

9 Sept 2010

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: BOURNEMOUTH

Thursdays 4pm – 6pm BCHA, Dorset Lodge

Same s**t, different day

Resettlement Pathway: Accom / Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour

Participants: 3 Service Users, 1 B'mouth Council & 1 Family Intervention Project

LEARNINGS

"I have only had one keywork session since I've been here."

"I've had 2 sessions."

"I've been here 3 weeks and I've had a keywork session every week."

"If you're liked in here you get treated differently, but you can't like everyone can you?"

(Service Users)

"If staff cared about you they wouldn't be able to do their jobs properly...how could they care about you and then have to evict you?"

(Service User)

"I feel better now I've been able to come here and talk. Now I've talked about what happened to me last Thursday I feel much better."

(Service User)

"What about rapid payment, you should get that within a couple of weeks." (Agency)

"I tried that and I didn't get any money for 6 weeks. I kept contacting benefits but they kept saying they'd lost my paperwork or hadn't received my fax. Every time that happened it went back to a decision maker. When I told them I had no money they said take out a crisis loan, why would I want to get myself into debt? They didn't care though"

(Service User)

If agencies do what they've always done they're going to get what they've always got.

Service user feedback about systems and procedures can help to improve service provision.

Being able to talk things through helps some people.



"I was at rock bottom when I stopped using. I was on the streets and I had nothing. I decided I wanted something better for myself."

(Service User)

"I was a drinker for 16 years, then one day I decided to stop and I haven't drunk a drop for 17 years. It was when my son was born." (Agency)

"When my daughter was born I tried to stop using drugs for her but I couldn't. I realised you can't stop taking drugs for someone else, you have to do it for yourself"

(Service User)

"I've been told that there's a new rule. If you're 2 weeks late paying your top-up you get a warning. You get a warning for every 2 weeks you're late. If you've just been released from prison you don't get any money for 6 weeks. So you would have had 3 warnings and they can evict you."

(Service User)

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.