

Let's make it a life worth living – human rights and learning disabilities

This conference will provide practical ways to illustrate how human rights principles and standards can be used to secure a better quality of life for people with learning disabilities.

Why is this important?

In 2001, the Valuing People White Paper included “rights” as one of its four guiding principles. Current Government policy stresses the importance of “citizenship”, the personalisation agenda and person centred approaches in response to the human rights agenda.

However, the Joint Committee on Human Rights Report “A Life Like Any Other?” (2008) identifies that the human rights of people with learning disabilities are violated every day. This report draws attention to a widening gap between Government policies and the daily lives of people with learning disabilities who are more likely to experience social exclusion, poverty and isolation.

In addition, recent investigations and audits of services have exposed neglect, abuse, discrimination and indifference.

It is anticipated that Valuing People Now will strongly emphasise that people with learning disabilities have the same human rights as everyone else, and that public services have a duty to respect and promote these rights in everything they do.

In response, this conference will raise awareness of how human rights can be used as a practical tool to tackle inequality. It will link the legislation – the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended) – to best practice, showing how human rights can act as a powerful and accessible lever to obtain better support and services to aid decision making, and ensure that the keys to citizenship are available to all.

Aims of the conference

- To raise awareness of the relevance of human rights for people with learning disabilities and their families, carers and support workers
- To provide information on key issues around public service provision
- To provide examples of good practice and explore practical strategies for the sector

Who should attend?

Anyone who commissions or provides services; frontline staff; advocates; people with learning disabilities and family carers or anyone who works for people with learning disabilities.



Programme

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|-------|---|
| 9.15 | Coffee and registration |
| 9.30 | Welcome and introductions Keith Smith, BILD |
| 9.45 | A life like any other' – overview of the Joint Committee Report Andrew Dismore, Joint Parliamentary Committee (tbc) |
| 10.15 | An introduction to human rights Roisin Cavanagh, British Institute of Human Rights |
| 11.15 | Tea and coffee |
| 11.30 | Workshops – choice of 1 – 6 |
| 1 | Human rights – key rights and learning disabilities Roisin Cavanagh, BIHR |
| 2 | Rights and quality support: how to implement it into practice Meryl Cuzak, Merseycare NHS Trust |
| 3 | Hearing from the seldom heard Liz Brooks & Sue Thurman, BILD |
| 4 | Challenging behaviour, seclusion, restraint and human rights Sharon Paley, BILD |
| 5 | Ethnicity and learning disabilities – a human rights perspective Mark Wakefield & Bridget Fisher, Independent Consultants |
| 6 | Health and human rights Helen Mycock, Valuing People |
| 12.45 | Lunch |
| 1.45 | The right support? Making human rights a reality for parents with learning disabilities Linda Ward, Norah Fry Research Centre, Bristol |
| 2.30 | Tea and coffee |
| 2.45 | Workshops – choice of 1 – 6 (as above) |
| 4.00 | Plenary |
| 4.15 | Close |

At the time of going to press this programme was deemed to be correct. However, we reserve the right to alter or cancel any part of the programme due to unforeseen circumstances.

Delegate Fees

Book online at www.bild.org.uk or please photocopy and complete one form for each place.

BILD membership no:

If you wish to claim members discount please quote your membership number. If you do not know it or wish to become a member please contact Pam Mazurek T: 01562 723010.

| | Total |
|---|----------------------|
| Members £150.00 + VAT (£176.25) | <input type="text"/> |
| Non members £185.00 + VAT (£217.38) | <input type="text"/> |
| Discounted fee* £50.00 + VAT (£58.75) | <input type="text"/> |
| Grand total inclusive of VAT (17.5%) | <input type="text"/> |

Terms and Conditions

Price includes lunch and refreshments throughout the day and a comprehensive delegate pack.

*Discounted fee

Person with a learning disability or ASD; family carer or enabler; unwaged; small voluntary organisation (i.e. an organisation working in the learning disability field with no more than five paid members of staff).

Cancellations

Cancellations must be made in writing and the following charges will apply:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 month prior | £25.00 |
| 1 month - 1 week prior | Half fee |
| 1 week or less | Full fee |

The cancellation charge will be enforced but we are happy to accept substitute delegates.

NB If you require an overnight stay please contact us and we can provide details of local hotels.