

KEY POINTS FROM DAY OPPORTUNITIES SUBGROUP WORKSHOPS HELD ON 23 SEPTEMBER AT 10.00 AM

<p>Lakeview attendees: Amanda Kelly, Manager, Glenshane Care - Lead Angela McDonald, Manager, Moving on Up Roisin Kielty, Education Authority Margaret McDaid, Community Access Worker Lorraine Gallen, Manager, FDST Damien Corr, Manager, LCDI Martin McLaughlin, Manager, Something Special Martina Bell, Manager, Artspace Vanessa Campbell, Senior Day Care Worker, Rossville Group Clare McMonagle, Gortilea Social Farm - Notetaker</p>	<p>Omagh attendees: Claire Devine, New Horizons Anna McGurn, Camphill/Clanabogan Joanne Clarke, Positive Futures, Lead Kerry Mallon, Positive Futures, Notetaker Rachael McCauley, Mencap</p>
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Q1 – TOPIC: GOOD PRACTICE – STRATEGIC ALLIANCES IN THE WEST

a) List the organisations that have developed partnership working:

- Rossville Group – have a large number of resources/partnerships
- Voluntary / Community Groups – strong links with community groups
- Roe Valley Community Network (Education Authority have formal partnership with Tuned In)
- Positive Futures/Camphill/ Mencap/New Horizons/Trust
- Formal contracts
 - Gortilea Social Farm/Education Authority/Destined
- Informal contracts
 - Tutors – Northwest Regional College

b)

<p>Client: <i>Describe the benefits for service users:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Menu of options • Person centred choice; sharing good practice • Range of services for their week • Specialist service – range of skills • Holistic service, personal, housing, social • Increases choices, opportunities and opens up life choices • Shared knowledge & expertise • Broadens life experiences, empowers, become more active participants • Reduces/minimises risk – have all info re individuals due to enabling positive risk taking 	<p>Family/Carer: <i>Describe the benefits for service users:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families are aware of what is out there • Best possible quality care • Some families do not like change • Opportunities are needed for families to engage/ empower them to make themselves aware of opportunities • If client’s quality of life improves; benefits families • Network of support brings reassurance, sense of security, financial support • Know that their loved ones are living their lives and fulfilling potential 	<p>Community: <i>Describe the benefits within the community:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with a learning disability in the community will enrich the community/increased awareness & education • Confidence in what is available • True inclusion into community • Supported employment/volunteer placements • Contributing to society • More success with smaller/local employers but larger companies have corporate responsibility
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	<p>the staff are all trained with correct values, expertise & experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Particularly for older carers – sense of confidence in the system 	
<p>Any Other Comments:</p>		

c)

<p>Client: <i>What further work needs to be done over the next 5 years to ensure good partnership working</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no partnership working • A fear of losing identity • Directory of all services available • Transport • Referrals • Continuing with current work • Understanding more about other organisations and what is available • Change of mindset; not in competition with each other. Being confident in what is offered, sharing expertise and partnership working. • More opportunity for networking, sharing best practice 	<p>Family/Carer: <i>What further work needs to be done over the next 5 years to ensure good partnership working</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with families to increase confidence • Continue talks with families in order to reduce fear factor re issues such as lack of regulation, fears of what is perceived as ‘money saving exercises’ • Providing information to families, examples of where it has worked - makes it more real for families 	<p>Community: <i>What further work needs to be done over the next 5 years to ensure good partnership working</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education & training • Having events that focus on businesses involving people with their work • Finding ways to encourage partnership working with businesses & local people – thinking of different ways to address this. • Organisations working together regarding this rather than separately • People accessing placements in the community – increasing visibility • Events such as Disability Pride • Developing social media to increase awareness
<p>Any Other Business:</p>		

Q2 TOPIC: TRANSPORT/INDIVIDUAL TRAVEL

In 2014 DARD spent £380 million in mobility in Northern Ireland. In addition the Trust funds transports to day care & day opportunities. Over and above this spend the Trust continues to meet challenges and there continues to be a shortfall and a growing demand for the provision of transport.

