

A new Advocacy project from BILD: learn from the PAST plan for the future

The Department of Health have told Health and Social Care organisations that they must offer people with Learning Disabilities funding to allow them to have more personalised care and services.

We want to know how well this is working for people from Black Asian Minority and Ethnic Communities.

I am a family carer and my son has learning disabilities.

I am a Health and Social Care Professional. I am involved in the assessments for individual budgets.



I work for an Advocacy organisation, which works with people from BAME communities.

We have Learning Disabilities. we have stories to tell. You may be able to learn from us.

Personal

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Personalisation means providing services and resources for disabled people who may want to have help to enable them to live fulfilling lives.

They may want support to go out to events.

They might also have complex needs which means that they need carers to help them: equipment may even be required.

Advocacy

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Advocacy means to speak up for yourself or for someone else.

An Advocate is a person who may be trained to support you to make your voice and your views heard.

Do you have an Advocate, or are you an Advocate working with people with Learning Disabilities from the BAME Community? Please contact us, We want to hear your experiences.

Story

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We want you to tell us your **Stories**. We will be meeting and visiting groups and individuals at locations across the country.

You can also contact us by phone or email. We may find people from Black Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities are having the same experiences:

we may all learn from these experiences if you

are willing to share your **Story**.

Telling

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We will be holding events in 2010. At these events we will invite people with from BAME Communities with Learning Disabilities, their Advocates, people from other charities and Health and Social Care workers. We hope people will share their stories by **Telling** us their experiences. We hope that we can learn from the stories told at the events.

THE JOURNEY SO FAR

Networking at BILD AGM

Representatives from Advocacy groups from across the country attended the AGM on 28th October 2009. Information about the **PAST** project was presented and contacts made with groups who were interested in the project and want to work collaboratively or contribute to the development of the project.

Further details about the collaborations with Advocacy groups will be included in the next newsletter.

Cultural Competency discussion paper

A discussion paper entitled, *'Towards culturally competent advocacy: meeting the needs of diverse communities'* has been written by Kate Richardson a consultant for BILD.

The discussion paper begins by stating that:

'Advocacy services can play an enabling or bridging role in facilitating access to health and social care for vulnerable groups. However, barriers exist which can prevent individuals from Black and Minority Ethnic communities from gaining equitable access to advocacy services.'

The paper concludes by stating that

'As the need for culturally competent health and social care grows, so the need for culturally competent advocacy services grows.'

The full document will be posted in the **PAST** project pages of the **BILD** web site.

Conferences

Sondra Butterworth is leading the **PAST** project and will be presenting a workshop at:

In Control BIG EVENT which will be held in Liverpool in 16th March 2010.

The title of the workshop will be:

*'Learn from the **PAST**, plan for the future: are you up to the challenge?'*

An interactive workshop for providers of services to BAME Communities.

BILD are running a joint conference with Paradigm on
5th March 2010.

Sondra will be speaking at the conference.

The title of the presentation will be

'Has Personalisation got the X factor?'

Rights vs Risk: balanced decision making: a positive way forward

Partnership working

Sondra met with Chris Sholl the Regional Valuing People Programme Lead for the West Midlands.

Chris and Sondra have agreed to co-facilitate an event in the Spring of 2010.

Advocacy groups, people from BAME Communities and professionals involved in personalisation and individual budgets will be invited to the event to share their experiences.

Key issues will be discussed at the event.
The lessons learned from the event will be written into a short report.

Personalisation and BAME Communities: Finding the X Factor!

CALLING ALL ADVOCATES

Excellence in Advocacy Consultation events

We plan to hold 3 consultation events in
Liverpool Birmingham and London in the Spring of 2010

Have you found the X-Factor?

The main objective of the events will be to discover what Advocacy groups, and the individuals who self advocate, think about individual budgets and personalised services.

Have you learned key lessons from your experience of
working with people from BAME Communities?

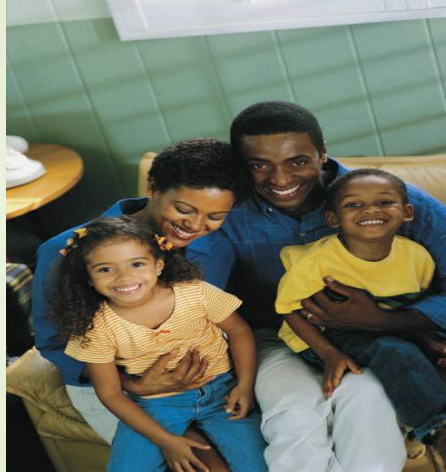
The responses from the Advocates who attend the events will be collated into a report, which will inform the direct of the **PAST** project and hopefully provide us with valuable information about why people from BAME Communities do not always access services through individual budgets.

Some Advocacy groups may have their own stories, which can provide others with valuable lessons about how we can more effectively engage with people from BAME communities.

The PAST Project Lead Sondra Butterworth



We want to hear your stories



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