



Laura Collins

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Professional Background:

Nursing background, management graduate, university disability mentor.

Expert-by-Experience:

Full-time Family Carer for past 34 years.
Currently supporting two adult children.

Decades of voluntary advocacy work and activism in support of family carers and those with disabilities - of which 25 years formally representing family carers at local, regional and national levels.

Current P&P Involvement:

Member of a number of carer and /or disability voluntary groups
Reg. Unscheduled Care PPI Group
Reg. Social Work Strategy PPI Group (Citizen's Forum)
Reg. Social Work Research and Service Improvement Strategy PPI Group
Integrated Care Partnership - Carer Representative
Belfast Trust - PPI Reference Group, Carers Reference Group, Carers Strategy subgroup
PCC Membership Scheme –carer member
Cochrane Collaboration - lay member

Research Interests:

Early intervention on Autism
Mental health pharmacology
Commissioning for integrated health
Designing multi-morbidity services
Older People and healthier ageing
Carer pathway development
Reducing health inequalities