

28th May 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: BOURNEMOUTH

Walking before you run

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

Resettlement Pathway: Accommodation / Education, Training, Employment / Mental, Physical Health / Drugs & Alcohol / Finance / Children & Families

Participants: 2 Service Users & 1 Bournemouth Council

LEARNINGS

"I was in Chapmans and a friend asked if I wanted to get a flat with him. I asked people's advice and some said to do it and others said don't. I asked my counsellor and he said 'what does your heart say?' I told him it was saying don't, but I did it anyway and it all went wrong."

(Service User)

"You need to use the agencies that are there to support you and you need to be honest with them. Otherwise they can't give you the support you really need."

(Service User)

"I've got a social worker who I've had since I was 18. I find it difficult to tell him the truth because I started off by lying to him all the time. I really trust him though."

(Service User)

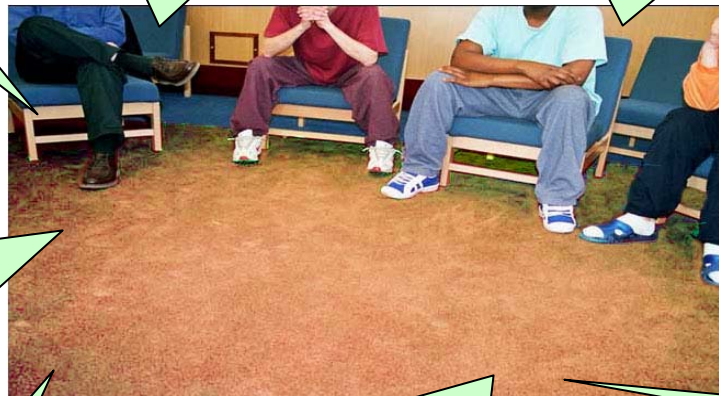
Use the people that are there to help and support you.

Changing the type of relationships you have with people can be hard.

Taking small steps on the road to recovery can be the key to success.

"You need to take small steps. You need to get your methadone script right first. Everyone thinks that detox is the answer, but it's only the beginning. You're going to need support to get through it and you'll need support with your housing."

(Service User)



"I want to detox and get a place of my own. The longest I've been off heroin since I was 18 is 6 months. The longest I've been completely clean is a month. I want to see to my education as well."

(Service User)

"When I was using my mum wouldn't give me any money either. She'd buy me clothes or food or other things but she wouldn't give me cold hard cash because she knew I'd stick it in my arm. She said 'I'm not giving you money so you can kill yourself with that s**t'."

(Service User)

"I'm not in contact with my mum at the moment. I found out she gave my sister £10,000 and she won't even give me the money for a deposit on a place to rent. My family blame me for everything that goes wrong anyway."

(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.