



Advocacy Services Development

Our services

Independent advocacy offers a unique way of supporting the most vulnerable people to become included and involved and make the best of their lives. Advocacy is provided at minimal cost, and often reduces local health and social care casework and expenditure by identifying and solving issues before they become complex. Although there are references to independent advocacy in recent Government initiatives and new legislation, advocacy is still poorly understood. We can offer a full range of consultancy to enable primary care trusts, local authorities and social care agencies to understand, access and commission independent advocacy services;

- developing an understanding of advocacy and its benefits
- model advocacy strategies for different client groups
- advocacy implementation toolkits
- learning from local advocacy groups
- guidance on commissioning advocacy services
- basic advocacy quality standards and competencies
- advocacy awareness training for staff

Advocacy briefing, June 2006



Advocacy News

The Government's decision to scrap the draft Mental Health Bill has been met with mixed feelings by independent advocacy providers. Proposed access to advocacy by those compulsorily detained, whilst welcomed in principle, raised concerns about the increased use of compulsion and fears that a regulatory framework could distort the flexible and personal role of advocates.

We can help with developing advocacy services - contacts below.

Featured assignment -

Advocacy Resource Exchange (ARX) Concern

Dovetail undertook a project to establish whether there was a need for a single source of advocacy information, established whether there was support for developing such a source if it does not already exist, developed ideas around the production of a single source of advocacy information and produced a report outlining the degree of support for the project, issues and concerns raised and making suggestions for moving forward. We then supported and facilitated a Department of Health-funded working party which developed the specification for a national database of advocacy resources and then assisted with fundraising for the project, which has now raised £124,000 to date.

More details at <http://www.advocacyresource.net>

Our featured consultant ..Sally Carr



Sally Carr is a senior consultant with Dovetail Management Consultancy and has held senior posts in the independent advocacy sector for twenty years, working in user-focused social and rights-based work at a national and regional level. Sally has considerable expertise in assisting organisations to provide effective and independent advocacy for a wide spectrum of user groups including young people, offenders, people with learning disability, users of mental health services, and older people.

As Director of Citizen Advocacy Information and Training, Sally provided high quality resources for the advocacy sector, including a national training programme and guidance on funding and operating a successful voluntary advocacy organisation. Sally has worked with the Department of Health and other senior stakeholders in Health and Social Care and the voluntary sector to raise awareness of the benefits of independent advocacy.

More details at <http://www.dove-tail.co.uk>

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