<p>a) Client: : <i>Describe situations where challenges have arisen in accessing transport?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural areas • Not what they are used to • Clients’ limited access to funds • Independent travel training; dependence/fear • Lack of provision for adults; whose role is it? lack of staff trained to deliver this formal travel training programme • Need to use resources they have (family/carers) • Lot of cuts / availability of different times of transport/funding cuts to rural transport leads to increased costs • Travel training doesn’t always work • Limits choice 	<p>Family/Carer: <i>Describe situations where challenges have arisen in accessing transport?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural areas • Limited access to funds • Fear? Dependence • Need to take responsibility for their travel • Problem with double funding aspect – DLA funded cars in families plus bus being provided to attend day care/day opps. • Historical expectation of transport being provided • Having to rely on family for transport • No suitable alternative in rural areas • Families fear progressing with independent travel • Fearful of positive risk taking • Using evidence/examples of how it works – individual working 	<p>Community: <i>What would you suggest the community needs to do to address these issues?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disability Awareness Training • More accessible transport • Dial a lift – (Easylink) – half price - need guides on these services • Why are there not more other organisations like rural transport, rural link; more competition would make existing services improve • Challenging businesses – volunteer placement -to cover travel expenses • Awareness regarding the needs of people with learning disability; awareness of challenges • Local councils – promoting awareness • Organisations – Ulster Bus, taxi services, learning disability awareness training. In the past Translink have given funding for a video for travel training for support to use a bus – shows they aren’t opposed to it
<p>Any Other Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in a joined up way to promote awareness in the community 		

Q2b)

Client: <i>What are the challenges that limit greater use of independent modes of travel?</i>	Family/Carer: <i>What are the challenges that limit greater use of independent modes of travel?</i>	Community: <i>What are the challenges that limit greater use of independent modes of travel?</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service user feeling nervous • Not what they are used to • Take time to change as may be reluctance to change • Need for training • Fear • Lack of availability • Lack of information/accessible information • Rural locations • Cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family nervous about change • Cost of travel • No guides on some modes of transport and some service users require this • Fear of risks • Costs • Dependency on the already/historically available modes of transport – day care bus • Expectations 	
Any Other Business:		

Q3a)

Is it important to have a range of providers for delivery of services to adults with a learning disability (ie statutory/voluntary/community/private? Please elaborate on your answer in relation to the client/family/community as detailed below:

<p>Client:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for holistic, person centred service as one size does not fit all • Range of services to fill week -Everybody has their strengths therefore a range of services is required • Idea of split service is great – this is restricted by funding at present. People should be able to mix and match services • Client choice 	<p>Family/Carer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families should have opportunity to utilise other services • Funding more accessible – cost effective in long run • Choice • Getting best possible outcome for individual 	<p>Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing employment in community – economic benefit in the community • Raising awareness
<p>Any Other Business:</p>		

Q3b)

What are the challenges providers have to manage in the development of the provision of services? Please answer for each of the areas below.

<p>Client:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel training • Staff training • User involvement in service they want/need • Funding/time/resource restrictions • Providers want/need to be fully person-centred; challenge re resources and trying to provide opportunities to many people • Referral/funding process too lengthy • Ratios of intake of staff • Very few people in receipt of direct payments/self-directed support • Clients need to be able to make their own choices and access their own pot of funding 	<p>Family/Carer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel • Getting families to work in partnership • Come to events • Need more lifelong planning • Some families don't want change/ institutionalised • Mind sets are changing – needs to continue • Managing expectations / realistic expectation • Good communication • Openly addressing issues – recognising the fear families may have • Restricted in terms of benefits- 'benefit trap' 	<p>Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel • Awareness / education • Expectation • Economic climate • Redundancies – employers don't want to take on any other staff (volunteers)
<p>Any Other Business:</p>		

Q3c)

How might the above challenges be overcome? Please answer for each of the areas below.

<p>Client:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent travel • Range of choices made known to them • Directory for clients • Social • Training • Working together to provide education / awareness 	<p>Family/Carer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness of what is on offer • Attend events • Take some responsibility for clients 	<p>Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transforming your care • Services on group - social workers • Very important for social workers to refer appropriately
<p>Any Other Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition officer • Travel training – whose role is it • Invite rural transport DARD/Dept of Education - responsibility / role to play 		