



# Moving On Update

## Sharing information – learning disability – young people – transition – black and minority ethnic (BME)

**Welcome** to the electronic **Moving On Update**. This Moving On Update is here to provide information to the carers and supporters of young people aged 14 and upwards from Black and Minority Ethnic communities who have a learning disability and are making the change from school to adulthood.

This electronic Update **runs alongside our website** [www.movingonup.info](http://www.movingonup.info) that is designed to be used by this group of young people supported by their carers.

Funded by the **Diana Memorial Fund**.

Run by the **Association for Real Change**, (ARC).

This Moving On Update goes out **free to all subscribers**. It will be **sent out monthly** and the project is currently funded until October 2006. Those who subscribe to come from a variety of backgrounds; some are professionals in both the public and private sector; some belong to voluntary organisations and others are people who have a learning disability or care for someone with a learning disability. Please feel free to forward the Update on to other people who may be interested.

**If you have something you want to share amongst subscribers you are welcome to email it to us to** [pam.smith@arcuk.org.uk](mailto:pam.smith@arcuk.org.uk)

**Sections** in the Moving On Update:

- **Useful information & news** about ethnic minority communities in England
- **Developments in strategies and policy**
- Interesting and important **meetings, conferences and events**
- **Moving On Up News** from our website [www.movingonup.info](http://www.movingonup.info)

## Moving On Up News

### Item 1

**Association for Real Change**

*Moving On Up Transition Fun Day's*

**More information:** Look at the flyer on the last page of this document

## Meetings, conferences and events

### Item 2

**Care Services Improvement Partnership (CSIP)**

*FROM TALK TO ACTION - Transition: Getting it right for young people*

This national conference aims to address the challenges to implementing effective planning during the transition from child to adult services across education, health and social care settings. It is aimed at professionals supporting young people in education, health and social care

Places are limited so book asap.

**Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> March 2007, 9.30am - 4.30pm

**Place:** Royal College of Physicians, Regent's Park, London

**Cost:** FREE

**More information:** Contact Louise Appleby. Email [info@camhs.biz](mailto:info@camhs.biz)

Telephone 0116 222 0004

### Item 3

**Conference - Race Equality Foundation**

*Building better life: Improving the knowledge and practice in housing provision to black and minority ethnic communities*

This conference will provide an opportunity to explore evidence on the health needs and experiences of black and minority ethnic communities as well as how to improve policy and practice.

The event will:

- Develop a critical understanding of the extent and content of evidence on housing inequalities
- Explore examples of what can work to improve housing provision for black and minority ethnic people
- Share knowledge on how to bring about change in the provision of housing for these communities
- Provide a forum for networking and action planning amongst front line staff, managers and their organisations

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2007

Place: Leeds Town Hall, Leeds, LS1 3AD

Cost: £50

**More information:** Contact Tracey Bignall on 020 7619 6225 or email: [tracey@racefound.org.uk](mailto:tracey@racefound.org.uk)

#### **Item 4**

##### **Conference - Race Equality Foundation**

*Making life better: Improving knowledge and practice in health provision to black and minority ethnic communities*

This conference will provide an opportunity to explore evidence on the health needs and experiences of black and minority ethnic people as well as how to improve policy and practice. The event will:

- Develop a critical understanding of the extent and content of evidence on health inequalities
- Explore examples of what can work to improve health provision for black and minority ethnic communities
- Share knowledge on how to bring about change in the provision of health for these communities
- Provide a forum for networking and action planning amongst front line staff, managers and their organisations.

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> March 2007

Place: School of Oriental and African Studies, London WC1H 0XG

Cost: £50

More information: Contact Tracey Bignall on 020 7619 6225 or email:

[tracey@racefound.org.uk](mailto:tracey@racefound.org.uk) Also look at

[www.raceequalityfoundation.org.uk/news/events.asp#mlbmar](http://www.raceequalityfoundation.org.uk/news/events.asp#mlbmar)

### **Item 5**

#### **Conference - Paradigm and The Children's Society**

*Choice and Control: The agenda for disabled children, young people and their families*

'This is no ordinary Children's services conference. It is a conference that showcases new and innovative practice which promotes and delivers Choice and Control to disabled children, young people and their families. Choice and Control is at the heart of all government policy. It is particularly important in children's services - it is all about tailoring services to the individual so families can live the life they want.'

Topics to be covered include:

- Very young disabled children making choices and taking risks
- Taking part in ordinary, everyday activities
- Getting support right for disabled young people who cannot instruct
- Young people's person centred planning and reviews
- Individualised Budgets and Direct Payments

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> March 2007

Place: New Connaught Rooms, London

Cost: £195 + VAT

More information: [www.paradigm-uk.org](http://www.paradigm-uk.org)

### **Item 6**

**Information day - Contact a Family**

*Special Needs Information Day for parents and carers of children and young people with special needs, and professionals involved in supporting them.*

At this event there will be a wide variety of voluntary organisations and services involved in supporting parents and carers of children with special needs exhibiting. There will also be a series of workshops/talks on ADHD, Understanding Children's Behaviour, Transition Planning, Communications Difficulties, Brain Gym and Diet and Nutrition.

