

2011 Knowledge Transfer Scheme

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Title of research project: Promoting futures planning for ageing family carers of older people with learning disabilities (LD): a training the trainers approach.

Abstract:

Development: Information from a current NI study will be collated and combined with the knowledge obtained from 'The Future is Now Intervention' (Heller & Caldwell, 2006) and 'Safe and Secure' (Etmanski et al., 2011: Scottish Edition). Partnership with Prof Tamar Heller in Chicago, USA, Equal Futures in Scotland and Positive Futures in NI (a regional LD organisation working in Bangor & Lisburn), will support the development of a NI 'train the trainers' future planning programme and pilot a programme to refine the educational workshop, training manual and resources ensuring that it is appropriate for NI. Trained staff will be observed by the knowledge transfer team in how they deliver the 'future planning programme' to individuals and a group of ageing family carers.

Implementation: Education workshops will be rolled out to range of personnel across all five HSCT's free. The workshops will be delivered by members of the knowledge transfer team using a train-the-trainers programme and the participants will also be provided with a manual and resources where they then can provide education and support on a 1-1 or group format to the ageing family carers.

Evaluation: After the training has been rolled out across the five H&SCT's, participants and family carers will be contacted and asked would they like to participate in one of five focus groups to evaluate the benefits of this training.

Specific knowledge transfer deliverables: Adaption of the promoting futures planning specific to the needs of LD and mainstream older people staff, and ageing family carers within NI; A series of 20 two-day workshops designed to train-the-trainers across the five H&SCT's; Significant and achievable change in future planning activity; Reduction in carer burden, fear and stress; Multi-professional collaboration and networking to improve future planning across NI; Maintaining the older person with LD to stay within their family home; Significant reduction in crisis placement as a result of poor planning.