



Inclusion North News

Autumn 2007



New Project Manager

Scott Cunningham has joined Inclusion North as our Project Manager! You will meet Scott as he works around the regions, but if you want to talk to him to find out what he is working on then get in touch.



New Office

Inclusion North has moved, our new address is at the end of the newsletter along with all our contact details

Update for Partnership Boards

We now have a regular update for Partnership Boards on our website. This tells you about the work we are doing and all the events and meetings that are happening.



To download the update go to www.inclusionnorth.org and click on news and events.

Inclusion North Steering Group and Annual General Meeting 9th November – York

Our next Steering Group and our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be at The National Centre for Early Music in York. The Steering Group will meet from 11am – 1pm. The AGM is from 1.30pm – 3pm. Members are welcome to attend our AGM. We will have more information on this soon.



Skills Bank Update

There have been lots of swaps that have happened since the last skills bank meeting including:

- A trainer standing in to run a Person Centred Planning session at short notice
- Lots of different people passing on information about how they pay and reward the reps on their Partnership Boards
- An employment service manager visiting a nearby authority to talk about how they have got more people into work
- A group of people have met through the Skills Bank to talk about how they can make their services better for people with high support needs.



Remember, if there is anything you need help with or think you can offer, get in touch!

You will not need to pay anything to take part and Angela will organise the swap to make it easy for you.

Short Breaks Learning Event on Thursday 4th October in York

Thank you to all those that got in touch to say they would be interested in getting together to think about short breaks.

Please get in touch with Angela to find out more. You can come to this event for the bargain price of 2 time credits!



Small Sparks Applications – get your applications in!

Over the summer your area was sent some information about the Small Sparks money that you can apply for.

There is up to £250 available for any project



that aims to improve things in people's local community.

So far the Skills Bank sub-group members have given money to 2 exciting projects:

- Tom Cowen and Phil Scott from York are having a **Dig in Day** at their allotment so they can meet other allotment holders and put some paths in to make their plot more accessible.
- A group of people from Sunderland are going to start working with local young people in schools and youth clubs to try to stop bullying, shouting and abuse. They have called their project **Our Way, Our Say, Our Choice**.

Remember, there is only enough money to fund 10 Small Sparks ideas so apply soon!

Exceptional

This is a 3 year project that will work towards changing the way people with complex postural care needs are treated. Inclusion North hopes that by talking to and working with Primary Care Trusts across the regions, we can help people with postural problems get the right care and help to prevent people having to go for surgery.

Please get in touch with Samantha if you want to help make this happen.

Have you used your members' vouchers?

Remember as an Inclusion North member you can ask us to help with a local project or idea – this time is just for you to use in the way you want to.

So far this year we have helped members with

- Partnership Board review and planning days
- Provider network workshop on Workforce and Self Directed Support
- Developing advocacy locally

Contact Samantha to talk about what you want to do

Inclusion North and Coast 2 Coast have got Home Office funding - Learning Together



Learning Together is a project to help Learning Disability Partnership Boards, Advocacy Groups and Community Safety Partnerships to understand and report Hate Crime against people with Learning Disabilities.

This project includes funding for a group in our regions led by people with learning disabilities to develop a training pack.

We are really pleased this extra money is coming to Yorkshire, Humber and the North East and that we get to share local skills nationally.

The project will start in September 2007 and end in March 2008

Community Engine

This project will help Self Advocacy groups get together to plan how to apply for money together to do the work they want to do.



We think that by coming together across a region self advocacy groups become stronger, and have a much better chance at getting money for their projects and things they are working on. We have James Jennings from Community Engine working with us on this.

We've already held Community Engine days in Newcastle and Middlesbrough.



This is a really useful tool in finding money for self advocacy groups – tell everyone!



Good Health & Getting Involved 16th October - London & 30th October – Leeds

Inclusion North are organising these days on behalf of Debra Moore from Valuing People.

A day around health checks and getting involved in health issues where you live. This day is for people with learning disabilities, their carers and health professionals.

I Can Speak for Myself 31st October - York

A workshop for supporters to discover how to help and support people with learning disabilities to find their true voice at meetings and events.

Talkbacks Self Advocacy Diversity Theatre Group will be working with us through the day.

This is at the Folk Hall in York on 31st October from 9.30am to 3.30pm



Live to work, work to live – Supported Employment training 8th & 9th November – Doncaster

A residential training session on employment over 2 days in November led by Michael Callahan and Anne O' Bryan

We would like to invite team managers or





leaders or supported employment leads from each area to attend this training.

