

Mental Health Day Services E-Bulletin

April 2008

- **BETTER LIVES, BETTER FUTURES – DAY SERVICES MODERNISATION CONFERENCE**
FRIDAY 27th JUNE, LONDON

Subtitled ‘Making progress in modernising mental health day services’ the Better Lives, Better Futures conference promises to be a very stimulating event for anyone involved in mental health day services.

It will feature some excellent and influential speakers, including Rachel Perkins and Peter Bates, and workshops will provide ideas and inspiration on topics including:

- User involvement in re-commissioning
- Developing user-run day services
- Working with those furthest from social inclusion
- Bringing the community in
- Collaborative use of direct payments

The conference programme and booking form can be downloaded from:

<http://www.pavpub.com/pavpub/conferences/showfull.asp?Conference=699>

- **EXAMPLE SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS FOR DAY SERVICES**

Whilst service specifications for mental health day services should always reflect the needs of the local population, there is no need for commissioners across the country to start from scratch.

The National Social Inclusion Programme website now features two quite different example Service Specifications from Eastern Surrey and Camden, as well as other sample tender documents from Camden. They can be downloaded from:

http://www.socialinclusion.org.uk/work_areas/index.php?subid=79#section009

- **RECORDING OUTPUTS IN DAY SERVICES**

While the recording of outcomes is becoming increasingly important in the monitoring of mental health day services, there is still an expectation on most providers to measure outputs, such as how many people are using the service, as well. With changing patterns of service delivery meaning people access services more flexibly and for more diverse reasons, ensuring the measurement of outputs is meaningful is an increasing challenge.

If you have developed approaches to measuring the use of day services which go beyond simply recording daily attendance but are reliable and easy to use, please do let me know by contacting ben.taylor@londondevelopmentcentre.org

- **ONE IN FOUR CAMPAIGN PACK**

Developed by NIACE, the national organisation promoting adult learning, in conjunction with the National Social Inclusion Programme and the Learning and Skills Council, this pack has been produced “to promote better knowledge and awareness about mental health problems and to support the positive contribution adult learning can make to recovery from mental health difficulties”

It is a beautifully produced pack including posters, leaflets and postcards on a range of subjects related to mental health and adult learning including:

- Resources to support communication and the celebration of achievement
- Materials to raise awareness and increase knowledge
- Activities to encourage creativity as a powerful ingredient of recovery
- Advice about campaigning and fundraising

If you would like a pack sent to you, please contact:

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