

e-bulletin



Issue no 59

06 February 2009

Welcome to our e-bulletin issue 59 bringing you up to date with latest news and resources.

Thanks to everyone who has emailed us with news stories and suggestions. If you have any information or ideas for the bulletin please contact [Ruth Kent](#) at the Eastern Development Centre. If you have any difficulty accessing this bulletin or its contents please contact us so that we can help.

The following links will help you to move between the sections providing information about national and regional news, development centre updates, forthcoming events and useful resources.

[Regional News](#); [National News](#); [Development Centre Update](#); [Events](#); [Useful Resources](#);

Regional News

Beds and Luton Trust Chair and Non-Executive Directors plan to step down for a better future for local service users

The Chair and Non-Executive Directors of Bedfordshire and Luton Mental Health and Social Care Partnership NHS Trust recently announced their unanimous intention to stand down from the leadership of the Trust (within six to nine months), in order to allow the organisation to create a new partnership with an NHS Foundation Trust.


 For more information view their [press release](#) on the Trust's website.

Changes to Community Mental Health Provision in Suffolk

Suffolk County Council, NHS Suffolk and Great Yarmouth and Waveney Primary Care Trust have now combined their funding together in a Pooled Fund.

The current contracts for community based services are due to expire March 2009 and, following Suffolk County Council Procurement Regulations, contracts have been awarded to new providers using a tender process. Pooled Fund Commissioners will work closely with the new providers of services to ensure that disruption for service users is minimised. Commissioners will expect the new providers to work closely with local Community Mental Health Teams (CMHTs) and existing service users to ensure they are aware of what the changes will be and that they have a detailed support plan in place.

View the briefing [here](#).

 For more information on out going and incoming providers contact Amanda Dunn (amanda.dunn@socserv.suffolkcc.gov.uk , 01473 265552) or Lisa Climie (lisa.climie@acs.suffolkcc.gov.uk , 01473 265592).



Social enterprise business support grants.

Social enterprises in the East of England may now be eligible for a grant of up to £1,500 to fund the cost of business consultancy support. The Social Enterprise Business Support Grant is designed to assist trading social enterprises, improving their financial sustainability and helping them grow.

The grant replaces the 'Social Enterprise Voucher Scheme' with immediate effect and the changes are designed to make it more responsive to the needs of the sector. The new programme is even easier to access and provides almost three times the funding available previously with no match funding required.

Examples of support which can be funded by the grant include:

- Developing a website or improving an existing one
- Expert advice on financial sustainability
- Reviewing and improving marketing activity
- Maximising public relations opportunities
- Developing additional income streams



For further details and how to apply visit: www.businesslink.gov.uk/east/seenterprise

The East of England Regional Employment Team: Statement of Priorities and Action Plan

The Regional Employment Team (RET) was set up in response to the Social Exclusion Task Force report 'Reaching Out' (Sept 2006). This set out recommendations to improve employment opportunities for people with mental health problems, for the benefit of those individuals, their employer and the region's economy. The Statement of Priorities and Action Plan identifies four key priorities and is now in the implementation stage.



View The Regional Employment Team's [Statement of Priorities and Action Plan](#).

Volunteering opportunities with Making Mental Notes

Making Mental Notes, Cambridge's Mental Health Community Radio Programme is looking for new volunteers to join its Core Production Team! Making Mental Notes broadcasts live for one hour every four weeks on 105FM and addresses issues related to mental health and well-being via news and what's on bulletins, interviews, performances, requests, book/show reviews and discussions.

They are looking for volunteers who are interested in one or more of the following roles:

Presenting, Engineering, Research/Interviewing or Script Writing




For more information see the [flyer](#) and express your interest to Amanda Price (tel 01223 566957 or email amanda@lifecraft.org.uk)



Suffolk's Patient and Public Involvement Group (PPIG) is looking for new members

A group dedicated to making a difference to the county's mental health services is looking for new members. The Patient and Public Involvement Group (PPIG) is made up of a group of volunteers who are committed to improving the experience of people who use Suffolk Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust's services. The group is supported by the Trust and represents the views of the public at executive level.

