

Brightwater Executive is delighted to be retained exclusively to partner with our client, Chime, Ireland's National Charity for Deaf or Hard of Hearing people in their search for a Director of Advocacy & Communications.

About the Company

Chime operates a nationwide network of Resource Centres providing a range of community-based services in addition to key Specialist Services including Residential and Childrens Multi-disciplinary services. Their aim is to positively impact the lives of their clients through the provision of Advice & Information, Care Services and Assistive Technology.

Chime is a values-driven organisation, supporting their clients to achieve the best possible outcomes. They promote staff development, enable staff to fulfil their potential while providing top-class service delivery. Chime is a diverse and inclusive work environment where thinking outside the box to achieve their goals is positively encouraged and promoting collaborative working relationships is key in terms of supporting and meeting the needs of their clients.

About the Position

The Director of Advocacy & Communications is an exciting role that aims to help shape a society where Deaf and Hard of Hearing people can experience full inclusion. The primary purpose of the role is to advocate for changes in government and public policy that make a meaningful difference in the everyday lives of people who currently encounter additional challenges and barriers to living their life to the full.

Reporting to the Chief Executive, the Director of Advocacy & Communications role will be the lead role for all Advocacy and Communications by Chime and as a member of the senior management team the Director of Advocacy and Communications will provide both strategic and operational leadership to contribute to the overall success of the organisation.

The Director of Advocacy and Communications will have overall responsibility for a range of activities including advocacy, public policy, research, marketing and PR. The role currently has 1 direct report as well as number of external consultant relationships to oversee.

Key Responsibilities:

Advocacy

- Develop and manage campaigns to build awareness of Chime and the issues affecting the people we support.
- To influence policy makers to further the goals of the Organisation in supporting people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.
- Develop strategic approaches, both internal and external, to identify emerging needs and opportunities to address the needs of Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.
- Represent the organisation on relevant committees, coalitions and working groups and enhance
- Advance public policy and public affairs objectives, developing & maintaining contacts with politicians and the political system in general.
- Develop and manage Advocacy operations including budgets, resources, annual plans and events.

Policy

- Develop and maintain general public policy expertise on all significant issues relating to deafness and hearing loss.
- Influence and provide strategic advice to decision and policymakers.
- Produce policy briefing papers, policy position statements and manage the public communications of these.

Research

- Programme of research on sector priority issues.
- Collect and review data of demographics of Deaf and Hard of Hearing people both in Ireland and internationally to assess the success of the Irish model.

Marketing

Lead out on the design and implement the overall marketing strategy for the Organisation as well as overseeing the day-to-day operational marketing activities.

- Develop Digital marketing strategies for our website and all social media platforms.
- Develop and roll out and services.
- Oversee the design, print and distribution of traditional marketing materials.

PR, Media & Communications

- Lead out on all PR and External Communications initiatives and strategies.
- To act as the lead media spokesperson and liaise with PR and media organisations and to provide media interviews as required.
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Other Key Elements of the Director of Advocacy & Communications role

- As part of the Senior Management Team contribute to the overall strategic leadership of the Organisation.
- Ensure Chime maintains excellent working relationships with all stakeholders including local HSE offices, NCSE, Department of Education, local community groups and partners.
- Ensure that certain relevant statutory obligations of the organisation are met including Lobbying Returns and manage FOI requests.

Key Requirements:

- Relevant university degree or college diploma. 3 to 5 years' experience in a similar role.
- Passion for advancing the rights of Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.
- A high level of fluency in ISL or acquiring a high level of fluency in ISL.
- Experience in lobbying and campaigning for positive change in society.
- Strong communications and media skills.
- Experience and knowledge of marketing strategies and tactics.
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Location: Flexible working arrangements will be considered where possible although a significant portion of the role will be Dublin based.

To apply: Please submit a CV to chime@brightwaterexecutive.com quoting - Director of Advocacy & Communications Application in the subject box.

Contact: For more information and a confidential discussion with a member of the Brightwater Executive team, please send an email to: chime@brightwaterexecutive.com