

Michelle

Feedback from the What I do delivery group and the East Kent Mencap

We have noticed that since lockdown we have found so many different ways to reach people;

By phone/ text/ E-mail/ letter

Facebook / social media /WhatsApp

Kara rolled out by KCC - free communication.

We found that the 'Valuing People Now' and 'What I do' work is overlapping as people are choosing different activities and work. All of these come under the same heading.

Friendships have developed with people keeping in touch in between meetings.

Supporting carers to meet every 2 weeks preventing isolation, and sharing advice and understanding.

Work ongoing with Foreland Fields School for Pupils Voice virtual What's Next event which is planned for February 2021.

We are continuing to work together with St Nicholas School to create easy read and Makaton based information about Covid 19.

I was asked by the 'Accessible Information Standards' team if I knew anyone who would be able to deliver Autism training so I linked them together with Autism and Learning Disabilities and Autism Programme Board.

As a direct result of links made through the LD&A Programme Board, a new carer to our Carers Group has got the support she has needed for many years

Steve

People are choosing to join 'Books Beyond words, this acts as a social and support group, there are now more than 6 groups held each week in the East Kent areas.

The District Partnership Groups videos have been created during the pandemic - one in July and one in December and sent out to partners, schools, day centres individuals etc. The latest video is available at bit.ly/DPG-December-2020

Three People in different residential homes are now using staff PC's to join zoom groups

Ian

We have been sharing the Lockdown survey feedback with the Care and Support Alliance to compliment the national Big Social Care Survey 2020 as their aim is to tell the Government what it has been like for people who use social care during the Coronavirus outbreak.

We have had Easy read groups working weekly with Kent Community Health Trust to change leaflets into Easy read. Over 30 have been changed this year.

The Easy read groups and carers have been working on improving Hospital passports with the Learning Disability nurse Annette and EKHT.

Easy read leaflets, booklets and other easy read material are continuing to be uploaded onto usb's for EKHT clinical libraries to make easy read information more accessible for staff and therefore patients.

Vanessa

People from all over the country and abroad are meeting up together, something that would not have happened before.

People have been supported to join the newly formed KMPT Programme Board for Autism and Learning Disabilities, we have invited Whitney and Theresa who are on the board to join the Easy read group to see how people help make documents easier to understand.

We are a part of the 'Treat me well campaign' with Royal Mencap to promote reasonable adjustments

Vanessa has been working with Tizard Centre and Bemix to raise awareness of long stay hospitals and mental health to be more recognised.

Each organisation we have joined up with, we have then invited them to come onto the Books Beyond Words and Easy read meetings to show them what easy read group is all about.

All thank you for listening.