



LOTTERY FUNDED



WY-FI Project

Newsletter



DISC

September 2017

supporting people
with multiple needs
in West Yorkshire

WY-FI Beneficiaries

1050

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

592

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

347

the number of beneficiaries currently active

*as at 31/08/17

Policy Updates

Our August Policy Briefing is now available [here](#).

The bulletin focuses on multiple and complex needs and includes relevant:

- News and policy developments
- Key publications
- Resources

Criminal Justice Outcomes

The final report into the treatment of, and outcomes for, BAME individuals in the criminal justice system has just been published.

MP David Lammy's review highlights areas in the system producing unequal outcomes for BAME people and makes recommendations for addressing these.

The study found that:

- BAME disproportionality in the criminal justice system costs the taxpayer £309 million a year.
- BAME young offenders in custody rose from 25% to 41% from 2006 to 2016, despite the overall number of young offenders falling to record lows.
- The rate of Black defendants pleading not guilty in Crown Courts in England and Wales from 2006 to 2014 was 41%, compared to 31% of white defendants. This means they lose the possibility of reduced sentences and raises questions about trust in the system. [Read the full review.](#)

Job Vacancy

Foundation Services Manager - Leeds, South & West Yorkshire
£30,153-£34,538 - 40 hours per week

The Services Manager will support Team leaders in ensuring the provision of high quality, innovative services that meet the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals and families.

As Services Manager, you will be responsible for oversight of Calderdale, Bradford and WY-FI Services and will be allocated responsibilities for other services within Leeds and South Yorkshire, as directed by the Operations Manager. [Click to read more and apply.](#)

Closing Date: Wednesday 4th October 2017

Interviews: Monday 16th October 2017

Business Review Event

Our Annual Business Review Event is due to take place on 11th October at Leeds City Museum.

The theme for this year's event is "Pathways for People with Multiple Needs" and will focus on the priorities for the final two years of the WY-FI Project.

You can view the agenda for the day and book a place at the event [here](#).

New Training Calendar

Our new Training Calendar is now available [here](#).

The training is aimed at professionals working with those with multiple and complex needs and includes:

- Complex Trauma & Trauma Informed Care
- Navigating Mental Health Services
- Learning Disabilities and Complex Needs
- Understanding Multiple and Complex Needs
- Introducing Psychologically Informed Environments

For more information about the courses please contact roger.abbott@disc-vol.org.uk

connecting people, services and commissioners

West Yorkshire - Finding Independence
Delivering Fulfilling Lives:
Supporting People with Multiple Needs Programme

www.wy-fi.org.uk

Tel: 0113 887 0000

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Service Provision for Women

Mapping the Maze maps service provision for women with multiple and complex needs.

The report finds that there is not enough help across the board for women in England and Wales. Support is extremely patchy – with some areas having a range of services for women, while others had very few or no services at all. [Read the full report.](#)

Save the Date - Kirklees Event

WY-FI Kirklees are holding a Locality event on Tuesday 17th October at The Mission, Huddersfield.

The team are hoping to engage with lots of Kirklees services and will be holding workshops to support professionals when working with individuals with multiple and complex needs and to highlight the System Change agenda. Contact 01924 448979 for more info.

Focus on Personalisation Fund

The WY-FI Personalisation Fund is one of two funds set up to help meet beneficiaries' needs and is used to support them on their journey towards a fulfilled life and when they face a gap in existing provision.

Our latest [Briefing Paper](#) considers the link between the Personalisation Fund and improved housing outcomes for beneficiaries. [Read the full briefing.](#)

Graeme and Christian's stories below support the discussion in the [Briefing Paper](#) and show the real life impacts of the Personalisation Fund and how it can help beneficiaries move forward with their lives.

Graeme's Story

History

Graeme had just been released from prison when he was first referred into WY-FI and required high level, immediate support.

Needs

At referral stage Graeme had the following needs:

Re-offending



Mental ill health



Homelessness



Support from WY-FI

The Navigator worked with Graeme to secure a tenancy and furnish the flat. As the relationship developed the Navigator was able to find out about Graeme's interests and accessed the Personalisation Fund to purchase gym equipment for Graeme to use at home.

Impact of Personalisation Fund

Due to Graeme's anxieties he was unable to go to the gym, so being able to use the Personalisation Fund to purchase gym equipment to use at home allowed him to build up confidence. The Personalisation Fund also enabled Graeme to make his flat into a home with the purchase of paint and carpets.

Christian's Story

History

Christian had been released from prison and was in temporary housing when he was first referred into WY-FI.

Needs

At referral stage Christian had the following needs:

Re-offending



Mental ill health



Homelessness



Support from WY-FI

The Navigator worked with Christian and the housing provider to ensure Christian met his obligations while staying in temporary housing and this led to a permanent tenancy. The Navigator accessed the Personalisation Fund to purchase essential items for Christian's new home.

Impact of Personalisation Fund

The Personalisation Fund was used to purchase a cooker and fridge which allowed Christian to cook his own healthier meals, instead of him buying take-aways. The Fund was also used to purchase a washing machine which enabled Christian to be able to wash his own clothes and be more independent.



