

Welcome to the sixth edition of *Better Health!* the newsletter of Debra Moore Associates

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## A busy time!

The last few weeks has seen the publication of a number of key reports and guidance relating to health including a resource Pack to support the implementation of Valuing People Now which includes the new guidance on Health Action Planning and Health Facilitation. I am sure these documents will be helpful in keeping up the interest and energy around reducing the health inequalities faced by people with learning disabilities.

*Best Wishes*  
Debra

[www.debramooreassociates.com](http://www.debramooreassociates.com)

## Ombudsmen's report calls for urgent review of health and social care for people with learning disabilities



An independent report, based on six investigations, published by the Health Service Ombudsman and the Local Government Ombudsman reveals:

Significant and distressing failures in service across health and social care;

- One person died as a consequence of public service failure. It is likely the death of another individual could have been avoided, had the care and treatment provided not fallen so far below the relevant standards.
- People with learning disabilities experienced prolonged suffering and poor care, and some of these failures were for disability related reasons;
- Some public bodies failed to live up to human rights principles, especially those of dignity and equality;
- Many organisations responded inadequately to the complaints made against them which left family members feeling drained and demoralised.

*Six Lives: the provision of public services to people with learning disabilities* can be downloaded at [www.ombudsman.org.uk](http://www.ombudsman.org.uk).



## Valuing People Now Resource Pack launched!!!

The Department of Health has launched a resource pack to support the implementation of Valuing People Now - this includes the new guidance on Health Action Planning and Health Facilitation. You can download the pack at [http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_097669](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_097669)

See the back page of this newsletter for details our forthcoming workshops on health facilitation and health action planning!

## DES Clinical Guidance

The [detailed guidance](#) has been recently updated to support implementation of the clinical DESs including learning disabilities and now includes information on audit requirements and coding

To view the full guidance, please go to  
[http://www.nhsemployers.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/Clinical\\_DES\\_Guidance\\_mh23032009.pdf](http://www.nhsemployers.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/Clinical_DES_Guidance_mh23032009.pdf)



## One Day Training Course: Mental Health & Learning Disabilities

The Clear Thoughts project ([www.clearthoughts.info](http://www.clearthoughts.info)) has a range of information regarding the mental health needs of people who have a learning disability.

The website is for individuals themselves, their families and those supporting them.

The Clear Thoughts project has developed a one day training course regarding mental health in learning disability. The session is aimed a front line staff working with individuals and their supervisors.

For more information about the training course or any other information please check the website or contact the project worker David on [clearthoughts@arcuk.org.uk](mailto:clearthoughts@arcuk.org.uk)

## Live with a better heart

The British Heart Foundation has produced a really good DVD and booklet for people with learning disabilities. To order the DVD and booklet call the BHF orderline on 0870 600 6566.

For more information about keeping your heart healthy visit the website

[bhf.org.uk/keepingyourhearthealthy](http://bhf.org.uk/keepingyourhearthealthy).





## "More work needed in planning services and personalising care"

### Commissioning services for people with learning disabilities and complex needs - a national report

The Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI), the Healthcare Commission and the Mental Health Act Commission (MHAC) have published a joint report reviewing how councils and PCTs commission services on behalf of people with a learning disability and complex needs. The report looks at commissioning in 9 local authority areas across England. You can download the full report at

[http://www.cqc.org.uk/\\_db/\\_documents/8071-CSCI-LDisability.pdf](http://www.cqc.org.uk/_db/_documents/8071-CSCI-LDisability.pdf)



### NHS Confederation PCT briefing: Commissioning healthcare for people with learning disabilities

This recently published briefing by the NHS Confederation in collaboration with the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities is aimed at Primary Care Trusts and gives a really useful overview of current issues including those relating to the Michaels Inquiry

<http://www.nhsconfed.org/Publications/Pages/Commissioning-healthcare-learning-disabilities.aspx>

### Improving the patient experience:

#### The King's Fund's Enhancing the Healing Environment programme

Since 2000, the Department has supported the King's Fund's Enhancing the Healing Environment, a nurse-led environmental improvement programme. An extension to the original programme has included Trusts providing services for people with learning disabilities as well as those providing mental health services. There are some truly remarkable examples of innovative and beautiful spaces .

For full details go to:

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_095947](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_095947)

## Events & Training

We provide training and consultancy services to commissioners, providers, self advocacy organisations and family carers.

Our focus is on promoting person centred and inclusive health services for everyone including people with learning disabilities, mental health needs and older people.

We do this by providing bespoke support, training events and conferences to share the latest thinking and good practice.

### Finally....

I hope you have found this newsletter helpful - we welcome comments and feedback. If you would like to include an article or news item in our next edition please contact us on [info@debramooreassociates.com](mailto:info@debramooreassociates.com) or visit our website [www.debramooreassociates.com](http://www.debramooreassociates.com)

## Health Action Planning and Health Facilitation

### MAKING IT HAPPEN!

Debra Moore Associates are pleased to announce the following timely and important workshops to help support and promote the implementation of Health Action Planning and Health Facilitation.

#### Workshop 1

*Leading and Managing Local Change to Support Better Health*

#### Workshop 2

*1:1 Health Facilitation - The Basics*

#### Workshop 3

*Including Everyone - Health Action Planning and Health Facilitation with People with Complex Needs*

Workshops have been developed and will be delivered by recognised experts in the field, Anne Hutchinson, Laura Summers and Sam Rich.

This series of workshops are tailored to support participants to attain relevant skills and knowledge and make the most of their time.

You can attend all three workshops but we have designed them so that you can attend the ones that suit your needs best, for example workshop 2 is particularly aimed at people who will be involved in developing and facilitating individual Health Action Plans.

If you are not sure if which ones are right for you please contact us.

### Midlands

#### Derby

The Riverside Centre

Workshop 1 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Workshop 2 24<sup>th</sup> September

Workshop 3 30<sup>th</sup> October

### North

#### Leeds

St Georges Church Centre

Workshop 1 14<sup>th</sup> September

Workshop 2 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Workshop 3 25<sup>th</sup> November

To book a place at any of these workshops, or to find out more information please send an email to [info@debramooreassociates.com](mailto:info@debramooreassociates.com) or call Elaine on 01723 371446