

23rd Dec 2008

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: BOURNEMOUTH

Tuesdays 6:15 – 7:45pm 43 BCHA, B'mouth

Tis the season to be jolly?!!

Participants: 2 Ex-offenders, 1 Police, 2 BCHA & 2 B'mouth Council

LEARNINGS

"I'm an alcoholic. This time of year is hard for me due to my partner's children, who are in their teens, openly drinking around me. I also find it hard because I don't have any contact with my own children."
(Ex-offender)

"This will be the first time I've had a roof over my head at Christmas in 3 years."
(Ex-offender)

"By next Xmas I just want to be happy and content – drink and drug free."
(Ex-offender)

This time of year can be hard for everyone.

"I feel that I need structure and something to do. It's the boredom that's part of the reason I'm drinking again after several months of being clean – I'm sick of Daytime TV."
(Ex-offender)

Change isn't just hard..... It can also be scary.

Sometimes it's the simple things in life that can bring happiness.

"Structures helped me. Attending Foundation has kept me busy and kept me away from other people who are using."
(Ex-offender)

"I've been on benefits so long it's become a comfort zone. I would like to work but I'm afraid. There's also no financial incentive – after I would have paid rent, bills etc, I'd be worse off than on benefits."
(Ex-offender)

"I was on benefits for a long time. I started doing voluntary work and applied for a job in that area. I was scared to make that change also, but felt good about myself when I did."
(Ex-offender)



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.