

The Learning Disability Development fund (LDDF) progress report

Name of Project:

Self Directed Support

Project Lead:

Nichola St George

Project Target from the Bid:

A further 25 people with a Self Directed Support Package 08-09.

How the bid says the project will do this work:

- Find out what worked well, what we have learnt and what we could we do better.
- Make the system that will tell people how much money is available to direct their own support better.
- Support young people who are about to become adults AND people who need to change their service to access Self Directed Support.
- Have a Project worker to take the work forward.
- We will give people Information through events and support more people to find out about Self Directed Support.

How much LDDF money the project got in 2008/09: £21,753.00

Name of the person completing this report:

Nichola St George

What the project has done in April through July 2008:

1. Find out what worked well, what we have learnt and what we could do better.

In March 2008 we had a meeting to look at what worked well, what we have learnt and what we could do better.

After the meeting we made a plan to help make it easier for people to direct their own support. The most important parts of the plan were talked about at the Learning Disability Partnership Board meeting on the 7th July.



We also talked about how having an individual budget made a difference to people's lives. We did this by talking about a person called Andrew in the picture below:



(Andrew)

2. Make the system that will tell people how much money is available to direct their own support better.

We have tried to make the **system** better. We have learnt that this is a big piece of work and is difficult to do.

We are now working with the rest of Adult Social Care to make something that ALL people needing support across Brighton and Hove council will be able to use.

This should help make things clearer and fairer for everybody.

3. Support young people who are about to become adults AND people who need to change their service to access Self Directed Support.

We are now helping all young people who are about to become adults to think about Self Directed Support. We are giving people the option to have an Individual Budget OR a direct payment. We have helped 6 people so far.



We are talking to people and families at events. We are making an Information pack for parents, carers and supports. We have also visited support groups like Amaze and Avondale day centre.

We have also helped 3 people who wanted to change their day service and 1 person who wanted to move back into Brighton and Hove direct their own support.

4. Have a Project worker to take the work forward.

The project worker is Nichola St George (pictured below).



5. We will give people Information through events and support more people to find out about Self Directed Support.

We have already held an event for Providers of services and an event about the Learning Disability Commissioning Strategy. These 2 events talked about Self Directed Support and gave examples on how it can help people get in control of their lives.



We have also done an update at the Learning Disability Partnership Board and talked to Learning Disability Providers about having Self Directed Support as a regular agenda item- they have agreed.

Another newsletter has been produced which gives people information about this work an another example of how choice and control has changed Nick's life.



(Nick and his mum)

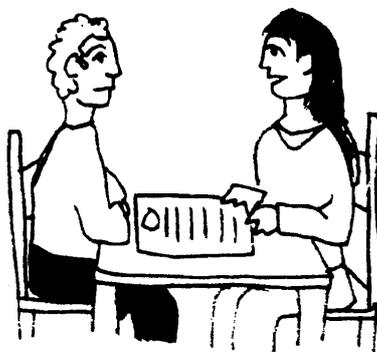
What the project has done in August through November 2008:

1. Find out what worked well, what we have learnt and what we could do better.

We have been working to the plan that we have produced and presented at the Learning Disability Partnership Board meeting on the 7th July.



We have completed 3 more outcomes reviews to look at what works and what could be improved in people's Individual Budgets Support Plans.



We have had a Self Directed Support Strategic (planning) meeting. This looks back on what we have done so far and what lessons have we learnt.

We have shared this with Adult social Care to help them think about Self Directed support for Older People, with Mental Health needs and Physical Disabilities. .

2. Make the system that will tell people how much money is available to direct their own support better.

We are now working with the rest of Adult Social Care to make something that ALL people needing support across Brighton and Hove council will be able to use.

This should help make things clearer and fairer for everybody. This work is still happening and will continue into next year.

3. Support young people who are about to become adults AND people who need to change their service to access Self Directed Support.

We have helped a further 10 people get their own individual Budget. This means a total of 19 this financial year.

We have also helped 11 people access Direct Payments (who haven't got an Individual Budget). This means 30 people with learning Disabilities have accessed 'Self Directed Support' this financial year so far.

This means we have already met our target of a further 25 people with a self directed support package.



We have produced a 'Self Directed Support Guide' for people's parents, carers and supporters which are now available on www.brightpart.org.



