



all about people

News from BILD

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Human rights based approach to healthcare wins BILD award

Mersey Care NHS Trust has been awarded the 2011 BILD Positive Behaviour Support Leadership Award for Innovative Practice. The award was made at BILD's annual positive behaviour support conference held in Hinckley on 5-6 May.

As part of BILD's work to raise the profile of positive behaviour support, and celebrate the good work being done by many in this area, we present awards that recognise innovative practice in the field of positive behaviour support and intellectual disability.

The Mersey Care submission was based on their human rights based approach to healthcare. Among the benefits this approach has seen are: service users have a much greater awareness of their legal rights and the skills to claim them, and service users are now seen as the experts on their own care and are involved in redesigning services.

"...the human rights of people with learning disabilities are often neglected; service users with learning disabilities are often unaware that they have rights, far less possessing the skills to claim them... people with learning disabilities often have very low expectations of NHS and other services. It is for this reason we have felt the need to adapt our service to not only inspire service users with learning disabilities to demand more of us, but then to respond with a level of provision which goes well beyond routine healthcare practice in its explicit integration of human rights."

Excerpt from the Mersey Care submission.

"The positive impact of Mersey Care NHS Trust's work on the lives of the people they work with was clear to us from their submission", said Sharon Paley, BILD's development manager for positive behaviour support. "Their work is at the forefront of national policy and guidance and fits so well with what BILD is promoting in the area of positive behaviour support."

Runner-up in the 2011 Awards, and 'Highly Commended' by the judges were Oxleas NHS Trust for their work in developing individual behaviour support plans in assessment and treatment services. Third, and 'Commended', were Dimensions' Buddies service.

Nominations have opened for the 2012 BILD PBS Leadership awards for Innovative Practice and details can be found at www.bild.org.uk/behavioursupport

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For more information please contact BILD's Communications Manager, Peter Salisbury on 01562 723010 or email p.salisbury@bild.org.uk

Notes:

BILD (The British Institute of Learning Disabilities) is based in Kidderminster, Worcestershire and was founded in 1971.

BILD's vision is a society where people with learning disabilities are equal citizens and have access to the support and services they need. We work to make this happen in partnership with people with a learning disability and family carers. They are the real 'experts', knowing what support is needed, and what needs to change to improve the quality of their lives.

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