

21st May 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: BOURNEMOUTH

Thursdays 2pm – 3.30pm BCHA, St Paul's

Thinking about the next step

Resettlement Pathway: Accommodation / Attitudes, Thinking and Behaviour

Participants: 5 Service Users, 1 B'mouth council, 1 Police, 2 BCHA & 1 PD

LEARNINGS

"Monday to Thursday I love because I do voluntary work for the council, and work at the BCHA allotments...I was jealous because someone else's onions were growing faster than my radishes!! I don't look forward to the weekend because it is then I have nothing to do."
(Service User)

"I've never lived a proper life... I want to get the Rent Deposit scheme and to get my own place, but I've heard that I can't because I don't have a local connection."
(Service User)

"You need to go to the right people to get the proper advice...you cant listen to people on the street- they might not know what they are talking about."
(Service User)

The dialogue group is a safe place to share issues and concerns, and to get help.

Its better to take your time and get support to get your own home than rush into it and see it go wrong.

"Everyone wants their own place, its like the holy grail, but its better to take time to do it right. Lots of people do it too quickly and end up in trouble."
(Agency)

"Yes, it's better to use the support of staff while you are here to help be better prepared."
(Agency)



Even when your homeless you can find things to do that you enjoy and give you purpose.

"I was in Lansdowne Gardens and moved on too fast...I wanted my own place so I could see my kids, but moved too quickly...now I am homeless again."
(Service User)

"We now have a policy of inclusion at BCHA. At Lansdowne Gardens we are working with people who lapse instead of kicking them out. Some have misunderstood and have been saying we are now a wet house. This isn't the case, we are just being more flexible in trying to break the cycle of homelessness, and everyone is at a different stage of the journey."
(Agency)

"I just had some really bad news. It's made me think about things from my past...It's made me think about my family."
(Service User)

"I will make some time to see you one on one and make sure you get the support you need."
(Agency)

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.