Date: **28<sup>th</sup> April 2007**

Place: **Totton College, Southampton**

Cost: **FREE**

**More information:** For further information, please contact the Parent Partnership Service on 01962 845870 or by email to

[enquiries.pps@hants.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries.pps@hants.gov.uk)

### **Item 7**

#### **BME Spark**

*Annual Conference 2007*

This conference is for all practitioners who are working to improve the lives and services for vulnerable people who are from black and minority ethnic communities. Go along to network and learn about the implications of the new Supporting People strategy for organisations working with this group of service users.

Date: **3<sup>rd</sup> May 2007**

Place: **Royal Institute of British Architects, London**

Cost: **Varies from £145 to £295 plus VAT**

**More information:** Register online at: [www.bmespark.org.uk](http://www.bmespark.org.uk)

Tel: 0115 916 3104 Email: [bmesparkccc@aol.com](mailto:bmesparkccc@aol.com)

## Developments in strategies and policy

### Useful information & news

#### **Item 8**

##### **Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities**

*'Abuse of vulnerable people not just restricted to Sutton and Merton' - Press Release 17<sup>th</sup> January 2007*

The Healthcare Commission has carried out an investigation into services for people with learning disabilities with Sutton and Merton Primary Care Trust. In response to the findings, Barbara McIntosh from the foundation for People with Learning Disabilities has responded to the findings in a news release on 17<sup>th</sup> January.

"Low staff morale, isolation of the service, and lack of training means that staff are often ill-equipped to support and care for people with learning disabilities. These issues, combined with financial cuts to services are having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of people with learning disabilities across the country. The priority must be to train managers to help staff develop the necessary skills and values. Only through major investment will these changes take place."

Click on the website link below to read this news release from the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities in full.

##### **More information:**

[http://www.fpld.org.uk/page.cfm?pageurl=press\\_2007\\_01\\_11.cfm](http://www.fpld.org.uk/page.cfm?pageurl=press_2007_01_11.cfm)

#### **Item 9**

##### **University of Birmingham, School of Education and Disability Rights Commission**

*My School, my family, my life: Telling it like it is*

The University of Birmingham, School of Education, has carried out research, funded by the Disability Rights Commission, examining the extent to which disabled children are engaged and involved in the life of their school and in after-school activities.

Sir Bert Massie, Chairman of the DRC, said:

"Our research reveals generally high expectations among disabled schoolchildren and their parents in the education system, but frustration at the many challenges in accessing appropriate support and 'seamless services'. Many young disabled people face multiple barriers in accessing after school and out of school activities.

"Some young people have given up trying to take part in the informal social life of their school and many are heavily reliant on their parents to take them back and forth to structured, formal activities. Because of these challenges, disabled children are likely to spend more time at home with their family than out with friends."

**More information:**

To read the full press release from the Disability Rights Commission - 'Schools research reveals communication breakdown with disabled children' go to

[http://www.drc-gb.org/newsroom/news\\_releases/2007/](http://www.drc-gb.org/newsroom/news_releases/2007/)

To access the report *My School, my family, my life: Telling it like it is* go to

[http://www.drc.org.uk/library/research/education/my\\_school\\_my\\_family\\_my\\_life.aspx](http://www.drc.org.uk/library/research/education/my_school_my_family_my_life.aspx)

**Item 10**

**Council for Disabled Children**

*Opportunity for young people and families to talk about their transition experiences!*

Do you know any young people or families that would like to voice their opinions about their transition experience? If so, could you please put them in contact with Carolyn Atkinson on 020 7765 4919 [carolyn.atkinson@bbc.co.uk](mailto:carolyn.atkinson@bbc.co.uk)

Carolyn is doing a feature on Radio 4 about transition and would like to hear from those who would like to contribute.



**More information:** Contact Carolyn Atkinson on 020 7765 4919, email [carolyn.atkinson@bbc.co.uk](mailto:carolyn.atkinson@bbc.co.uk)

### **Item 11**

#### **Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities**

*News article about advocacy for children with learning disabilities*

The Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities backs the Children's Society's call for the Government to provide an independent advocate to all disabled children living away from home, but its Co-Director, Barbara McIntosh, says that the priority should be to provide good local support to every child and their family:

"Many children are having to leave their families and friends because local services aren't providing the necessary support. Growing up can be difficult for any child, but for those with a learning disability, it can be even more challenging. Children must be given the choice to stay at home, rather than be on their own sometimes hundreds of miles away from relatives.

"Our current Life in the Community project is working to enhance opportunities for people with learning disabilities to be included and supported in their local communities and we want to see this approach extended to all corners of the UK."

