for spunout, engaging with key internal and external stakeholders, including young people.
- Ensure insights and findings from spunout's research and evaluation activities are used to inform the continuous improvement and strategic development of spunout's services, and our public policy goals.
- Develop and monitor a set of performance measures for national youth mental health outcomes, using a combination of national survey data (internal and external), and implementation monitoring & outcome reporting from Government Departments and State Agencies (e.g. the HSE).

### **Project Management**

- Manage the daily operations of the research and evaluation function, ensuring high quality work and alignment with strategic priorities and operational requirements.
- Plan and manage multiple simultaneous research and evaluation projects.

### **Data Management and Analysis**

- Develop and manage data collection systems and administrate large quantitative and qualitative data sets in accordance with the highest standard of information security requirements (with operational support from IT and data colleagues).
- Manage the interpretation and visualisation of complex research and evaluation findings, and oversee the dissemination of outputs and findings of research projects and evaluations to relevant stakeholders.
- Develop Key Performance Indicator (KPI) reports and produce them on a quarterly basis.
- Lead the development of an online open access youth mental health research, evaluation, and data insights repository, in collaboration with IT and data colleagues.

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

- Develop and maintain positive relationships with various academic institutions, governmental, and non-governmental stakeholders and agencies at both national and international levels.

### **Organisational Capacity Building**

- Work with the wider team to ensure that findings of evaluation and research are translated into learning action through the production and dissemination of guidelines, resources, workshops, and training courses.
- Promote staff awareness and capability in research and evaluation, including coordination of appropriate internal training as and when required.

And any other reasonable tasks as may be assigned by your line manager from time to time.

## Qualifications

- PhD or equivalent postgraduate research degree in a relevant field (e.g., psychology, social sciences, public health, or other behavioral sciences).
- *Desirable*: Formal training or certification in programme evaluation or impact assessment.

## Experience

- Minimum of three years in a research or evaluation role, preferably in the non-profit or mental health sector.
- Demonstrated expertise in mixed-methods research, including quantitative and qualitative approaches, with a focus on impact assessment and programme evaluation.
- Proven track record in translating research findings into practical recommendations for policy or programmatic improvements.
- Experience leading or significantly contributing to large-scale research or evaluation projects, ideally within youth mental health.
- Experience designing and conducting needs assessments or formative research to support programme development.
- Experience managing research or evaluation budgets and timelines.

## Skills & Abilities

- Strong ability to design, manage, and evaluate research projects independently, with a high level of initiative and accuracy.
- Ability to synthesise complex data into accessible, actionable insights for a range of stakeholders, including funders and policymakers.
- Skilled in designing surveys, focus groups, and other data collection tools tailored to youth populations.
- Strong problem-solving skills and a strategic approach to identifying areas for improvement in research methodologies or project approaches.
- *Desirable*: Proficient in statistical analysis software (e.g., SPSS, R) and qualitative analysis software (e.g., NVivo, MAXQDA).
- *Desirable*: Ability to create impactful data visualisations and reports that communicate findings clearly and compellingly to both expert and lay audiences.

## Personal Attributes

- Demonstrated commitment to promoting evidence-based mental health initiatives and improving outcomes for young people.
- Passionate about youth mental health and aligned with the organisation's mission to provide accessible, inclusive support.
- Proactive and adaptable, with a solution-oriented mindset and the ability to respond to evolving priorities.
- Detail-oriented and organised, with a track record of managing multiple projects and deadlines effectively.

## Applications and Queries

The deadline for receipt of applications is 23:59 (Irish Standard Time) on the 4th December 2024.

You can apply for this role by completing [this application form \(https://communitycreations.bamboohr.com/careers/56\)](https://communitycreations.bamboohr.com/careers/56).

Be advised that any offers are subject to reference checks and Garda clearance

Any queries should be directed to [jobs@spunout.ie](mailto:jobs@spunout.ie) (<mailto:jobs@spunout.ie>)

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The above job description is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all duties involved and consequently, the post holder may be required to perform other duties as appropriate to the post which may be assigned to them from time to time.

All relevant staff members are required to obtain Garda clearance as a condition of their initial and continued employment.

spunout is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

All documentation received by spunout will be processed in accordance with the relevant applicable data protection legislation. The information will only be used in the processing of job applications and for ongoing administrative purposes with job candidates.

**Region**

Remote / Dublin 2

**Date Entered/Updated**

13th Nov, 2024

**Expiry Date**

4th Dec, 2024

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**Source URL:** <https://www.activelink.ie/vacancies/interest-groups/112147-spunout-research-evaluation-manager>