 If you are interested in finding out more, view the [press release](#) here and contact Larry Nicholas on 01473 329126.


'Sing Your Heart Out' Offers Fun and Therapy in King's Lynn

Award-winning singing workshops for mental health service users, staff, carers and friends are now raising the roof in King's Lynn after hitting all the right notes in Norwich for more than four years. 'Sing Your Heart Out' (SYHO) was set up in 2004, and is run with the support of Norfolk and Waveney Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust. Now the success of its weekly workshops in Norwich - which attract up to 50 people - has led to the launch of Sing Your Heart Out West in King's Lynn. Voice coach Chrissy Parsons West will lead Thursday sessions between 2-3.30pm at the Fairstead Community Centre on February 12, 19 and 26. Anyone interested is welcome to turn up, and if the workshops prove successful then more could follow.

 For more information view the [press release](#) and visit www.syho.org


Mental Health Workers Invited to Attend Singing Workshops in Norwich

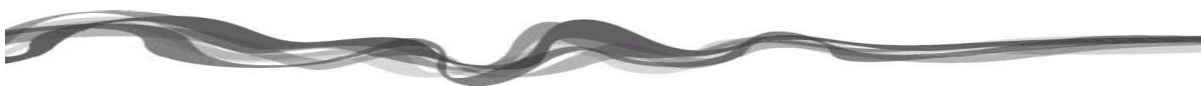
Mental health workers can learn how to run their own highly therapeutic singing workshops by attending a special two-day training course on 23-24 April 09 at Hellesdon Hospital led by the voice coach, Chrissy Parsons West. The course is suitable for anyone with a very basic ability to sing, and in addition to providing practical advice on running workshops it will show how Sing your Heart Out (SYHO), an award winning scheme, has successfully lifted the spirits of hospital staff, service users and carers by bringing them together in a fun and informal atmosphere.

 For more information including how to register, view the [press release](#).

Mental Health First Aid Instructor Training

Are you wanting to become an Instructor to deliver Mental Health First Aid to your colleagues, providers and the general public to combat prejudice and prepare them with the tools and techniques when their friends or colleagues are facing poor mental health? If so, visit www.mhfaengland.org.uk for the latest course in the East of England. You need to be quick as interest is growing fast. Check this website regularly to see confirmation of new course dates and to download application forms.

 Provisional dates for 2009 can also be downloaded by clicking [here](#).






National News

First National Dementia Strategy Announced

The first National Dementia Strategy, backed by £150 million over the first two years was announced by Health Secretary Alan Johnson on 03 February 2009. It will increase awareness of dementia, ensure early diagnosis and intervention and radically improve the quality of care that people with the condition receive.

 For more information visit the [Department of Health website](#)

Fund to help small charities bid for public contracts

A £220,000 grant fund to help small voluntary organisations tender for public sector contracts has been launched by Futurebuilders England and the National Programme for Third Sector Commissioning. The new fund is open to organisations that have been trading for one year and have turnovers of less than £250,000. Organisations can receive grants worth up to 10 per cent of the value of the contracts they want to bid for, up to £15,000. Contracts must have a minimum value of £30,000.

 For more information, visit the [Futurebuilders website](#) or info@futurebuilders-england.org.uk

Carers Week Annual Survey 2009: Hidden and invisible?

Carers are invited to take part in the Carers Week annual survey, Hidden and invisible? which is open until 16 March 09. An overall picture and set of results will then be compiled, to be at the centre of Carers Week 2009 (due to take place from 8-14 June 2009).

 To enter the survey visit www.carersweeksurvey.org.uk

Care Quality Commission (CQC)

From 1 April 2009, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will bring together the work of the Healthcare Commission, the Commission for Social Care Inspection and the Mental Health Act Commission. Established by the Health and Social Care Act 2008, CQC became a legal entity in October 2008 and takes up its responsibilities for the quality of health and adult social care in April 2009.