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Reflections from a brand new team



Joe from the Hub here, thrilled that the Co-Production Team at WY-FI finally has five new members of staff! Their aim is to connect WY-FI beneficiaries with opportunities to participate in the WY-FI Network and other meaningful activities in their local areas. Here's how each of them found their first week in the new job.

Vicky Ashington - Calderdale

"I have been working as a peer mentor for Calderdale for the last year. In that role I'd placed strong emphasis on group working and engaging beneficiaries. I was thrilled when the paid role of co-production champion came up as it seemed a natural and exciting progression.

This first week; leaving the shire! And commuting over to Leeds has made me feel like a professional person again. I've loved meeting my team and felt completely supported in bouncing ideas around and sharing our hopes and fears of how we will best meet the needs of our new role." [Read more about Vicky's thoughts on the development of the role.](#)

"The fact the role has been specifically designed for us has made the...transition from benefits to paid work seem far less daunting"

"[It's] really exciting work. I think our team will bring a creative range of perspectives to this job role. "

Jon Mills - Kirklees

"After peer mentoring for a while and some involvement in Co-production projects, I applied for this role believing it was the way to go and that I wanted to be part of it.

Highlights of my week have included sharing our experiences with two new groups of 'cohorts' from whom I received support and encouragement for the future and....being part of a new team who all have something different to offer and with whom I feel we have bonded well. I look forward to us growing together and supporting each other over the next eighteen months." [Read more about Jon's hopes for the future.](#)

Edmund Abbott - Wakefield

"There is something different about traveling to a paid job. I've been volunteering for some time but suddenly finding myself employed makes me feel like a part of society again, joining the rush to work like a fully-fledged member of the working world. This week I've been based in Leeds for a 3 week induction and have met my fellow co-production champions. I think this has been the best part of the week, connecting with my colleagues and feeling part of a team, and a great bunch they are too with a whole host skills and ideas." [Read more about Edmund's induction.](#)

Darren Pedley - Leeds

"I have been quite lucky really that our meeting place has been in the Leeds Hub as this has been my working environment for the last couple of years as a peer mentor.

I also imagine how difficult and challenging this must have been as an idea to develop and manage, in such a way to try to accommodate us as a team individually, as we all have very different personal needs as employees with lived experience." [Read more about Darren's thoughts on the concept of the role.](#)

Rachel Boardman - Bradford

"Coming from the background of a volunteer/peer mentor in Bradford, I have found that my first week has had its highs and lows. I have enjoyed spending time on team building and getting to know the other Co-production champions. By the middle of the week I was overwhelmed, I did not know what would be expected of me or what my job description would entail and I found this to be quite frustrating and felt quite anxious. However, as the week has progressed I feel like I have found my feet and feel like things are sliding into place." [Read more about Rachel's thoughts on her recent training sessions.](#)

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Reflective Practice

****Free** Homeless Link reflective practice session for frontline workers across Yorkshire and the Humber.**

The session will explore how reflective practice can contribute to supporting people experiencing homelessness and will begin with an example of how reflective practice has been embedded within a service at a number of different levels, including 1:1 between staff and at groups for people with lived experience.

The purpose of the Community of Practice is to:

- Create solutions for local issues
- Share skills, knowledge and experience
- Empower each other to bring about change
- Enhance cross sector knowledge

This is not a training course but an interactive, practical session enabling attendees to increase their knowledge, hear good examples from services around the region and develop ideas and actions as to how to implement the approach yourself. All are welcome at the Community of Practice so please feel free to invite colleagues, volunteers or experts by experience who may be interested in the topic.

There is no charge to attend this event due to funding, but places are limited so book as early as possible. [Find out more and book your free place.](#)



Missions for The Mission

Congratulations to Roxanne who has completed 7 of her Missions so far...

Roxanne is a Navigator with the Kirklees team and has set herself one gruelling mission per month to raise money for The Mission in Huddersfield. In her latest challenge Roxanne braved midges and temperature extremes in her ascent of Ben Nevis.

You can support Roxanne via her fundraising page [here](#).



Rough Sleeper Count and Street Research

WY-FI Navigator team support the rough sleeper count in Leeds.

Craig Sibson (Navigator) and Simon Yates (Trainee) hit the streets of Leeds to support the twice yearly homeless street count in Leeds, run by Change Grow Live (CGL).

The Count involved a combination of agencies going out in groups around Leeds to provide welfare checks for those on the streets and count the number of people sleeping rough. The Count started at 3am and ran into the morning, lasting a total of 5 hours. Groups worked in both the city centre and surrounding areas to provide a true picture of rough sleeping across the city. Craig commented that "the night was a great example of inter-agency working".

The information gathered is used to inform the Local Authority about the severity of the homeless problem in the city. WY-FI used the night of the Count to help people sleeping rough to access the correct support, as often those experiencing homelessness are faced with additional barriers. WY-FI's recent street research focuses on some of the barriers faced by those experiencing homelessness both in Leeds and across West Yorkshire. [Read the full research report.](#)

Fulfilling Lives: Supporting People with Multiple Needs

As a partner in the Big Lottery and National Lottery Funded 'Fulfilling Lives: Supporting People with Multiple Needs' Programme we are pleased to be involved in a national programme that aims to improve the lives and wellbeing of people with the most complex needs who are currently excluded or disengaged from services. [Find out more](#)

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