

Carers Reference Group

Friday 4th March 2016

Carers Leeds - The Headrow Leeds

Present at the meeting		Apologies
Becky Mitchell, Family Carer Lynn Bailey, Family Carer and Facilitator Liz Davis, Family Carer Jackie Hartley, Family Carer Kausar Iqbal, Family Carer Maureen Lumb, Family Carer		Yvonne Ugarte, Family Carer Suzanne Jackson Bailey, Family Carer Madeleine Fahy, Connect in the North Louise Mills, Adult Social Care Shirley Evison, Family Carer
1.	Minutes of the meeting held 5th June 2015	
	These were agreed	
2.	Time for Carers Grant	
	Tom Harris from Carers Leeds. Tom said he was very new in the post and would be going out to promote the service through Clinics at GP services, social workers, visit older isolated carers & nurses. Tom handed leaflets out and said that you can download an application form on the Carers Leeds website. The funding may not continue after March 2016 so if anyone wanted to apply they would have to do so before this date. The monies can be used to go to the theatre, for a complimentary therapist etc. They do have a therapist at Carers Leeds twice a month cost of £5 per session but you have to book to get your name down on a waiting list. Tom handed out a list of support groups for carers, it was pointed out that most of these run at times not suitable to carers of adults/children with a learning disability. Adam Savage Carers Leeds Tom introduced Adam who was the new parent/carer support worker at Carers Leeds. There was a discussion about the times support groups run and how they did not run when carers can attend. He said that he worked with parents of children up to 19yrs old and carers felt that there should not be a cut off age and who defines the age why is it not 25yrs. A person with a learning disability doesn't suddenly change at a certain age everyone as different abilities. We spoke about carers of younger children should get more respite and that the sit in services only look after the person with a learning disability so the carer can't always attend appointments etc due to having other children. It was suggested that it would be a good idea to have a bank of people that could cover for direct payments. We thanked Tom & Adam for their time.	
3.	Carers Away Day & Training	
	Lynn spoke about the away days to be held at Ribby Hall to discuss 'The needs of a Carer', 'Bereavement' and 'Looking after Your Self'. This would be for 2 days 18th & 19th March returning on Sunday 20th March. The carers attending would be Liz Davis, Shirley Evison, Kausar Iqbal, Yvonne Ugarte, Becky Mitchel and would be facilitated by Lynn Bailey. There would also be a fitness instructor attending to deliver 2 sessions. Maureen	

	Lumb said she could not get cover for her son so would not be able to attend this time.
4.	Feedback from Yorkshire & Humberside Regional meeting
	Liz Davis gave a brief outline of the Yorkshire & Humberside Regional Meeting. Liz, Shirley Evison & Anne Seaton had attended the half day meeting. At the meeting they spoke about people dying without investigations taking place. Liz handed out questionnaires about transforming care these needed to be completed and handed in by the 18 th March 2016 or email sally@speakup.org.uk
5.	Any other business
	Maureen – spoke about a new scheme in Bradford – Access & Carer membership Scheme which Carers can sign up for 3 years and receive a card to accessible performances at the Alhambra Theatre. These especially adapted for people with special additional needs who need a carer. It is a free scheme to register and some performances are discounted. Kausar – had attended an incontinence event which she found very useful as they spoke about coping with IBS, how to hide a colostomy bag and many more things that the Carers Reference Group may find helpful. Lynn to sort out a new time and date for pamper day.
6.	Dates of next meetings
	Carers Reference Group 3rd June 2016 Partnership Board 15th March 2016