



**Bournemouth University Carer and Service  
User Partnership Group Annual Report**

**July 2006 – March 2007**

**By Peter Atkins – Carer and Service User Co-ordinator**

## **Introduction**

I started the role of Bournemouth University Carer and Service User Co-ordinator in July 2006 working for an initial period of 4 hours per week which has now moved on to 12 hours per week at a cost of £16.50 per hour.

I am based at the IHCS offices in Royal London House and have established a telephone and e-mail address on the University system which was completed within about 2-4 weeks.

I am being supervised by Gillian Thomas from the Social Work team.

My initial tasks of work so far have been as follows:

1. Establish a booking and recording system for the use of the Carer and Service User Partnership members.
2. Establish an Induction form for the group.
3. Update and co-ordinate the payment system for group members between both IHCS and PQ Depts.
4. Co-ordinate and Chair the Steering Group meetings on a 3 monthly basis.
5. Establish a link page for the group on the University website.
6. Provide a link between both the Social Work Team and the Post Qualifying Department and the Group.
7. Link up with both Statutory Authorities and the Voluntary Sector to promote the work the Group does.

## **Membership details**

The group initially consisted of 7 members who were the core group of the 'Getting involved' project which was 3 Carers and 4 Service Users.

This was increased to 8 in December 2006 when the group was joined by Helen Harman.

Current group members are as follows:

1. Carer (Learning Disabilities)
2. Service User (Mental Health)
3. Carer (Learning Disabilities)

4. Service User (Physical Disabilities)
5. Carer (Mental Health)
6. Service User (Mental Health)
7. Service User (Physical Disabilities)
8. Service User (Mental Health)

### **Induction Course**

We decided that we needed to expand both the numbers and variety of our group so with that in mind and with funding secured from Keith Brown in the PQ Dept. of the University we planned and open day for Organisations who showed an interest in supplying carers and service uses that were willing to take part in our first self run Induction course.

The Open day was held on the 2.2.07 at Bournemouth Central Library for an initial cost of £200.

We had a total of 35 people that attended the day which represented the following areas of interest:

- Drug and Alcohol
- Older People
- Domestic Violence
- Sexual Abuse
- Alzimers
- Mental Health

There were speakers from the Social Work team as well as the Post Qualifying Dept and 2 students from the Social Work Degree Course.

Angela Warren who will be the lead person on the Induction Course also gave an outline of the course which is now confirmed as starting on the 21.6.07 and will run for 4 consecutive Thursday at Royal London House Room 207 from 930am to 4pm.

After the Open day so far we have had 11 confirmed bookings for the course which will have a maximum of 10 people on it. We aim to confirm the final 10 names for the course by the end of April 2007.

Course planning meetings were held on the 29.11.06 and 16.1.07 for a total of 6.25 hours as well as the Information Day held on the 2.2.07 for a total of 3 hours.

### **Promotional Work**

We are currently working with Alex Pierce from the Post Qualifying Dept. in designing a Poster for the Group as well as a bookmark with the aim of producing x1000 A4 posters and x1000 bookmarks on the initial printing run.

### **IHCS Work**

1. Steering group meetings x3 3.7.06, 9.10.06 and 8.1.07 total hours for all 3 meetings was 6 hours.
2. Student interviews x7 12.1.07, 25.1.07, 6.2.07, 23.2.07, 9.3.07, 19.3.07 and 26.3.07 for a total of 37.75 hours
3. Portfolio Readings x2 7.12.06 and 8.3.07 for a total of 5.50 hours.
4. Talk on Self Harm x2 19.10.06 and 27.10.06 for a total of 4 hours.
5. Talk on Law x2 31.10.06 and 8.2.07 for a total of 4 hours.
6. Carers experience of Community Care x1 22.11.06 for a total of 1 hour.
7. Carers and S/U consultation involvement talk x1 1.12.06 for 1.50 hours.
8. S/U and Carers Feedback form x1 22.2.07 for 1 hour.

### **Post Qualifying Project**

1. Steering Group meetings x2 10.10.06 and 31.1.07 for a total of 4 hours

### **Skills for Care**

1. Tendering panel meeting x1 16.3.07 for 3 hours

Please see Annex 1 for a full breakdown of the Groups hours worked as well as travel costs.

### **Future developments**

We are planning the following developments in the future:

- Joint Social Work and Health workshop linking in with Gail Stuart and Mike Kelly in April/May 2007.
- Linking up with the University Media Department to look at some joint work with their students to produce some video's on Carer's and Service User's talking about their experience.
- Further develop our website page on the University site.
- Hold meeting with Skills for Care about future work with them involving group members.
- Link up with Charles Elder to get an editorial in the Daily Echo to link in with National Carers Week starting on the week beginning on the 11.6.07

Overall we have achieved a great deal in a short period of time but we will have to be careful in the future not to over commit on activities as the demand for our group increases across a broad area.