

Top Tips for co-production with the Adult Learning Disability Community

Tuesday 1 October 2024

Robyn Lees – Co-production Lead, IMPACT

Deborah Wilson – Patient, Public Involvement and Engagement
Officer, HIEM



Overview of session

- A brief intro to Health Innovation East Midlands and what we do
- Why Engagement with people with Learning Disabilities and their families is vital and how this links to improving access to services
- Our top tips for engagement
- A generous amount of time for questions and discussion at the end



Health Innovation East Midlands

(Formerly East Midlands Academic Health Science Network)

- 1 of 15 Health Innovation Networks across England – East Midlands NHS innovation arm.
- Our continuing mission is to spread healthcare innovation at pace and scale.
- Work with system partners to improve health, drive down cost and improve experience and outcomes for patients.

How can we help?

Access our support and expertise:



Our Programmes >

Our portfolio of ready to implement programmes



Innovation Scanning >

Seeking health and care solutions



Innovator Support >

Advice to develop and spread innovations



Expert support services and solutions to your health and care challenges

- Access proven innovations
- Finding solutions to your specific challenge
- Evaluation and building evidence
- Addressing health inequality
- Data to drive insight
- Pathway mapping and service redesign
- Support to access funding
- Developing business cases and cost/benefit analysis
- Quality improvement methodology
- Spreading and embedding your project
- Involving patients and the public
- Developing successful Communities of Practice
- Enabling safer care
- Supporting workforce transformation



Why Engagement with people with Learning Disabilities (LD) and their families is vital



- Stark Health Inequalities- People die 20 + years younger than people in the general population often from avoidable conditions (LeDer 2023, ONS 2022)
- Legal duty to make reasonable adjustments for people with LD (Equality Act 2010). Lack of reasonable adjustments a contributory factor in avoidable deaths (Heslop et al (2013))
- Public involvement - key strand of the NHS Plan, and especially important for people with LD
- Barriers to accessing health services
- Involvement, Engagement and co-production are key



Top Tip 1: First Steps

- Abandon low expectations!
- Shared understanding of Coproduction!
- Do not make assumptions!
- Be Person led!
- Duration and times!



Top Tip 2: People with LD have often face stigma, discrimination, exclusion, & harm – so invest in the relationship

- Invest in the relationship! Recognise the Power of the relationship.
- Lay the foundation...
- Overt Compassion, Warmth and Regard.
- Put the person first.
- Trusted routes.



Top Tip 3: Environment, Environment, Environment

- Be mindful of Sensory needs...
- Accessibility!
- Diverse routes in!



Top Tip 4: Adapt communication in a personalised way

- Explore communication needs...
- Accessible communication! Find ways to produce information in Easy Read formats.
- Purposeful silences...
- Check understanding Enable and support processing time!



Top Tip 5: Recognise & Reward

- Ways and means....
- Creative and not detrimental!!



Top Tip 6: Real power

- Share your vision!
- Share developments on your work accessibly.
- Reflect and refine together!



Further information

- **Email:** healthinnovation-em@nottingham.ac.uk
- **Web:** healthinnovation-em.org.uk
- **X:** @Healthinn_em
- **LinkedIn:** [Health Innovation East Midlands](#)
- **Sign up to our newsletters:** healthinnovation-em.org.uk/updates



Watch our previous
Innovation Insights
webinars and
register for future
events

