

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE
Mike Thomas
Manager of Mental Health Services

- The first meeting of the **Mental Health Promotion Media group** has taken place. The purpose of the group is to work with a range of interested parties including representatives from local radio and newspapers to reduce stigma and discrimination associated with mental health issues.
- The first meeting of the **Section 31 Board** will take place on September 30th. The purpose of the board is to look strategically at the way that integration between Health and Social Services is moving. Chair of the group is the Director of Health Developments, Simon Hairsnape.

Contact: Mike Thomas 01432 270243
mike.thomas@hpct.wmids.nhs.uk

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE
Simon Thompson
Adult Operational manager

- **David Smigielski**, new Approved Social Worker in the **Assertive Outreach Service** starts on October 1st.
- **Firaz El Shawk** - Community Psychiatric Nurse (CPN)- leaves the Assertive Outreach Service on October 18th to take up position as Manager of Health Care Wing at HMP Brockhill. Thanks for all your efforts Fiz and best of luck in your new post.
- Advertisement for a replacement CPN will be out mid September
- Staff Review and Development appraisals will be happening shortly for social care staff working within adult mental health services

Contact: Simon Thompson: 01432 262850
sthompson1@herefordshire.gov.uk

MENTAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENTS
Sue Bennison
Mental Health Development Manager

- Local Authority **“Best Value” review of Carer Support Services** will begin in October. Sue Bennison is mental health representative in this process.
- Although we do not have a designated property yet, £15,000 has been made available to the service to use for fixtures and fittings for a crisis house through the Supplementary Credit Approval process
- Minutes are available for **Suicide Prevention task group**
- Service users involved with MIND Day Services have asked me to extend an invitation to anyone from Community Mental Health Teams who would be interested in being part of the **MIND Day Service Steering group**. The meetings are held quarterly with approximately 15 – 20 service users and MIND day service staff. The purpose of the meetings is to review day services and to plan for the future.

Contact: Sue Bennison 01432 262887
sbenniso@herefordshire.gov.uk

SUPPORTING PEOPLE
Ian Gardner
Senior Project Officer Supporting People Team

- Supporting People developments are now moving on a pace and many of you will be involved in assisting the process of making claims for transitional housing benefit for service users. Thanks for all of your hard work.
- Simon Thompson and Sue Bennison are involved in discussions with the Carr-Gomm Society about Supporting People developments within the FACT (Forensic Arrest Community Team) and Assertive

Outreach Service. Carr-Gomm is a Registered Social Landlord specializing in providing supported housing and associated services. More information anticipated next month.

Contact :Ian Gardner 01432 383074
ian.gardner@herefordshire.gov.uk

INPATIENT SERVICES
Margaret Reilly
Senior Sister
20 – and counting

- The Day Unit at Stonebow is holding a planning day on October 23rd to address development issues in their service. More info to follow.

Contact: Margaret Reilly: 01432 364433
margaret.reilly@hpct.wmids.nhs.uk

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
FOR OLDER PEOPLE
Rita Harrison
DMHOP Team Manager

- Cherie Hoare, Social Worker is working in DMHOP on a short term contract on two days per week.
- Two social workers have been recommended for posts in DMHOP following interview. References are being sought so that they can take up post.
- Interviews for consultant post within DMHOP take place on September 26th.

Contact: Rita Harrison 01432 263850
rharrison@herefordshire.gov.uk

HEREFORDSHIRE MIND
Ian Clements
General manager

- Herefordshire MIND Education Service (LEAP) autumn courses all begin week commencing September 23rd. Details from Tiz Chapman on 01432 359635
- Cath Eburne, Education Development Project Worker will be talking at the Adult Mental Health Development Group in October.

- Herefordshire MIND rural day services are now able to pick people up from the more remote parts of the County for Ledbury and Leominster Day Services. Details from Tansy at Heffernan House 01432 278569(mobile 07941 990005)
- Tony Hodder, South Wye User Led Project (SWULP) Development worker is now in post. Tony's job is to work with service users to develop a drop in service in the South Wye area. Copies of the SWULP research is available from Tony who is presently based at the Herefordshire MIND Barroll Street offices – 01432 359635

Contact: Ian Clements 01432 271643

Ian.clements@herefordshire-mind.org.uk

PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIP
Mike Metcalf
Partnership Officer

- Each year we have to produce a Local Implementation Plan (LIP) setting out progress in implementing the National Service Framework. (NSF – mental health -adults of working age) The Herefordshire LIP, along with similar reports from all localities in England provide the Government with a picture of how far, and how fast, the NSF is changing mental health services. Features of the 2002 LIP include:
 - A traffic light self-assessment of progress on 41 aspects of the service
 - Short reviews of services on in-patients, prisoners, mental health promotion and suicide prevention
 - A financial plan
 - Details of all our services (statutory, user-led, and independent sector) that go onto a national website (See below)
- Details of all mental health services in England are collected annually by the University of Durham on behalf of the government –
www.dur.ac.uk/service.mapping/amh

The information collected has been produced in an “atlas” which allows comparison of Herefordshire’s provision with every other part of the country e.g. how does our quota of inpatient beds, nurses, social workers, psychiatrist, psychologists compare with anywhere else? The link to the atlas is through the website but Mike has a few paper copies available.

