

Protecting Adults with Learning Disabilities from Abuse

Issue 5

www.cawt.com

October 2007

Project Summer School Report

The summer months have been a very busy time for the project, planning and organising the 2 day event that was the summer school. This took place at the Hillgrove hotel in Monaghan who catered for participants very well.



Approximately 100 participants were involved in the event where the focus was to inform people of examples of best practice relating to supporting the safety and protection of adults with learning disabilities.

Participants represented health and social care services from statutory and independent sectors both sides of the border, and the PSNI and Garda. Best practice examples within the event were provided from each of the 4 project regions covering parents with learning disabilities, sexuality project, interviewing people with communication difficulties and joint protocol in investigation.

A fuller report of the event will be available through project board members next month. Presentations from the event are available on the CAWT website www.cawt.com

Lilliput Theatre Company

Earlier the project examined the information that came from the investigation into learning disability services in both Cornwall and Sutton & Merton where there were serious incidents of service user abuse.

Following on from this work the project manager was involved in discussions with the Lilliput Theatre Company in Derry, and these discussions led to the commissioning of a script relating to the findings of the investigations entitled **'Where is Achilles?'** The theatre company premiered this performance in Derry on 14th September to an invited audience. The company then delivered their production as part of the summer school in Monaghan.

Comments from summer school participants included:

"very powerful and heart tearing performance"

"good that this message comes from the people at the receiving end"

"all staff should see this and understand what can happen"



To contact Lilliput call Gordon Smyth on:
(+44) 07753211692



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and Public Safety
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Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sálbhairdeachta Poblaithe

Community Safety

Three day service members in Enniskillen have been busy developing their understanding of personal safety via discussion with the project manager and support from their day centre officer.

This work will benefit other people in the Western Trust area as the 3 members have developed 2 posters that they feel help them to understand how to be safer in the community, and these will be distributed to learning disability services in the region.



To further support the learning, the project manager has negotiated a community safety session with two PSNI community safety officers for service users and their carers in the Enniskillen/Omagh region where the posters will be launched.

For further information relating to this event contact Margaret Dolan at Killadeas Centre on: 028 6634 2833

More useful websites:

www.csci.org.uk

The Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) registers, inspects and reports on adult social care services, and councils who arrange these services, in England. Our job is to improve social care and stamp out bad practice.

www.voiceuk.org.uk

VOICE UK are a national charity supporting people with a learning disability and other vulnerable people who have experienced crime or abuse. They also support their families, carers and professional workers

This website is accessible to those with literacy difficulties

Can I help?

The project manager is still happy to assist services to look at how their practice and service networking supports people to be safer.

Services can be assisted to explore their policies and procedures, review their staff development plans, examine service user consultation, review service user education and support materials etc

If you would like this kind of support for your service simply contact the project manager for a discussion of how she may be able to assist:

T: 028 7186 0616 ext 8591

E: bernie.gibbins@westcare.n-i.nhs.uk

Calling Designated Officers

The project is considering holding a special developmental event for Designated Officers and key Police personnel in Abuse Procedures.

I would like to hear proposals for the content of such an event, which would be a cross-border one and would involve designated Officers from other client group services.

Thoughts please to:

bernie.gibbins@westcare.n-i.nhs.uk