John O Brien 21st November - Newcastle

A day for Self Advocates following on from the day we had with John last year on having a voice. This day will be about taking action on the things you want to get involved in

Including People with High Support Needs 23rd November – York

More information on this event will be available soon



PLAN Yorkshire & Humber – 12th November, Leeds

A partnership with in Control, Inclusion North and Connect in the North

A few families from across the country have been getting together to work out a solution to the inevitable issue 'What happens when I die'.

We searched nationally and internationally and found an organisation called Planned Lifetime Advocacy Networks in Canada.

This group have been offering sustainable circles of support to people for over 20 years. This helps families to secure a positive future and good life for their son or daughter for their lifetime and enables families to have peace of mind.



We are offering families in the North of England the chance to find out about what we learned in Canada as part of the *In Control initiative and to have the opportunity to develop a sustainable future for their son or daughter within their own community.

Why not come along to a day especially for families in Yorkshire and Humber on **Monday 12th November** from 10am until 3pm to learn more about the concept and ask questions. *There will be a nominal booking charge of £5 to cover the cost of lunch.*

For more details please call Leanne at Embrace on 01942 513053

PLAN North East

The first Introduction to PLAN event happened in May 2007. A group of people that had visited the PLAN institute in Vancouver, Canada led the day. They shared the things that they had learnt on their visit to the institute with the families and groups attending. Lots of people were interested in bringing this idea to the UK, especially in the North.

The event ended on a good note and the group now have strong plans to take this idea forward, they have set up a steering group, will get notes and a report out to people that attended and are working on the next steps to creating a PLAN North East!

As well as these local groups there is already work happening to begin a national group, to support and promote the growth of PLAN across the UK.

In Control are leading on this with support from Inclusion North

Contact Jane Aherne at jane.aherne@in-control.org.uk for more information

Getting in touch with Non Verbal People 16th November – York

A day for people and families with Phoebe Caldwell on communicating with people that don't use words. This is in partnership with Yorkshire Partners in Policy making.

Everyone is Born In 24th November – Durham

A day for people and families with John O'Brien and Moveable Feast Arts. This is in Partnership with North East Partners in Policy making.

Family Carers & Self Advocates

Inclusion North is for everybody not just professionals.

Please help us to spread the word and pass this newsletter on to people you know who have a learning disability or their family members.



Leadership course – Sharing the Challenge

A leadership course for family members and self advocates will start in February 2008. A leaflet is included with this newsletter.

People from Stockton, Middlesbrough and Darlington will be invited on this first course.

RED Nightclub

'Red' is a nightclub for everybody. You have the opportunity to meet your friends, make new ones, dance, and listen to live music. Red happens about 3 times a year usually winter, spring and summer at John McCarthy Bar, Hull University, Cottingham Road Hull and the next event is on Thursday 15th November and there will be live music from Odds and Ends a cover band.

There will be a blind date Valentines special on Thursday February 14th.

To find the university follow the signs into the city from any direction, there is good parking and full access inside.

You can find out more on the web site at www.hullred.co.uk or you can email Karen at Karen.helbrow@hull.ac.uk

Fully Accessible Adult Protection Course

Sunderland People First have created a fully accessible 'Adult Protection Course' designed for people with a learning disability and made by people with a learning disability

The pack includes a CD, 3 100% picture based Power Point presentations and a complete guide to the course.

Here are what some organisations think about the pack

"Mencap supports the Protect yourself and others pack".

'The training is well thought out, pitched at a good level for many people with a learning disability and tackles sensitive issues in a realistic way. The language is clear and unambiguous and the trainers notes are well thought through'.



From the Health Care Commission:

The 'Healthcare Commission has reviewed the material and believe it could be of benefit to any person or organisation seeking to provide high quality and safe services to people with learning disability'

Northumberland, Tyne and Wear 
NHS Trust

From Hill Psychology Service:

'This is an excellent, clear and well thought out course which is long overdue. It will be an effective tool in empowering people with learning disabilities to protect themselves and others from abuse. The pack will give people the practical knowledge and the confidence to know what to do and how to get help if they or others are being abused'

If you would like to know more about any of the things we have talked about in the newsletter or if you have news you want to share with the regions you can contact us, our details are below.

Contact Inclusion North



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