**More information:** Read the rest of this article on the Foundation's website at

[http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/page.cfm?pageurl=press\\_2007\\_01\\_11.cfm](http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/page.cfm?pageurl=press_2007_01_11.cfm)

### **Item 12**

#### **Transition Information Network (TIN)**

Update from transition seminar held in February 2007



TIN held a seminar to give people an opportunity to gain information on the wider policy agenda that will have implications for the transition process. As well as providing you with an update on recent policy, you will have an opportunity to contribute to the Every Disabled Child Matters campaign's future plans for improving services throughout transition.

Topics included:

Local Government white paper: Strong and Prosperous Communities  
Care Matters green paper: Transforming the Lives of Children and Young People in Care  
DfES/Treasury Review  
Update on Office for Disability Issues' work.  
Every Disabled Child Matters campaign.

**More information:** The presentations from the day can be downloaded from the TIN website at <http://www.transitioninonetwork.org.uk/view/1/0/261>

### **Item 13**

#### **AbilityNet**

*Adapting technology to help disabled adults and children use computers and the internet.*

AbilityNet is a national charity helping disabled adults and children use computers and the internet by adapting and adjusting their technology. They supported 490,000 people in 2005 including care professionals, employers, teachers and central and local government.

"We run Parent Information Days in the holidays for anyone who is concerned about their child's dyslexia, learning difficulty or other disability and wants to know about simple, low cost adaptations for their computer for home or school that can make a world of difference to their confidence and academic results.

We also provide advice, support and training for teachers and Local Education Authorities, as well as individual help for pupils."

**More information:** Go to <http://www.abilitynet.org.uk/> or telephone the Freephone Helpline on 0800 269545

### **Item 14**

#### **BMESpark**

*The new BMESpark website*

"The new BMESpark web site provides invaluable knowledge resources for commissioners and providers of Supporting People services. It is extremely comprehensive, thorough and adaptable. The web site is a leading-edge tool to help in improving the lives of vulnerable people from black and minority ethnic communities."

Find out how BMESpark can help your organisation to:

- Meet the race/diversity requirements of the Supporting People Quality
- Assessment Framework and the Audit Commission
- Understand black and minority ethnic needs and improve your services
- Gain recognition for your work with BME service users and communities

**More information:** Go to the new BMESpark website on [www.bmespark.org.uk](http://www.bmespark.org.uk)

### **Item 15**

#### **Every Disabled Child Matters (EDCM) campaign**

*Update - plans for 2007*

The EDCM has laid down its plans for the coming year. To support the Second Reading of the Disabled Children (Family Support) Bill that will take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Supporters are being encouraged to email their MP to check they are supporting the Bill or meet with their

local MP to discuss issues relevant to the debate. The following link helps you to do just this -

[http://www.edcm.org.uk/Page.asp?originx\\_9072ss\\_5576131602256j76h\\_20071173847i](http://www.edcm.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_9072ss_5576131602256j76h_20071173847i)

EDCM campaign has set itself the new supporter target of 25,000 to be reached by July 2007 which is the reporting date for the comprehensive spending review.

**More information:** Go to the website <http://www.edcm.org.uk> Contact Kate Williams, Campaign Officer for EDCM Campaign. Telephone 020 7843 6448. Email [info@edcm.org.uk](mailto:info@edcm.org.uk)

### **Item 16**

#### **North West Training and Development Team**

*Listen to me workbook, translated by Bolton's Young Adult Service*

This workbook has been translated into Gujarati and Urdu and looks fantastic!

#### **More information:**

To access it please go to the North West Training and Development Team website <http://www.nwtdt.com/> and click on the link 'Ethnicity' under the list of 'Forums'.



# moving on up

www.movingonup.info



Growing up and moving on? Got some questions?

Come to one of the **FREE Moving On Up Fun Days** in Chester-Le-Street or Birmingham! The days are for young people with a learning difficulty from black and minority ethnic communities who are becoming adults.

The Fun Days we held last year in Leeds and London were a huge success!

You can find out where to get information about transition, meet new people and think about what you want for your future.

The days start at 10am and finish at 2.30pm.

Different organisations will be there to help you think about work, college, advocacy, health and free time so that you can find out about what's out there and how you can get it!

Have fun celebrating our differences with workshops to get you moving and thinking using technology, drama and music.

Look at the news and events section of [www.movingonup.info](http://www.movingonup.info) for more information.



Yes, I would like to reserve \_\_\_ place(s) for young people and \_\_\_ place(s) for supporters at the fun day in Chester-Le-Street on **Thursday 26th April** at Durham County Cricket Ground.

Yes, I would like to reserve \_\_\_ place(s) for young people and \_\_\_ place(s) for supporters at the fun day in Birmingham on **Wednesday 6th June** at Queen Alexandra College.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this completed booking form back to Pam Smith Address: ARC house, Marsden Street, Chesterfield, S40 1JY Email: [pam.smith@arcuk.org.uk](mailto:pam.smith@arcuk.org.uk) Telephone: 01246 555043