Contact: Mike Metcalf, 01432 344344
Mike.Metcalf@hereford-ha.wmids.nhs.uk

MENTAL HEALTH FORUM
Dean Storey

➤ **World Mental Health Day**
(Thursday, October 10th)

“Who can I turn to?”

An event to be held in St Peter’s Church Hall (opposite the Shire Hall in Hereford) which will use an international theme “the effects of physical and emotional trauma to children” and explore and share ideas on what services are available for young people in Herefordshire.

- Talks, presentations and discussions 10-1 (by invitation)
- Market place style displays from 2-4 (open to the public)

For more information and an invite to the morning session please contact

Dean Storey on 01432 263064

Contact: Dean Storey, Development Worker,
c/o HCCA, Chapel Yard,
Burgess Street, Leominster
HR6 8DE: Tel 01568 613333

MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION
Roger Hanson
Mental Health Promotion Co-ordinator

- **World Mental Health Day- October 10th**. We are anticipating a mental health feature on one of Radio Hereford and Worcester’s morning shows and articles in the local press.

Contact: Roger Hanson 01432 262851
rhanson@herefordshire.gov.uk

PALS AND USER/CARER INVOLVEMENT
Euan McPherson
PALS Co-ordinator

- The new User Involvement Worker (Adults and Carers) is Helen Lee who took up post on September 9th. Interviews have taken place for the Children and Young Persons post but no news yet of an appointment. Helen and Jeremy Cox (already in post) are now starting to address the priorities on the work plan. New PALS promotional material is available and the service will be rolled out across the Primary Care Trust-

Contact: Euan McPherson 01432 262023
euan.mcpherson@hpct.wmids.nhs.uk

TRAINING – INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Five people have been accepted on the **Interdisciplinary RECOVER Programme in Community Mental Health** at Birmingham University. The course participants are: Jeannine Alsop and Rachael Stephens – Community Mental Health Workers. Alison Clark, Approved Social Worker in FACT (Forensic Arrest Community Team) and Peter Clark and Nikki Smith from Herefordshire MIND
- **Behavioural Family Therapy (BFT)** training provided by John Downing under the auspices of the MERIDEN programme, a regional initiative that aims to promote family work for people with psychoses. Training dates are 5/6 and 13/14 November at Moor House.

Info from John at CMHT,
62, Etnam Street, Leominster
01568 613202

- The only staff that are required to undertake the mandatory **Food Hygiene Training** are those who are involved in preparing and handling food for service users.

- **“Trailblazers” West Midlands Integrated Primary Care Training Programme** Participants from primary care and secondary mental health services come together as “learning pairs” to jointly define and meet their local mental health training needs. A “teaching the teachers” approach enables the learning pair to cascade to local colleagues. Information event about this innovative training scheme in Birmingham on October 16th. More information from Mike Metcalf or Sue Bennison and evaluation of the training programme accessible through West Midlands Partnership website: www.wmpmh.org -Primary Care Network

PCT BOARD and
PROFESSIONAL EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE (PEC)
Dr Chris Thomas
Consultant psychiatrist

- Dr Thomas’ role is to represent mental health issues on these Committees and to play a part in commissioning, management and provision of mental health services in Herefordshire.
- **New Consultant appointments:**
 - Dr Darryl Watts; considerable experience in Bristol. Will provide Consultant psychiatric input to Hereford City team 1 (Sarum House, Wargrave House, Greyfriars and Belmont practices) Special interest sessions in the Assertive Outreach service and hoping to join us in January 2003
 - Dr Hester Womersley; this will be her first Consultant post and she will be working with the Community Mental Health team based at the Knoll in Ross on Wye. Special interest sessions likely to relate to” Early Intervention” and anticipating taking up post in November 2002
- With a full complement of Consultants it is likely that the Division of Psychiatry

will soon be looking at special interest sessions across the service.

**Contact: Dr Chris Thomas 01432 364127
Mo.Williams@hpct.wmids.nhs.uk**

HEREFORDSHIRE USER GROUP
ADVOCACY SERVICE
Philip Pankhurst
Manager

A wide range of issues is being brought to the service and being dealt with successfully. Many of the unresolved problems are not related to mental health service provision.

- Monthly advocacy services have been established in Leominster, followed by Ross on Wye, Kington and Bromyard from November 2002
- Visits made and talks given to introduce the service to users and providers throughout Herefordshire
- People carrier/mobile office acquired to take the service to users who cannot get to the office
- Advertisement placed for a second salaried advocate to deal with expanding workload and to help consolidate HUG’s position as the leading provider of independent user representation in Herefordshire

**Contact: Philip Pankhurst 01432 370283
pp@advohug.fsnet.co.uk**

There has been a very positive response to the first newsletter from a range of people within and outside of Mental Health Services. Thank you for your comments. If you have any further comments, suggestions, information to be included in future issues would you please send them to:

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