A DECADE OF CO-PRODUCTION IN PRACTICE

Sunny Dhadley FRSA CMgr
Drug & Alcohol Service User Involvement Officer
In 2006 the joint commissioning team decided that there was a need to have an independent voice for users of drug treatment services.

Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council was approached with the proposal.

They agreed to host this new project and initially based it on a mental health empowerment project, based at WVSC.

SUIT was established in February 2007
Initial Service Level Agreement

Service User Involvement

Encourage Volunteering
Hold Forum Meetings

Produce Newsletters
Run Consultations

Attend Meetings

Co-production Research with People Recovering from Problem Substance Use
It soon became apparent that the project could do much more than giving people a voice (although that’s important).

Politically & strategically, there was so much aspiration...

But this was this not always visible at an operational level?

We decided to fill the gaps!
So We Did This

- Listened to and acted upon service user need
- Became a completely ‘peer led’ service
- Increased the level & variety of support/interventions
- Increased the competence of staff/volunteers
- Created a more robust & mutually beneficial volunteer programme
- Created networks of support/opportunities
- Heavily promoted & marketed the service
- Updated our service level agreement
- Introduced bespoke monitoring tools
- Established a consistent strategic foothold
- Introduced a tailored & bespoke outcomes focus
Current SUIT Set Up

Provide Governance & Support

Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council

2.4%

Local Drug/Alcohol Budget
(Public Health Wolverhampton)

SUIT Workforce

Equivalent of 3 full time staff members (2.5 delivery) and a team of volunteers (current or ex service users)

Co-production Research with People Recovering from Problem Substance Use
SUIT worked with 1072 individuals on a one-to-one basis

Delivering 4299 One to One's

303 Health Interventions (inc. referral to Drug & Alcohol Treatment)

1285 Education, Training & Employment Interventions

450 Housing Related Interventions

Delivered 5283 Supported Signposts, Referrals & Interventions

Worked in collaboration with 426 different agencies, companies & organisations

Each Intervention Cost: £24.74
2016/17
Top 10 SUIT Interventions and Trends

- Social Inequality
- High Levels of Deprivation & Poverty
- Low Levels of Literacy and Numeracy
- Poor/Inadequate Housing
- Poor Mental & Physical Health
- Involvement within CJS
- Digital Disclusion
- Affected by Legislation Relating to Housing/Welfare
- High Levels of Vulnerability
- Unaware of Rights/Responsibilities
- Lack of Positive Social Networks
- Poor/Broken Work History

We Have Supported 171 people into employment during the past 6 years!

Co-production Research with People Recovering from Problem Substance Use
Other Work Streams

- Advocacy
- Telephone Support (including weekend & evenings)
- Recreational Activities
- Write & Deliver Substance Misuse Training
- Stand Up Comedy & Acting Classes
- Campaigning, Lobbying & Media Work
- Social Media Coms.
- Text Messaging Service
- Christmas Event, Graduation Days

Co-production Research with People Recovering from Problem Substance Use
Personal Accolades/Achievements

- National Strategic Lead
- 2015 Regional Chartered Manager of The Year
- 2016 Participant in Global Health Programme
- Became a RSA Fellow in Feb 2016
- APPG Member (2016) - Alcohol, Drugs & Justice
- Social Leadership Fellow of St Georges House (Windsor) since Jan 2017
Any Questions/Comments?
Find Out More

Simply give us a call on (01902) 328983 to seek information, refer a client or arrange a visit.

Pop in to see one of our friendly staff & volunteer team. WVSC building, 16 Temple St, WV2 4AN (Office hours)

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