

21st Oct 2008

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: BOURNEMOUTH

Tuesdays 6:15 – 7:45pm Clubhouse, Boscombe

The past can last and ways to overcome it.

Participants: 2 Ex-offenders and 7 Others (Police, B'mouth Council, BCHA & PD)

LEARNINGS

"It frustrates me when people say no but don't give a satisfactory reason."

(Ex-offender)

"I get a lot of help at the moment from BCHA floating support and their social activities."

(Ex-offender)

"I've got a good friend and I draw on his positive attitude towards life."

(Agency)

"I help myself too."

(Ex-offender)

Help comes in many different forms, not just from agencies.

"Things that happened in prison ten years ago really affected me. I had to cut my arms to get attention, it really did my head in.... One of the male workers in my hostel reminds me of prison officers, he has the same look about him which can set me off. He was really patronising and I was about to pack my bags." (Ex-offender)

"I know my past experiences can effect my perceptions today and how I respond to people."

(Agency)

"If this guy is triggering emotions from the past, why don't you get to know him and spend some time talking to him when you're ready and at your pace."

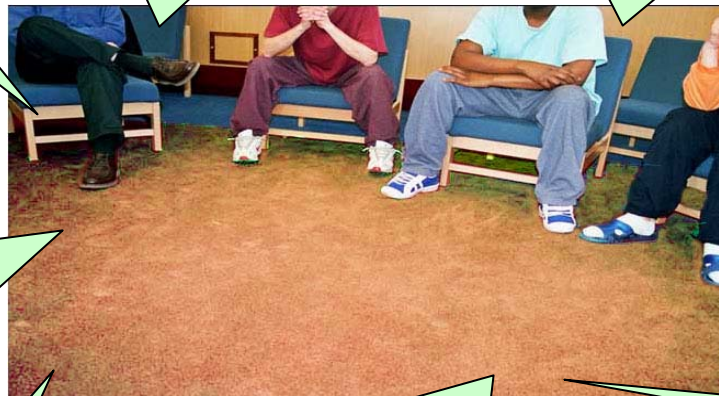
(PD)

"We don't want people not to come along to the group because of problems elsewhere. Often when people are having problems this is a place that they can come to - it's an open group."

(B'mouth Council)

Bad experiences in prison can have a big impact for a long time and affect the way offenders perceive things and act in the community.

There's a balance between helping people too much or not enough. It applies to this group and how much we reach out to people who miss sessions.



Bournemouth Threshold Dialogue brings Bournemouth offenders together in open conversation with the agencies responsible for their supervision and support. Dialogues are themed on the issues affecting re-offending. The process starts in custody and continues post-release in the community, emphasising support, challenge, responsibility and early intervention. Threshold Dialogue is supported by Bournemouth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership.