

The STARR Coalition Research Ambassador Program

A Research Ambassador is someone living with a mental illness who may or may not have participated in clinical research.

Research Ambassadors are willing to talk about their personal journey with their mental illness.

Some Research Ambassadors share their experience with clinical research and talk about how their participation in a research trial has impacted their lives.

Why Become a Research Ambassador?

- ★ Being a Research Ambassador and sharing your story increases hope, acceptance, and self-esteem.
- ★ As a Research Ambassador, you are helping your peers and educating the community.
- ★ As a Research Ambassador, you will feel more empowered, inspired, and play a more active role in your treatment plan.
- ★ We can connect you to potential other opportunities to elevate your voice, passions, and interests.

As part of being a Research Ambassador, you will help educate others through one or more of the following activities:

- Speaking with a STARR Coalition coordinator and sharing your story. This could take place once or over the course of several meetings before, during, and after a study.
- ✓ Talking to peers about your experience with clinical research to help spread awareness of clinical research as a viable and trust-worthy care option.
- Sharing your journey and experience with researchers to help inspire them to continue to work to find new treatments.

There are lots of ways to participate as a Research Ambassador. It's a fantastic opportunity to get involved and contribute to various projects, as well as assist others in their journey! Your support for others also has a positive impact on your own growth and well-being! ♥

How can you become a Research Ambassador? It's easy!





Site staff can introduce potential Research Ambassadors to STARR staff who talks to them about the Research Ambassador program.



STARR staff works with the potential Research Ambassadors to determine their participation level.



The individual with lived experience becomes part of the Research Ambassador community!

Ask the staff at your research site about becoming a Research Ambassador or sign up online at thestarr.org/ra/

The STARR Coalition (**S**takeholders in **T**reatment, **A**dvocacy, **R**esearch and **R**ecovery) works to bring meaningful change to mental health research by increasing communication, partnerships, and goodwill. Our mission is to find new, progressive ways to truly place the patient volunteer at the heart of the process.

We look forward to hearing from you!

