

February 2017

## WY-FI beneficiaries

**1050**

the number of beneficiaries the WY-FI Project aims to work with by 2020

**452**

the number of beneficiaries we have started working with at the WY-FI Project

**263**

the number of beneficiaries currently active  
\*as at 31.12.2016

*supporting people  
with multiple needs  
in West Yorkshire*

## Welcome

A very warm welcome to Mark Neesom who has joined the Bradford Navigator team.

We would like to give a warm welcome to some new peer mentors who will soon be starting their new placements. Vicky has joined the Calderdale Navigation team and Simon and Nadia will be joining the Leeds Navigation team.

The Kirklees Team are looking forward to welcoming two new Peer Mentors to the team in February.

## Introducing the WY-FI Network

Picture this scene. People at a planning meeting are introducing themselves.

- “My name’s Jamil. I’m from Probation.”
- “My name’s Carol. I’m an NHS commissioner.”
- “My name’s Toby. I’m from the Council.”
- “My name’s Sally. I’m an Expert by Experience.”

The term ‘Expert by Experience’ is empowering for Sally and it acknowledges that she has gained unique wisdom from the challenges she has lived through. But are all four people at the meeting equal after making those introductions? We don’t know about Toby’s depression or the time Jamil fell in with the wrong crowd, but we know Sally has a past of some kind and that she is not there in a professional capacity. Yes, the others probably have the highest respect for Sally’s expertise, but it still feels strange for her to introduce herself to a group of strangers by singling herself out as different. Wouldn’t it be better if she could draw upon her lived

experience at the time of her choosing?

We all know how vital first impressions are. That was the first reason that WY-FI’s regional group of experts chose to be called simply the WY-FI Network, so “Sally from the WY-FI Network” can talk about her expertise when she’s ready, not to justify her place at that meeting.

The second reason goes right to the heart of WY-FI...

Who is WY-FI? It’s a project driven by lived experience, right? Then that network of people can rightly say “We are the WY-FI Network” – simple, no need for add-ons. It’s about claiming a place at the very core of the project. Of course, the WY-FI Network has been doing much more than agreeing on its name. Look out for a round-up of recent developments and future plans in next month’s bulletin.

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## In the national news

**Some see jail as a safe place: ex-prisoner's scheme breaks cycle of re-offending**

The work of former WY-FI Peer Mentor, Ken Denton, is covered in this Guardian article. Great to see such good work being recognised in the national press!

[Read more](#)

## Subscribe

To subscribe to the WY-FI Project newsletter, please email [sarah.stead@disc-vol.org.uk](mailto:sarah.stead@disc-vol.org.uk)

## WY-FI Kirklees

Roxanne, WY-FI Navigator in Kirklees, has undertaken to complete an amazing 10 missions to raise money for the Mission. If you would like to find out more and even support Roxanne in her quest please see the attached poster [Donate here](#)

## Workforce Development

### Introduction to complex trauma and trauma informed care

This course aims to provide delegates with an introduction to complex trauma and its physiological and psychological impact. It provides information and an opportunity to reflect on how your service can be a safe and empowering environment for staff and service users. Participants will also be given some practical resources for working in a trauma-informed way and will learn to recognize vicarious/secondary trauma within themselves and how to overcome it. Tuesday 14 February 2017 9:30 – 16:30 Leeds [More info](#)

### Housing Law

This course has been developed especially for WY-FI by Zaheer Mahmood from Foundation Legal Service. Zaheer will also be delivering the course. It is aimed at front-facing staff with little or no knowledge of the subject as well as those who would like to improve their understanding. Wednesday 22 February 2017 9:30 – 16:30 Leeds [More info](#)

### Women's Champion Training

Do you have the time, the skills and the empathy to provide practical and emotional support to women with multiple and complex needs? Together Women Projects (TWP) are recruiting Women's Champions to support women released back into the community. [More info](#)

### Communications skills using neuro-linguistic planning

Neuro-linguistic programming (NLP) explores the relationship between how we think, how we communicate and how we behave. NLP is a powerful change management tool – by studying and learning from others' preferred communication styles we can mirror and match these to positively influence behaviour change more effectively. NLP is a series of tools and techniques you can use with any interaction to achieve a more positive outcome. Wednesday 1 March 2017 9:30 – 16:30 Leeds [More info](#)

### Understanding multiple needs in BME communities

This course is aimed at front-facing staff and managers seeking to improve the support available to individuals from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities. Participants will explore the key barriers faced by individuals from BME communities who experience multiple needs of housing, addiction, re-offending and/or mental ill health. Participants will learn more about why BME communities are less likely to access support services than those from white British backgrounds and ways in which to improve access through careful consideration and acknowledgement of diversity. Tuesday 28 March 2017 9:30 – 16:30 Leeds [More info](#)

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## Blog

### Universal Credit brings fresh challenges for people with multiple needs, MEAM

Over the next two years more and more people with multiple needs will need to claim Universal Credit. That means getting to grips with a whole new system and the challenges that come along with that. Here are some of the emerging issues we've heard about. [Read more](#)

## Events

### WY-FI Annual Learning Event 2017

The WY-FI Project supports people with multiple needs across West Yorkshire. We gather evidence about what works and what doesn't work in order to influence system change. At this year's annual event, we will share our learning from year 3 of the WY-FI Project.

Thursday 27 April 2017 9:00-15:00, Leeds [More info and how to book your place](#)

## Latest reports

### Faulty by Design. The state of public service commissioning, Reform

This report by Reform evaluates current approaches to commissioning and sets out a vision for a new commissioning framework.

It reveals that commissioning bodies are not delivering value for money in three key areas:

- Commissioners are failing to focus on outcomes that matter to service users
- Fragmented commissioning bodies stand in the way of integrated services that meet users' needs most effectively
- Devolution of commissioning to local areas is not happening in practice [Read more](#)

### Mental health problems: statistics on prevalence and services, House of Commons

This briefing addresses the following questions: how common are mental health problems? How long do people wait to access talking therapies? How much is spent on mental health services? [Read more](#)

### Rebalancing Act, Public Health England

Public Health England has worked with Revolving Doors, the Home Office and NHS England to publish [Rebalancing Act](#). It is a resource for directors of public health, police and crime commissioners and other system leaders at local, regional and national level, to support collaborative work to improve health, reduce offending and health inequalities among people in contact with the criminal justice system. It refers to multiple and complex needs many times, and covers prevalence and policy, as well as making the case for investment. It advocates for better use of existing resources, whether through joint or co-commissioning, pooled budgets, or simply more effective collaboration. On page 11 there are points about systemic change which echo some of the discussions taking place at WY-FI in the System Change Action Network (SCAN). The appendix is also useful, as it provides a detailed overview of commissioning, legal and regulatory responsibilities of a range of relevant stakeholders. [Read more](#)

### Seeing through the fog: how mental health problems affect financial capability, Money and Mental Health Policy Institute

This report seeks to identify and catalogue the needs people with mental health problems may have, and to map how products and services could be adapted to ensure everyone has fair access. The full report is accompanied by two great summaries so you can get to the useful nuggets quickly! [Read more](#)