

Mental Health News

Master Classes – engagement models for commissioning services

The Mental Health News e-bulletin is a daily bulletin issued by the Mental Health Improvement Programme (MHIP) containing an item relating to a Mental Health issue, development or outcome in the North West.

The aim is to bring awareness to our stakeholders about service improvement and innovative projects underway in Mental Health across the North West, and to encourage you (the reader) to act as vehicle for ensuring that you or your organisation is engaged with the work where applicable.

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The Mental Health Improvement Programme (MHIP) in conjunction with the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) collaborative will be delivering monthly master classes on user, carer and public engagement from November 2009 for 6 months. The focus of this work comes out of the scoping exercise undertaken by MHIP in current models of engagement across commissioning and provider services. Within the North West there are a number of examples of good practice that can evidence clear meaningful engagement through good governance and a commitment throughout the organisation in working with communities in commissioning services.

The master classes will fall into an existing collaborative that supports commissioners in delivering the IAPT programme. The IAPT collaborative engagement workstream has been adapted to meet the needs of the IAPT programme alongside wider engagement approaches. A package of master classes in engagement models will be delivered to an audience of commissioners, engagement/communication leads, community development workers and user & carer development workers from across commissioning teams from within current membership of the IAPT collaborative and to key leads from NHS commissioning organisations currently not engaged with the IAPT programme.

The master classes will support the sharing of good practice and help to support the facilitation of learning whereby attendee's are encouraged to develop/build on their own engagement strategies. Throughout the period of learning there will be opportunities to share models of engagement with peers and facilitators. Peer review offers the chance to share and test out models of engagement developed at a local level. The programme will be facilitated by organisations with a track record of positive engagement with communities and who are willing to share their approaches.

The next master class is 27th January, 1pm-3.30 at Middleton Masonic Hall. For more information contact paul.greenwood@northwest.nhs.uk or 0161 625 7465

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