



Introduction

In conversations with families and individuals with a learning disability and / or ASD it becomes clear that we continue to have a gap when it comes to transitions. This has also been highlighted over the years in numerous publications (2002, 2006). In 2019, Doncaster LDPB published their vision and common themes around transition were identified by families

- * Better planning for the future-transitions
- Improved communication and partnership working with families. Bridging the Gap has been quoted in many publications over the last 20+ years , and yet the leap between childhood to adulthood remains a problematic one, more so for individuals with LD and/or ASD and complex needs.

Improvement Methodology

The data to be collected will be qualitative via interviews, questionnaires and anecdotal comments from individuals and / or families. This will be a rich data and will enable us to keep the lines of communication open with the families we work alongside.

To enable this to work, the two teams need to begin to work effectively together, however this will mean changes to both teams way of working. This will require thought around the R framework :

Empathy, Trust, Fairness, Respect and Integrity.

Using the R framework effectively will enhance working relationships which in time will go on to achieve best outcomes

for the families involved.

The Aim

To improve partnership working to identify an appropriate pathway between adults and children's Continuing Health Care team in order to support a smooth transition, achieving best outcomes for all involved within the next 5 years.

In order to improve services it will be essential to develop true partnership working, initially between children and adult services within the CHC teams. This will involve relationship building utilising the 5 spheres of influence as mentioned above. This wont be a quick fix due to the existing relationship and historical resistance to change, however the project will fail quickly without these being fixed. This will then allow the team to become one and, once trust is built, difficult conversations can be had as to how we need to work differently to ensure best outcomes for everyone. This includes pride and job satisfaction alongside outcomes for our families.

Changes required to achieve the aim of the project.

Partnership thinking and working should underpin the whole project in order to achieve the following changes;

- * A true transition pathway from the age of 14, this will mean involving a specific worker with both children and adult caseload.
- * Information sharing and aligning of assessments.
- * The young person's voice to be heard and, more importantly, listened to.
- * Involvement with Education for future plans.

The impact

Without good relationships and a shared, agreed vision between system partners, achieving positive outcomes for people who use services, their families and carers is significantly compromised'. (CQC 2018 Beyond barriers)

I envisage the impact of the project to enhance important life experiences for the individual and their families. If successful we should start and see a reduction in anxieties around the transfer from children to adult, though I do recognise there will always be a degree of this.

If our individuals and famlies are happy with the service, then this in itself will foster positivity with the team, and eventually the wider team, leading to job satisfaction, pride in their role therefore staff retention and continuity for the service users.

This is a long term project and wouldn't see real improvement for at least 4/5 years from the start.



Next steps

- Introduce and involve the local authority transition team within the partnership working.
- Produce a bank of useful and accessible resources to support the work
- Use the knowledge already out their; service user involvement, expert by experience
- Empower families to become involved, focus groups, social media etc

Leadership learning

- Bitesize changes will gain more success rather than attacking the whole project at once.
- Relationship building is never easy, difficult conversations are often needed. Listen and hear what people are saying.
- In such a busy environment it is important to be the one who keeps the motivation, or bring on board someone who will.

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29th January 2021