

<b>POST:</b>	<b>Global Advocacy Lead (maternity cover)</b>
<b>CONTRACT:</b>	Fixed term 12 months from October 2025
<b>HOURS:</b>	5 days a week, open to 4 days/ part-time
<b>SALARY:</b>	£ 47,000 pro rata + pension and other benefits
<b>HOLIDAY:</b>	26 days plus bank holidays
<b>RESPONSIBLE TO:</b>	CEO
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Hybrid, 2 days a week from home, central London office +some international travel.

## **Background**

The Depaul Group – made up internationally of seven charities and overseen by Depaul International – exists because we believe everyone deserves the dignity and security of a place to call home. We are locally governed and locally run and committed to ending homelessness and improving the lives of the people affected by it. The Depaul Group also has a key strategic relationship with the Ruff Institute of Global Homelessness (IGH) and the Famvin Homeless Alliance (FHA).

Depaul International (DPI) oversees the Group, ensuring the highest standards of service provision, governance, finance and helping develop capacity in areas including fundraising, communications and safeguarding. DPI currently consists of a team of 14.

We are currently based in seven countries across Europe and North America, (Croatia, France, Ireland, Slovakia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States of America) providing a range of urgent accommodation and services for people in great need.

The Group also has a key strategic relationship with the Ruff Institute of Global Homelessness, which focuses on ending homelessness globally by bridging research, policy, and practice and the Famvin Homeless Alliance – mobilising the Vincentian Family across the world to develop new housing and other projects. Both strategic partnerships were born out of our shared values and commitment to end homelessness and change the lives of those affected by it. Ever since Depaul's inception over three decades ago, our values have helped to create a unique approach to supporting people that come to us for help.

## **Overview of the role**

We are seeking a Global Advocacy Lead to drive forward DPI's international advocacy strategy work during a period of maternity leave. Homelessness is a global problem, rising in almost every country, but it is lacking an international response. The successful candidate will work to progress key elements of DPI's newly launched advocacy strategy which aims to address this.

This leadership role will focus primarily on **global advocacy**, engaging closely with Depaul national members, strategic partners and international partners to ensure a unified and impactful approach to advocacy. The Global Advocacy Lead will manage the advocacy programme budget.

## **Responsibilities/deliverables**

### **Advocacy**

- Lead and coordinate the delivery of DPI's global advocacy strategy in alignment with the Depaul Group Strategy.
- Develop and maintain strategic relationships with key international stakeholders, including multilateral organisations, development banks, the European Union, United Nations agencies, and NGO/civil society networks.

This job description is a statement of requirements at the time of writing and is not contractual. It should not be seen as precluding future changes after appointment to this role

- Represent DPI in advocacy forums, government and international bodies (eg UN, EU) events, and in communication activity, positioning the organisation as a trusted partner and expert voice.
- Support national members to develop and strengthen their advocacy capacity, facilitating the exchange of knowledge, data, and best practice across the Depaul Group.
- Ensure advocacy work is informed by the lived experience of people affected by homelessness.
- Ensure advocacy work is aligned with strategic communications, the Depaul Group brand and our Vincentian values.

## **Policy**

- Monitor international policy trends, identify opportunities for influence, and coordinate DPI's and the Depaul Group's response to global developments affecting people experiencing homelessness.
- Develop clear, evidence-based policy positions and recommendations in collaboration with national members, programme teams, and external experts.
- As required help lead and develop specific policies in relation to the advocacy strategy

## **Research**

- Identify priority research topics that support and strengthen the advocacy and policy agendas and the delivery of the strategy.
- Commission, manage and publish research, ensuring outputs are rigorous, timely, and accessible.
- Summarise research findings into actionable insights and advocacy recommendations for policymakers, funders and practitioners.

## **Collaboration**

- Working closely on a day to day basis with the international programmes team and communication leads
- Working with advocacy leads from across the group and FHA and IGH
- Helping to drive learning, understanding of hon homelessness across the homeless sector.