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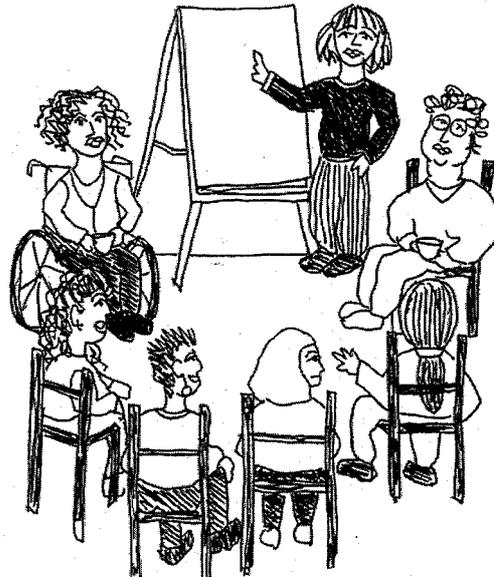
(Nick and his mum)

The next newsletter is due out before Christmas to feature Stuart's Story:



(Stuart on a Narrow boat on his holidays)

We have helped people to understand what Self Directed Support is and explain what we are doing and planning to do through:



Speaking at the Children's Services Communication Group.

Self Directed Support updates at the Learning Disability provider Forum.

Monthly reports to the Learning Disability Project Board.

1 report to the Self Directed Support Strategic meeting.

We have held Self Directed Support workshops at Learning Disabilities Staff Conference, Supporting People Visioning day and the Federation for the Disabled event.

What the project has done in December through March 2008:

- We have produced the December SDS Newsletter which featured Stuart's Story of how he used his budget to get a better life. You can get this on the LDPB website.

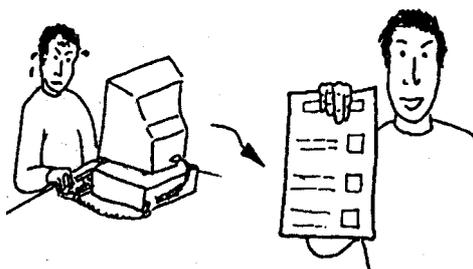


- This was the last SDS Newsletter which has now been replaced by the 'Learning Disability News'. Self Directed Support updates and stories will feature in this newsletter and we produced every 3 months from April 2009.
- The next story will feature Robert Streeter's story and will be written by Robert's family.

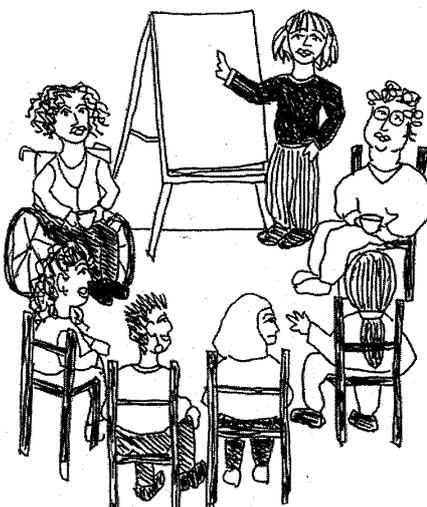
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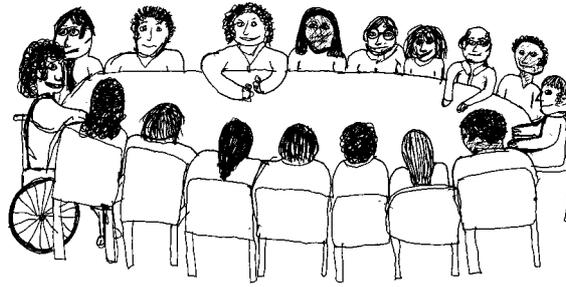
- We have been out to speak to the Children's Services Communication group and the staff at the Transition Team about Self Directed Support options for people becoming adults.
- We have completed outcomes reviews with a further 9 people and produced an 'Outcomes report'.



- The most important bits of information from this report have been shared at the Self Directed Support Strategic (planning) meeting.
- We have talked about SDS at another Federation for Disabled People event.



- We have updated LD service providers and member of the public about Self Directed Support through LD Commissioning Information Event in February.



- We have exceeded our target of 25 people with an Individual Budget and increased it to 30 people by March 2009.



- Brighton & Hove Council now has 109 people with a Learning Disability using Self Directed Support (either an Individual Budget or a Direct Payment).

Future: The funding for this project has now ended. However, the council is paying for self-directed support work to keep going. The Partnership Board will be told about the work through the Make It Happen Group and the Make It Happen Plan.