Health Promotion in an Intellectual Disability Service

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Provide a network of day, education, training, employment and residential services to children and adults with intellectual disabilities who reside in Dublin South City, Dublin South West and Dublin West.

A respite service is also available.
**Driver for Role Expansion**

- The need to develop a proactive approach in eliminating barriers to positive health for people with intellectual disability
- Personal Outcome Measures (*POM’s 2005*)
- Need for strategy to improve health of individuals in Menni Services
- Commitment to best practice
Role Expansion

Clinical Focus
- Co-ordinator of Healthcare
- Health intervention and promotion (day & residential services)
- Activities that influence staff in their provision of direct care…. Markham (1988), Kersley (1992)

Service user advocate
- Enabling service users, families to participate in decisions regarding health…. Shaping a Healthier Future (1994)
- Implementing changes in healthcare delivery in response to service user needs and service demand…. NCNM (2005)

Education & Training
- Providing mentoring, teaching, facilitation and professional supervisory skills for staff…. McCaffrey Boyle (1996)
- Supporting & educating services users & families…. NCNM (2005)
Role Expansion (continued)

Audit & Research

- Contributing to service planning and budgetary processes through the use of audit data and specialist knowledge…. Meehan (1995), NCNM (2005)

Consultant

- Providing leadership in clinical practice…. Jukes (1994), Mansell & Harris (1998)
- Acting as a resource and role model for specialist practice…. NDA (2003)
- Contributing to the development of clinical standards and guidelines…. An Bord Altranais (2000)
Development of New Skills/Competencies

- Improved knowledge and skills
- Improved management skills
- Lead in clinical practice
- Mentoring and supervising staff to become competent in best healthcare practice
- Contributing to service planning via audit data and specialist knowledge
Challenges & Supports

**Challenges**
- Change management - *role, time etc …*
- Practice development
- Responding to service need
- High expectations

**Supports**
- Management Team
- Multidisciplinary Team
- Quality Steering Committee
- Sub-Health Committee
- Continuous Professional Development

Hospitality  Respect  Justice  Compassion  Excellence
Benefits

- Improved healthcare for people with intellectual disability
- Development of a local healthcare database
- Improved staff competence
- A responsive service to healthcare needs
- Best practice in service delivery
Future Role Expansion

- Responsive and accountable Clinical Nurse Specialist healthcare role to support the full inclusion and self-determination of people with disabilities in their natural support system and wider community via proposed changes in national policy.

Finally…………

Specialism is not about isolation – but about bringing highly developed skills and expertise to the problem-solving arena….  


Thank you