



**Croydon User Council
Meeting at: Friends Meeting House
1 – 4 pm 1st April 2008**

ITEM	ACTION	WHO
1.	WELCOME INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES & HOUSE RULES:	
2.	MINUTES FROM MARCH MEETING Disability Discrimination Act - D.A.N.D.A. rep not present to speak about this. Mental Health Forum Rep has attended a D.A.N.D.A. meeting; to be discussed further later. Future meetings: Would like to know more about out-of-hours services at Mayday Hospital. Next newsletter will be about Bethlem Linkworking – it may be possible to get a speaker from Bethlem Hospital. Minutes signed off by Chair (HUV)	
3.	LINKWORKING @ BETHLEM There are currently 8 Linkworkers; 7 more are being trained at present. A review meeting with Bethlem staff and ward managers has been temporarily postponed. Linkworker stated that Alex ground floor is a very good ward, have community meetings. Nurses are more involved in running occupational therapy (OT) and so have more contact with patients, rather than patients being sent somewhere else for OT. HUC – there are large differences between the wards Voices Rep asked about Linkworking on other wards. Had visited an older person in a different unit. HUC – Hear Us (HU) will hopefully be going into some of the other units in the future but at the moment there are not enough workers to go around. Linkworker – last visit to Gresham 2 ward was not very productive and Linkworkers only saw 2 people. LINKWORKING @ PURLEY CMHT HUC – went to Purley for Linkworking. Room had to be booked twice by phone, but on arrival the room had still not been booked. Linkworkers	



HEAR US



had to use Purley User Group room, but no one had been told about event, and so Linkworking meeting did not take place.

LINKWORKING @ TAMWORTH CMHT

Tamworth Road Linkworking is to take place over a whole week starting on 21st April

LINKWORKING @ THE CRESCENT CMHT

No news from The Crescent so far.

LINKWORKING @ ANOTHER SERVICE

Linkworking will later include Foxley Lane Women's House. It was suggested that Linkworking should also cover Ashburton Road. It is also hoped that the Fairfield Club will included at some point during the current year.

USER FOCUSED MONITORING

Selhurst Road - several meetings with residents have been held to discuss the content of the questionnaire to be used.

4. NEXT OPEN MEETING @ FAIRFIELD CLUB = MEDICATION
Azizah Attard, The Senior Psychiatric Liaison Pharmacist

HUC requested that potential areas of interest and questions should be noted before meeting:

- Side-effects and interactions between drugs
- Herbal medications, vitamins and supplements
- Safe doses of medication
- Reported early deaths of patients on medication – possibly due to medication (or diet, exercise etc)
- Model of brain.
- Blood tests and regularity.
- Coming off medication drugs.
- Pregnancy and drugs.
- DEPOS
- Is there a Borough-wide policy document on medication? (ie which medications are used for which conditions?)

BME group rep requested that information sheets about medication should be made available

5. CHARITY UPDATE – HEAR US EGM

The July 1st CUC open meeting at the Fairfield Club is to include voting on Hear Us Constitution. HU needs as many members as possible to attend (minimum of 30) for voting.

Ideas for the party included: a DJ (Peter from MIND?), Poetry (from APCMH), Creative Routes, SIMBA, Magician, Richard Sutton



HEAR US



(saxophone)

6. YOUR CENTRE UPDATES:

Kingfishers Rep – have now had a council worker look at Kingfishers building. The cost of refurbishing the flat may be available as part of a regeneration grant for New Addington.

Kingfishers Rep has undertaken some work at Maudsley – it may be possible to invoice for this on behalf of Kingfishers Association so as to raise funds. He is also looking at setting up centre for IT with UK online/ Learn Direct.

Lantern Hall rep has resigned from CUC.

HUV- Lantern Hall is to stay open until September.

Healing Waters - no news from them as yet.

Organisation has been involved in research for University of Central Lancashire on BME services. The report for this is almost completed and involved approximately 15 service users. However, research was not permitted to include inpatients.

Kingfishers Rep asked if it would be worth setting up a BME user group if there is no interest in it.

Mental Health Forum Rep – previous meeting was about carers and their needs.

There is also 4 staff working with BME community groups around Croydon, and inpatient services. The next meeting is going to be about the new Mental Health Act amendments. Mental Health Forum Rep also spoke about the talk 2 Croydon website, which can be used to promote events and meetings, and also to gather views from users.

Health Champions course. This is a 16 day course on health promotion, for tackling inequalities about any health matter. Participants have to put on an event, or produce a report. For this they have a budget for £250. The next course is due to start this month – but will also run again in the future.

Voices Group Rep. Voices is a service-user group open for all mental health service users. It meets every 2nd Wednesday from 7 to 9pm at Katherine Street.

D.A.N.D.A. group – rep not present.

Voices Group Rep is member, and explained who they were.

Mental Health Forum Rep attended very interesting conference run by them recently. They are a completely user-led group.

Croydon MDF – meets on 3rd Thursday every month. Addiscombe Grove church, from 7.30 – 9.30pm.



HEAR US



Mental Health Forum Rep – any group can book a room in the town hall/library for free

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

30th April – Southwark user council conference. 2 speakers from national MIND: about back-to-work processes and also about CPAs.

Mental Health Forum Rep – petition ‘stubbing out our rights campaign’ against deadline of banning smoking in hospital smoking rooms. Is also available online.

Freedom pass – because of delays in processing renewals, the freedom pass is now valid for an extra two months - until the end of May 2008

Minutes Signed off by Chair.		
Name:	Signature:	Date:



HEAR US



MEETING TYPE	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Closed	Tuesday 1st April	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office
Open To All	Tuesday 6th May	1 – 4 pm	Fairfield Club
Closed	Tuesday 3 rd June	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office
Open To All	Tuesday 1st July	1 – 4 pm	Fairfield Club
Closed	Tuesday 5 th August	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office
Open: AGM*	Tuesday 2nd September	1 – 4 pm	TBC
Closed	Tuesday 7 th October	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office
Open To All	Tuesday 4th November	1 – 4 pm	TBC
Closed	Tuesday 2 nd December	1 – 4 pm	Hear Us Office

Please send apologies to Tim Oldham or Robert Yaxley 020 8681 6888
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