## **Person specification**

We encourage and welcome applications from individuals who may not meet every single requirement listed but believe they have the potential to thrive in this role.

## **Core skills and attributes**

### **Experience**

- Proven leadership in senior external affairs, advocacy, policy, and/or research roles, ideally within an international NGO, humanitarian, development, or homelessness organisation.
- Experience designing, implementing and delivery international advocacy strategies.
- Strong track record of developing and influencing policy positions and leading external engagement at global and regional levels.
- Experience commissioning, managing, and publishing research to support advocacy and policy work.

- Experience engaging with global policy institutions, and coalition building (e.g. UN, EU, multilateral banks, COP, G20).
- Management of consultants, including procurement.
- Familiarity working within group organisational structures, collaborating with national members.
- Demonstrated ability to contribute to senior leadership decision-making and work closely with boards and senior leadership teams.

## **Skills**

- High-level relationship-building, able to develop partnerships and maintain trust with a diverse set of actors globally.
- Strategic planning and coordination, adept at aligning advocacy, policy, and research agendas with organisational strategy and global developments.
- Excellent written and verbal communication, particularly in drafting policy briefs, advocacy materials, and evidence-based reports tailored to international stakeholders.
- Strong analytical skills, able to turn complex policy and research findings into actionable recommendations.
- Project and team management, organised, efficient, and capable of overseeing multiple priorities and deadlines.
- Facilitation and capacity-development, skilled in supporting others to strengthen their own advocacy, policy, and research work.

## **Knowledge**

- Understanding of global homelessness, housing insecurity, or the ability to quickly develop sector knowledge.
- Familiarity and understanding of international policy and advocacy environments, especially the workings of the UN, EU, World Bank, COP, and G20.
- Knowledge of research methodologies and integrating lived experience into policy and advocacy work.
- Awareness of safeguarding principles and responsible use of lived experience in advocacy and policy outputs.

## **Attributes**

- Personal commitment to the organisation's vision, mission, and values.
- Acts with integrity.
- Is an energetic, visible, and confident leader.
- Has resilience.
- Builds trust by being transparent and reliable.
- Works flexibly and with agility.
- Champions innovation and learning.

## **Vincentian values**

The Depaul Group's mission is rooted in the spirituality and example of St Vincent de Paul. Supporting people and communities who are marginalised or where there is a lack of existing support is at the heart of what we do.

Each charity within the Depaul Group has its own focus depending on local contexts, but together we are part of a 400-year tradition of bringing high standards of dignity, compassion

and care. We are united by our shared Vincentian values:

- > **We celebrate the potential of people**
- > **We put our words into actions**
- > **We aim to take a wider role in civil society**
- > **We believe in rights and responsibilities**

Depaul believes homelessness has no place.

### **Safeguarding for Children and Vulnerable Adults**

DPI recognises the personal dignity and rights of children, young people and vulnerable adults, to whom it has a special responsibility and a duty of care and respect for. DPI and all its staff and volunteers undertake to do all in our power to create a safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults and to prevent their physical, sexual or emotional abuse. DPI is committed to acting at all times in the best interests of children, young people and vulnerable adults, seeing these interests as paramount. Any candidate offered a job with DPI will be expected to adhere to DPI's Safeguarding policy and sign DPI's Code of Conduct and agree to conduct themselves in accordance with the provisions of these documents. The post holder is required to undertake a criminal record check to obtain a Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

### **THE DISCLOSURE & BARRING SERVICE**

Depaul International aims to promote equality of opportunity for all with the right mix of talent, skills and potential. Depaul International welcomes applications from diverse candidates. Criminal records will be taken into account for requirement purposes only when the conviction is relevant.

Depaul International meets the requirements in respect of exempted questions under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 (as amended in 2013) by SI 2013 1198'. All applicants who are offered employment will be subject to a criminal record check from the Disclosure & Barring Service before the appointment is confirmed. This will include details of cautions, reprimands or final warnings, as well as convictions.