
[www.urbandesignmentalhealth.com](http://www.urbandesignmentalhealth.com)

**About the Centre for Urban Design and Mental Health**

UD/MH is a start-up think tank and knowledge platform focused on answering one question: how can we design better mental health into our cities? We review the breadth of research on urban design and mental health, summarize, and identify gaps, showcase successful projects and innovative ideas, develop practical, evidence-based recommendations and catalyse interdisciplinary dialogue on how to improve public mental health and reduce mental illness through urban design in cities around the world

We seek to:

* **INFORM and INSPIRE:** UD/MH aims to become a central knowledge repository and go-to resource for policymakers, planners, designers and public health professionals on how to build mental health into urban design.
* **MOTIVATE:** UD/MH aims to make the case for integrating mental health improvement into urban policy, planning, design and development as a standard consideration and an achievable priority.

We will achieve this by:

* **CONVENING A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE:** Through our website, mailing list, LinkedIn group and Twitter activity, a growing multidisciplinary cohort of international academics, policymakers, healthcare professionals and urban designers and developers with a specific interest in urban design and mental health are convening to read and share knowledge and ideas.
* **KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT:** Bringing together and highlighting key research and case studies so that they can be accessed, translated into practical recommendations, and used by interested parties.
* **IDEAS and INSPIRATION:** Harnessing diverse thinking and doing in this field by publishing ideas, work and experience from Fellows, Research Associates and other contributors.

**Urban Design and Mental Health**

**Research Associate Terms of Reference**

**Attributes**

1. The Associate will be currently studying for a Bachelors or Masters degree in any subject that has relevance to urban design and/or mental health.
2. The Associate will have a fascination for the links between urban design and mental health and a genuine interest in this field.
3. The Associate will have excellent communication skills in in English and a passion for communicating ideas.
4. The Associate will have at least 4 hours per week to devote to UD/MH work, though the Associate may also want to undertake relevant research as part of their academic course and share it with UD/MH for use and publication.
5. The Associate may be based anywhere in the world: communications will be virtual in nature. The Associate must have an email account and preferably a Facebook account, as internal communications use a Facebook group.

**Responsibilities**

The Associate will gain experience in research and communications at the nexus of urban design and mental health. They will get the opportunity to be part of a small, flexible start-up working virtually, and if they wish to develop specific skills, this can be achieved on an individually-agreed basis. Responsibilities include:

1. The Associate will commit to a minimum period of one academic term; this may be extended.
2. The Associate will identify area/s of particular interest, and on agreement with the Director, will produce:
	1. A literature review, case study, and/or original research in a specific topic at the nexus of urban design and mental health to be considered for publication in a UD/MH report or our biannual journal/magazine
	2. At least one researched op-ed (based on that topic or others), to be published on the Sanity and Urbanity blog on our website.
	3. An interview with an expert in your field of study to be published in Sanity and Urbanity and/or a case study of a relevant urban project.
	4. Relevant book reviews, and other writing as agreed with the Director.
	5. Identify relevant links and news to share via UD/MH social media
3. The Associate will provide a photo and short biography for publication on the UD/MH website.
4. The Associate may be asked to help if a UD/MH event is happening nearby; if the Associate sees the opportunity to convene a UD/MH panel on urban design and mental health for an event, they may do so on discussion with the Director.
5. This is an unpaid, academic-style position.

**Application: Centre for Urban Design and Mental Health Research Associate**

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| Name |  |
| Address |  |
| Email  |  |
| Twitter |  |
| Degrees/ diplomas held or in progress  | *Type/focus of study/institution/country/* |
| Relevant experience and affiliations  |  |
| Interest in the link between urban design and mental health | *Please briefly describe how your interests fit with UD/MH and suggest particular topic/s you could focus on for UD/MH* |
| Communications experience and links to any relevant published writing if available |  |
| Any further ideas about how you could contribute to UD/MH |  |
| Initial dates available |  |

Please attach your resume/CV and return this application to layla@urbandesignmentalhealth.com