 For more information click [here](#)

Last chance to sign up to MINDFUL EMPLOYER for free

Now is the time for employers to take action in showing that they are positive about their employee's mental health. Employers can sign up to the MINDFUL EMPLOYER charter as a mark of evidence that their business/organisation is working towards a set of aspirations that contribute in changing the workforce attitudes. The mark is also recognised by the Disability Symbol and Investors In People as an added element focusing on Mental Health. Signing up to the charter is free of charge until 31 March 09 so now is the perfect time to sign up!

 View the detailed briefing and information pack [here](#) for more information.



Eastern Development Centre Update

Real People Real Power Conference is taking place on 19 March 2009

The regional Experts by Experience group of mental health service users and carers are running a conference on 19th March 09 at the Fielder Centre, Herts. Various interactive workshops and presentations on many current topics will be held. Registration is now open so please book early to secure a place.

 Please click [here](#) for more details

Eastern Region Local Involvement Network Meetings

Debbie Roberts, the Experts by Experience Programme Manager, has confirmed dates and venues for the number of Eastern Region LINKs networking meetings between February and April 2009.

The dates of the different networks are as follows:

- 11th February: LINKs Whole Network (Links Chairs/Governance Members, Local Authority Leads & LINKs Hosts).
- 25th February: LINKs Chairs and/or Governance Members Network
- 11th March: LINKs Host Organisations Network
- 3rd April: LINKs Whole Network
- 21st April. LINKs Chairs or Governance Members Network
- 28th April. LINKs Host Organisations Network

The venue for all networks is the NHS East of England, Fulbourn except 11th March and 21st April which will be held at the Cambridge Professional Development Centre, Cambridge. Any other previously arranged dates have now been replaced by the dates below.

 For more information and to register download the [registration form](#) and return to [Peter Millist](#).



Events

Upcoming events regionally and nationally include:

Mental Health Act 2007 Implementation Event

12 February 2009 , Peterborough

 Please click [here](#) for more information



Stepping Forward Four

19 February 2009

Ipswich

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Draft Pharmacy Order 2009 Consultation Event

24 February 2008

London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Rebuilding Social Work: Sharing good practice in service user involvement in social work education

25 February 2009

London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Transforming Adult Social Care

26 February 2009

London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

'Handling Violent Patients & Visitors: Tactics to Avoid Liability & Crisis' Audio Conference

26 February 2009

 Please click [here](#) for more information

4th NIACE Annual Mental Health Conference: You make the difference because you make it work

05 March 2009

London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

CAMHS/Learning Disabilities Network (Eastern Region Event)

05 March 2009

Cambridge

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Requesting Time to Train: The employee contribution to the skills agenda

6 March 2009,

London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Study Day "Living with Personality Disorders – what can we do to support better parenting"?

16 March 2009

Leeds

 Please click [here](#) for more information

'Using the Living Life to the Full Resources in your job'

17 & 18 March 2009



Cambridge

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Working together: Understanding Independent Mental Health Advocacy.

18 March 2009

Cambridge

 Please click [here](#) for more information

2nd Annual Social Care, Health and Supported Housing Conference

18 March 2009

Newmarket

 Please click [here](#) for more information

It's time to talk: Drug treatment and psychological therapies

20 March 2009

London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

MOVING ON - From New Ways of Working to a Creative, Capable Workforce

24 March 2009,

London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

"Roads to Joint Research"

24 March 2009

Colchester

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Hertfordshire Clinical Network Meeting

25 March 2009

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Tackling Social Exclusion Through Technology: Delivering Digital Inclusion

26 March 2009

London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

L.I.N.K. (Learning – Information – Networking – Knowledge) A free good practice event

27 March 2009

Chelmsford

 Please click [here](#) for more information

'How do we best enable children and adults with autism to lead full lives?'

