



Sunderland People First

A Voice For Change

Newsletter - Summer 2016 

Celebrating Learning Disability Week

Sunderland People First have been raising awareness of learning disability as part of a National week of activities and campaigning.

We have really enjoyed running some community awareness sessions at City Hospitals and have had some great conversations with staff and members of the public.

Supporting Friendships

This year we are celebrating 'Friendships and Relationships' and we are encouraging everyone not just to celebrate the friendships they already have, but to go out into the community and make some new ones. We ran our first Friendship group event in partnership with Friends Action North East which was a great success. These will continue monthly and further information will be available on our website.



Launch of Learning Disability England

Jodie is a director of Inclusion North and was invited down to the House of Lords for the launch of Learning Disability England. The event was attended by a fantastic number of self-advocates from across the country.

The message – we – self advocates, families and service providers – are stronger together

Check out the Learning Disability Alliance website for further information:

<http://learningdisabilityalliance.org/>





Training Team in the Spotlight

Advocates have received amazing feedback as part of their Disability Awareness Training sessions with new support staff.

We really enjoy delivering the training and would like to say a big thank you for all the positive comments we have received.

"It feels fantastic when we know that our training makes a real difference to new staff" – Gavin Barr

Raising Awareness of the EU Referendum

We believe it is important that people with a learning disability are supported to vote. We ran voting in the European Union awareness sessions at our Community Resource Centres at Fulwell and Washington. Events were designed to be interactive and we had some brilliant debates with both teams. We were really pleased that the majority of people had registered and were intending to vote.



Developing Accessible Health Information

Members of our team have been working with Ashley Murphy, Acute Liaison Nurse to create easy read information for the Sunderland Action for Health website.

We are also raising awareness of how people can leave feedback about their last Annual Health Check:

<http://bit.ly/1UQIAIx>

Co-production Workshops

We are working together with Northumberland Tyne & Wear Trust to look at different ways that people with learning disabilities and autism can help improve health services. This was our second meeting and we are excited about the action plan that is developing.



Safe Places – listening and sharing

Sunderland People First were asked to talk about the success of Sunderland Safe Place Scheme at a regional event in Darlington organised by Inclusion North.

We now have over 50 Safe Place place localities across Sunderland & Washington which can be seen on this map: <http://bit.ly/1Mzwadu>

Raising awareness of Hate & Mate Crime

We would like to thank the Police & Crime Commissioner, Vera Baird for funding additional hate and mate crime training which we will run on a regular basis, starting July.

We are working closely with Northumbria Police to co-deliver this training. We provide training to people with learning disabilities, families and professionals.



Changing Perceptions of Disability

Sunderland People First and Autism in Mind are delighted to announce that we have secured funding from the Fourteen programme to organise a range of events in the East area of Sunderland around 'improving perceptions towards people with disabilities'. Fourteen is administered by the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland and funded in partnership with Sunderland City Council, the Community Foundation and Spirit of 2012; who established the programme from the legacy of the 2014 Commonwealth Games and the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics.

Partnership Working

Sunderland Learning Disability Partnership Board continues to meet every three months and always has a packed agenda. At the last meeting we talked about the autism 'All About Me' training pack and our plans to support the Health Charter for Social Care Providers. For information about the Partnership Board please get in touch with our Partnership Officer, Claire Quinn on 5616148.



Health Quality Checkers presentation 14.6.16

North East Health Quality Checkers

North East Health Quality Checkers have been recognised by NHS England for their positive work: <http://bit.ly/1Ylzpdg> We have been asked to pilot new resources for quality checking a range of health services

Sunderland Health Quality Checkers continue to quality check GP Practices and will shortly be quality checking the Community Learning Disability Team at Monkwearmouth.

Tall Ships Sail Ambassadors

Congratulations to Toni Anne Wood and Andrew Cowe who will represent Sunderland as sail ambassadors for the 2018 Tall Ships events. Andrew now has his sea-legs after sailing on HMS Lord Nelson from London-Greenock. For information about Tall Ships events visit website: <http://www.tallshipssunderland.com/>





Sunderland People First

We are a Community Interest Company based in the North East of England. Our business is about improving the lives of people with learning disabilities and autism. Our experience is based on over 20 years of working alongside the Health and Social Care Sector. Working closely with Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group and Sunderland City Council we have built up a highly regarded professional and award winning reputation.

Accessible Information



Meet your statutory duty and make sure that consultations and information are accessible to people with learning difficulties. We are experts in making information clear and easy to understand. We have experience of working with a range of partners to develop easy read information and a lot of our documents are used around the country and even the world. We also provide consultations and training around developing your own accessible information.

Training



We offer a range of training programmes which include Disability Awareness, Values, Hate & Mate crime and Personal Assistant training. We produce bespoke training packages to meet the needs of our customers. All of our training courses have been developed and are delivered by people with learning disabilities.

Consultancy



We have experience of consulting with people on a large or small scale. We have developed links both locally and throughout the region allowing us to connect with people. Our consultations have helped shape local and regional policies.

Quality Checking



Quality checks provide an Expert by Experience view of how your service or organisation meets the needs of people with learning disabilities and autism. Our quality checkers team are unique in their experience and their range of checks with both health and social care providers.

Contact us



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@SunPeopleFirst



Do you have any thoughts or suggestions for our team? If so, we would love to hear from you: <http://sunderlandpeoplefirst.com/contact-us/>