

Delegate Booking Form

Fax back to: 0115 916 3106 or

post to: Central Conference Consultants Ltd
23 Barratt Lane, Attenborough,
Nottingham NG9 6AD

Supporting families
where parents have
learning disabilities
and difficulties

21 September 2010, Nottingham

Standard delegate rate £ 165 + VAT = £193.88

Reduced delegate rate £ 130 + VAT = £152.75

(limited number available only to small community organisations /registered charities with 10 or fewer employees)

Registered charity number

Delegate Details (please print in black ink)

Mr Mrs Ms

First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Job Title: _____

Organisation: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Special Requirements (e.g access, dietary etc): _____

To Pay

- Enclose a cheque for the total amount, made payable to *Central Conference Consultants Limited* OR,
- Give exact invoicing address, including contact, dept. and purchase order number if you use them.

Terms and Conditions

This booking form constitutes a legally binding contract. Cancellations made by **31 August 2010** will be subject to an administration charge of 25%. We are unable to give refunds on cancellations made after this date, or for failure to attend the conference. Please notify Central Conference Consultants Ltd in writing of cancellations. Alternative delegates will be accepted and should also be notified in writing.

If you wish to speak to us regarding your booking, please telephone
Central Conference Consultants on: **0115 916 3104**



research
centre

Supporting families where parents have learning disabilities and difficulties

A one-day seminar to consider the barriers faced by parents with learning disabilities and difficulties, and approaches and initiatives which are succeeding in addressing these.

21 September 2010
Nottingham

Purpose of the seminar

The number of learning disabled people who are choosing to have children is rising, and this has significant implications for a range of mainstream, as well as specialist, service providers who work with both the parents and the children. There are few accurate statistics on the number of parents with learning disabilities and difficulties (one source suggests 250,000 parents in the UK have learning disabilities), but the observed increase has meant that more professionals now need to work with these parents.

Communication between parents and support services is essential. Where families come to the attention of child protection services, the parents have expressed concerns that they are not always listened to early on in the process. They may struggle to cope with information which is not presented in a user-friendly format, and may not fully understand the implications of procedures. In some cases this has meant that proceedings to have children removed from parental care have progressed further than they needed to. This fear of having their children removed may be a significant barrier to parents accessing the services they really need to support them.

A number of initiatives now seek to intervene earlier and very positively to support parents with learning disabilities and difficulties. The Good Practice Guidance on Supporting Parents with Learning Disabilities was published in 2007 and states that adults with learning disabilities should be provided with the support they need to look after their children appropriately. The Good Practice Guidance is relevant to professionals working in all fields and specifically focuses on safeguarding the children of parents with learning difficulties while enabling all services to fulfil their Disability Equality Duty.

This seminar aims to consider the Good Practice Guidance and resources available to professionals who work with parents who have learning disabilities and difficulties. It will also feature three very different local service initiatives which support such parents.

This seminar will include:

- **The Norah Fry Research Centre (Bristol University)** which also co-ordinates the **Working Together with Parents Network**. This is a free network for professionals supporting parents with learning difficulties, and provides access to numerous resources and support from other members. It has recently published a booklet 'Supporting parents with learning disabilities and difficulties - stories of positive practice' which is available to download free at www.right-support.co.uk.
- The **Valuing People Now Team** within the Department of Health, which produced the Good Practice Guidance, and will address both the Good Practice Guidance and subsequent developments
- **CHANGE** which is an independent service user-led organisation where learning disabled parents train and advise on the development of services. It produces user-friendly information and runs a network for parents
- **Norfolk County Council** which has a well-established Disabled Parents Protocol which particularly addresses the joining up of adult and children's social services and budget-sharing issues
- **KeyRing** (Wrexham) which provides supported housing and a range of additional services for parents
- **Family Action** which delivers the Valuing Families Project throughout Leicestershire, offering tailored home-based support to parents with Learning Disabilities

Who should attend

- Specialist services working with learning disabled parents
- Adult and Children's Social Services
- Supported housing services
- Children's Centres
- Family Support Workers
- Community nurses, midwives and health visitors
- Fostering and adoption services
- Organisations working with kinship carers
- Organisations working with young carers
- Education welfare specialists
- Parent Support Advisors

Agenda (subject to change)

- 9.30 - 10.15 Registration and coffee
- 10.15 - 10.20 **Welcome and introduction from the chair**
Beth Tarleton, Norah Fry Research Centre, University of Bristol
- 10.20 - 10.45 **The current situation for parents with learning disabilities and difficulties**
Beth Tarleton, Norah Fry Research Centre, University of Bristol; Co-ordinator of the Working Together with Parents Network
- 10.45 - 11.10 **Communication needs to work BOTH ways**
Austin Bradshaw and *Catherine Carter*, CHANGE, a parent-led organisation
- 11.10 - 11.25 Q&A
- 11.25 - 11.50 Coffee and networking
- 11.50 - 12.15 **A strategy to improve the lives of parents with learning disabilities and difficulties - the Good Practice Guidance and beyond**
Nicola Gitsham, Valuing People Now, Department of Health
- 12.15 - 12.40 **Disabled Parents Protocol - joining up adults and children's social services**
Joan Inglis, Project Manager, Support for Disabled Parents, Norfolk County Council
- 12.40 - 12.55 Q&A
- 12.55 - 1.55 Lunch
- 1.55 - 2.40 **Supported housing for parents with learning disabilities**
Gaenor Watts (Manager) and *Nikki Griffiths* (Service User), KeyRing (Wrexham)
- 2.40 - 2.55 Quick break to collect refreshments
- 2.55 - 3.40 **Intensive short term support for parents in their own homes**
Claire Wilson and *Sophie Evans* (Family Support Workers), Valuing Families Service, Family Action, Leicestershire
- 3.40 - 3.50 Wrap up and close of seminar

Venue

The conference will take place at the National Ice Centre, Bolero Square, Lace Market, Nottingham NG1 1LA. This is approximately 10 - 12 minutes walk from Nottingham rail station. There are several NCP car parks close to the venue (but disabled car parking on site can be arranged). Directions and details of nearby accommodation will be sent with confirmation of booking.

To book a place

- Go to www.ccclimited.org.uk and book on-line or
- **Complete the booking form overleaf**, tear off, and fax or post as directed (photocopied forms accepted)
- To speak with us, please telephone **0115 916 3104**