

# **GMCDP Update - February 2012**



## **Work with young disabled people**

This is the second GMCDP update.

This update tells you about the work GMCDP is doing with young disabled people.

## **The Young Disabled People's Forum – a Manchester project of and for young disabled people**

Some of the work done by the 'Forum' has been:

### **Work in schools and colleges**

The 'Forum' works with young disabled people (aged 15-25) going to 5 schools and colleges in Manchester. Some of the work has been about:

- Disability equality and rights. And the Social Model of Disability.
- Young disabled people thinking better about themselves (positive identity) and bullying. Disability hate crime.
- How to stop getting stressed, and other health issues.

The 'Forum' has been working with young disabled people who are on work placement through 'Project Search' (run by Manchester College and the Manchester Royal Infirmary).

The project supports young disabled people looking for work skills and paid work.

## **'Forum'- youth group meetings**

Young disabled people going to the Manchester Forum have been doing more of the planning for 'forum' youth group meetings.



Young people have been running the meetings.

Some issues the meetings have been about are:

- Disability Equality and Rights;
- internet and personal safety;
- first aid training.

## **Disability Hate Crime**

Working with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), the 'Forum' has worked on:

- Making a Disability Hate Crime DVD and resource pack. The pack is for work with pupils from the age of 14 in schools.
- An event with the Inspectorate of Constabulary and the Inspectorate of Crown Prosecution services. They were asking how they can make it better when people report disability hate crime.

## **Looking at how easy it is for disabled people to use buildings and other place (Access Surveys)**

Young disabled people from the 'Forum' and Including Young Disabled People Project have worked with Manchester Disabled People's Access Group (MDPAG).

They have done access surveys of tram and train stations in Manchester.

They have been asked about Bramall Hall. Managers at Bramall Hall talked to young disabled people about making it easier to go round Bramall Hall.

## **Work Placement and Volunteering**

Young disabled people from college have spent a bit of time seeing what it is like to work in the 'Forum' (work placements). They have done different jobs here. Some of the jobs the young people have done are:

- administration
- helping to plan and run meetings.

## **Arts Projects with 42nd Street**

Young people have done 2 art projects. They have been about identity and feelings.

Some of the group went to the opening of 42nd street's new building. Some of their work is being shown there. 42nd Street paid for one of the projects.

## **Telling People What You Think (Lobbying)**

Young disabled people from the Manchester 'Forum' have been telling MP's and councillors what they think. They were talking about how cuts to services will change young disabled people's lives.



## **Work with the NSPCC**

Young people from both the 'Forum' and the Including Young Disabled People Project have worked to make sure the NSPCC thinks about what young disabled people need.

## **The Including Young Disabled People Project** - a Greater Manchester Project of and for young disabled people

This is year 3 of the Project.

Service providers have been saying how good they think young disabled people from the project are.

Many groups in Greater Manchester have been asking the young people on the project what they think.

People have said how good events run by the Project have been.

The project is a voice for young disabled people in all Greater Manchester.

Young disabled people decide what the Project will do.

### **Forums of young disabled people in Greater Manchester**

The Project has done a Forum in each part of Greater Manchester.

There is a Forum in Bury and Trafford that meets every month or every 2 months.

Young disabled people plan the Forums and decide what they will talk about and do.



### **Telling People What You Think (Consultation)**

The project has worked with Oldham council.

This has been to go into schools and ask young disabled people what they think about the support they have with moving from one thing to another. For example, for moving from school to college.

## **Steering Group**

7 new people have joined the steering group. The Steering Group is a group of young disabled people who help decide what the Project will do.

The Group has answered questions from groups to say what they think (consultation). These groups were: the NSPCC Young Ambassadors; Shape Arts; the Bury Youth Cabinet; Oldham and Trafford Centres for Independent Living and Breakthrough UK.

One person from the steering group is on the GMCDP's executive Council.

Some people from the project members are on the Right To Control design group.

## **Task Groups**

Thirty six young disabled people have been in task groups. The groups have done a few jobs.

- They have made the Facebook page.
- They have helped decide what the new GMCDP website will look like.
- They have talked about current issues in the 'Debatable' group.
- They have run meetings for people new to the Project to find out about disability issues and meet other members of the Project.



## **Training**

Young people from both projects have had training on: disability issues, disability history and the Social Model. Some young disabled people have done 'Train the Trainers' training.

Young disabled people from the project have trained staff from the Harrogate branch of Barnardos

## **The Future**

By the end of the project, we plan to have young disabled people forums in all areas of Greater Manchester.

Every year we have to visit each of the boroughs and meet new young disabled people.

This year we are looking at starting forums in Tameside, Rochdale and Oldham.