Seminar

27 March 2009

London

 Please click [here](#) for more information



"Getting Your Act Together" Preparing the Workforce for the Changes to the Mental Health Act

*30 & 31 March 2009
Cambridge*

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Open to All: Mental Health and Social Inclusion Awareness Training for Museums and Galleries

*30 & 31 March 2009
Colchester*

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Network (Eastern Region)

*23 April 2009
Cambridge*

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Improving Health and Work: New Initiatives for Building a Healthy Workforce

*6 May 2009
London*

 Please click [here](#) for more information

EngAge '09: Strategies for an Ageing Population

*30 June 2009
London*

 Please click [here](#) for more information



Useful Resources

Documents, Publications & Toolkits:

 [Latest version of the changes made to the Mental Capacity Act by The Mental Health Act 2007](#)




 [Safe and Appropriate Care for Young People on Adult Mental Health Wards](#)

 [shop4support National Implementation Progress Report](#)




 [Talking therapies explained](#)

 [The state of social care in England 2007-08](#)

Newsletters:

-  [CSIP Networks ebulletin – 28/01/09 \(Integrated Care Network enews\)](#)
-  [Involving Essex \(formerly NEST\) Newsletter](#)
-  [Telecare LIN eNewsletter – January 2009](#)

Websites

-  [Improvement East - www.improvementeast.gov.uk](http://www.improvementeast.gov.uk)
-  [NHS Choices Website – www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)
-  [NHS Networks Website – www.networks.nhs.uk](http://www.networks.nhs.uk)
-  [National Survivor User network – www.nsun.org.uk](http://www.nsun.org.uk)

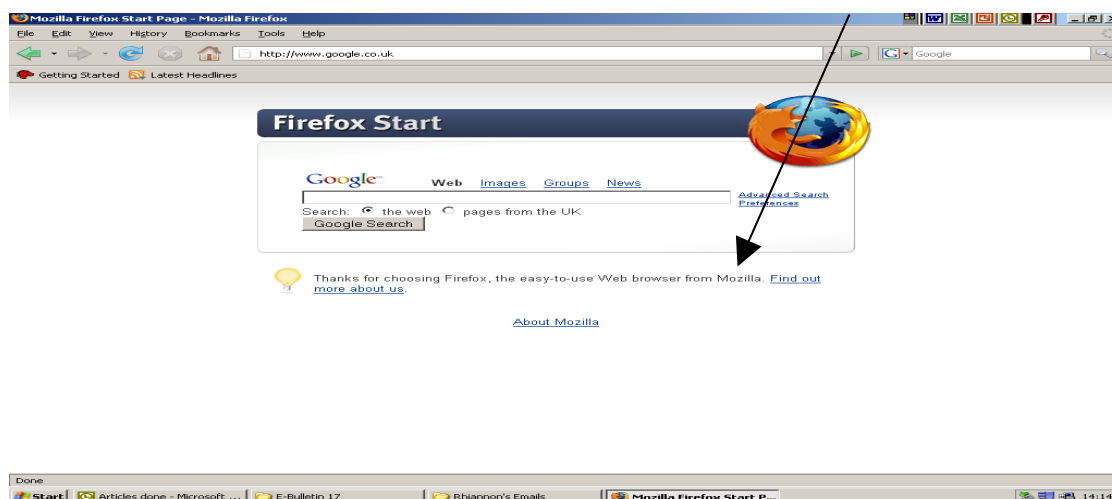


Please Note:

Hyperlinks:

If you find the links do not work this may be because your computer is not compatible. Click on the internet and type the web address into the address box on the internet tool bar.

Address Box





Other information about the Eastern Development Centre

We are currently running the following programmes of work (in alphabetical order):

- Children and Families (including Change for Children and the National CAMHS Support Service) – **Susannah Howard 01206 287592**
- Health and Social Care in Criminal Justice – **Neil McIntosh 01223 597551**
- Mental Health (National Institute for Mental Health in England, NIMHE) – **Susannah Howard 01206 287592**
- Social Care – **Amanda Reynolds 07775 631510**



For access to our website click on the link: <http://www.eastern.csip.org.uk/>

This bulletin was created by the Eastern Development Centre. If you have any queries about the bulletin, or would like to be taken off the mailing list, contact:

[Ruth Kent](#)

654 The Crescent
Colchester Business Park
Colchester
Essex
CO4 9YQ
Tel: 01206 287544

