

Older People's Carer and Service User Involvement Project

The Cardiff & Vale Mental Health Development Project has dedicated Development Workers who, in partnership with voluntary agencies and statutory services, support carers and service users to know about and have a voice in service planning and delivery.

Matt Quinn and Jane Patreane cover the Cardiff area, and Matthew Salisbury covers the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Development Workers use many ways and means in involving people and are flexible and responsive in their approach. A monthly newsletter is produced called Involvement News which provides information and opportunities for involvement. In addition 'Directions - a guide to Older People's Mental Health Services' has been developed which gives practical advice and useful support to carers of Older People with Mental Health needs.

To find out more on any aspects of the above contact:

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Who we are

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The Project receives funding from:

Welsh Assembly Government
Cardiff & Vale UHB
Cardiff Council
Vale of Glamorgan Council



Cardiff & The Vale Mental Health
Development Project

Registered Charity No. 1081806

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What is the Cardiff & Vale Mental Health Development Project?

The Project has been in existence since 1991, funded originally under the first All Wales Mental Illness Strategy of 1989.

Initially operating as part of Intervol, and then the Vale Council for Voluntary Services, the Project became an independent charity in June 2000. It is funded by the National Assembly via Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA).

The work of the Project includes support to voluntary sector, user and carer groups in relation to training and development, information sharing, co-ordination of joint working and involvement in the planning and provision of services.

The work for the year is set in accordance with the needs of the constituency, capacity of the Project and minimum standards laid down by WCVA, and is reviewed annually.

What do we do?

Networks and Working Groups

The Project supports the development of networks to ensure a voice for their particular members. These can represent interest groups such as the voluntary sector, service users, carers etc. Some of these groups are supported directly by the Project and others may be facilitated by other agencies. They provide a means of sharing information and networking, a forum to discuss needs and the development of new initiatives, and a means of ensuring a voice for their membership in the planning and delivery of services. The Project may also service time limited working groups where appropriate.

Networks include:

Cardiff & Vale Mental Health Forum

Cardiff & Vale Mental Health Forum meets to share information and co-ordinate the voice of the mental health voluntary sector on issues pertaining to Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. The Forum meets two months out of three, the third month being the South East Region Mental Health Network meeting.

South East Region Mental Health Network

South East Region Mental Health Network meets quarterly as a network for voluntary sector groups from the Cardiff and Vale Mental Health Forum and from Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr and Gwent. The Network shares information, and co-ordinates the voice of the mental health voluntary sector on issues pertaining to the South East Wales area (Cardiff, Vale, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr and Gwent) and on a national level.

The network also acts as the S.E. Regional Meeting of Mental Health Action Wales.

Information Sharing

Network News

We produce a monthly newsletter, Network News, to share information on the latest news, meetings, training events, and good practice.

Website– www.cvmhdp.org.uk

We also have a website with information on all the networks, a news & events section, a pdf version of the newsletter and the Directory of Mental Health Services in Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan.

Training and Development

The Project co-ordinates an annual training programme and circulates information on the myriad of training courses available locally and nationally. The training is developed in accordance with the requirements of the Networks serviced by the Project, and training information is circulated via Network News, the Project Newsletter. The Project also provides a development service to those agencies requesting support in relation to mental health funding and service development.

Sefyll—the Service User Involvement Development Project

Sefyll is managed by the Mental Health Development Project to work with people who use mental health services and the service providers to develop effective ways for user's views to influence the development and delivery of services.

Examples of the project's work include:

- ◆ Co-ordinating training for service users to build skills for greater involvement
- ◆ Developing a trained recruitment group to enable service users to influence the recruitment of mental health professionals within the local Trust
- ◆ Servicing the Cardiff & Vale Service Users Forum
- ◆ Working with Statutory and Voluntary Sector Services to develop service user involvement policies for services

For more information please contact:

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