

# **Evaluation Report Acute Liaison Nurse Learning Disabilities**



August 2011

# Strategic Health Facilitator

There were 2 serious incidents in Mid Yorkshire Hospital Trust (MYHT) involving people with learning disabilities. Both occurred in June 2008. As a result, and to meet the outcomes of “Health Care for All” a Strategic Health Facilitator was appointed in August 2009



This post works across MYHT, Primary Care Trust (PCT) and South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust (SWYPFT)

The Mid Yorkshire Hospitals   
NHS Trust

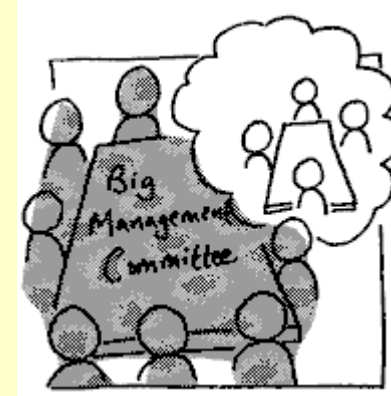
*Bringing together community and hospital services*

  
**Wakefield District**

South West Yorkshire Partnership   
NHS Foundation Trust

# Acute Liaison Nurse

As a result of the post raising greater awareness of people with learning disabilities accessing health services, in August 2010 the Partnership Board decided to fund the post of Acute Liaison Nurse for 12 months, using money from the Learning Disability Development Fund (LDDF)



# Acute Liaison Nurse

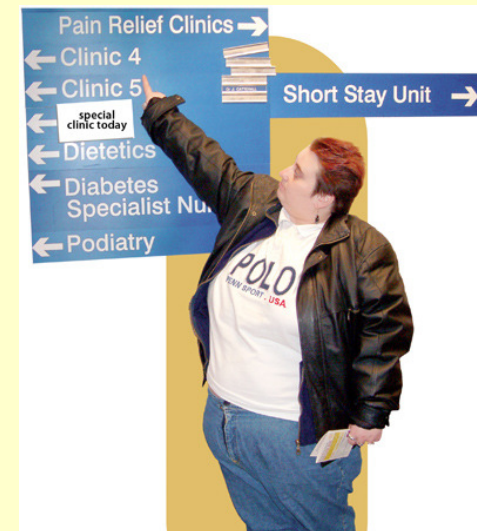
One of the main tasks was to deliver on issues arising from a staff training needs analysis carried out in March 2009



# Acute Liaison Nurse

Training identified included:

- Understanding and managing behaviour
- Understanding what reasonable adjustments are and how to link into community provision and support, to make sure they happen at ward and department level
- Learning disability awareness



# Acute Liaison Nurse

The post also supported the 70 Learning Disability Champions in place across Pinderfields, Dewsbury and Pontefract Hospitals



# Acute Liaison Nurse

The Acute Liaison Nurse started in post in September 2010 but due to drastic cuts in funding from the new Government, LDDF money was withdrawn from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2011



The post was allowed to continue until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2011, providing an evaluation report was completed



# Key Duties of the Acute Liaison Nurse

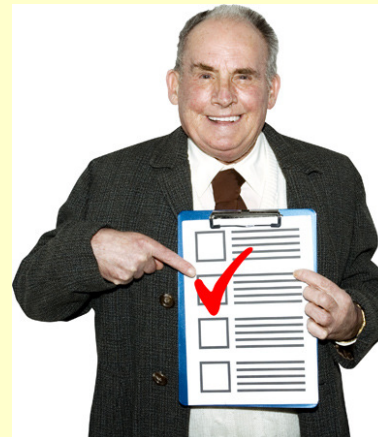
- Facilitation



- Risk management/additional support



- Capacity and consent



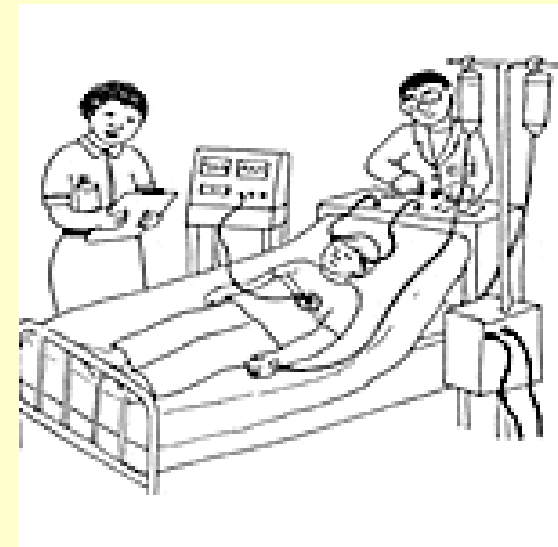
# Facilitation

This involved pointing hospital staff, CTLD staff, carers, care workers, patients and community health and social care professionals in the right direction to access services.



# Risk Management and Additional Support

This involved assessing patients with learning disabilities that are admitted to hospital or the Accident and Emergency Department, making sure they are safe, and their stay is as comfortable as possible



# Capacity and Consent

The Acute Liaison Nurse has been offering advice to Clinicians about capacity and consent. They need clear guidance as legal challenges under Section 44 of the Mental Capacity Act are increasing.



# Outcomes

The Acute Liaison Nurse responded to 165 of the 213 patients with learning disabilities admitted to MYHT from September 2010 to May 2011. These were spread across the 3 hospitals



# Questionnaire results

27 people were interviewed and 26 completed a questionnaire (family carers/paid support, hospital staff, CTLD members and specialist inpatient staff).

Results as follows:

✓ Freed time for medical and nursing staff = 6



✓ Freed time for community nurse/social worker = 5

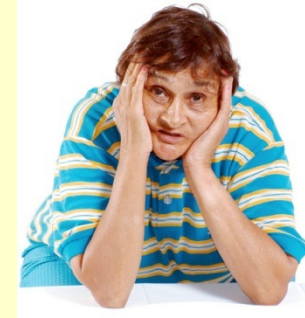


✓ Gave clear advice and assistance = 16



# Questionnaire results

- ✓ Person centred care that reduced stress and anxiety = 19



- ✓ Reasonable adjustment/co-ordination of pathway = 22



- ✓ Timely intervention = 22



- ✓ Continuity of care/follow up = 9



# Questionnaire results

✓ Reduced risk of failed surgery/appointment = 17



✓ Safer episodes of care = 18



✓ Joint working success = 21



# Savings Identified

Evidence based savings of £36,535.59 have been identified



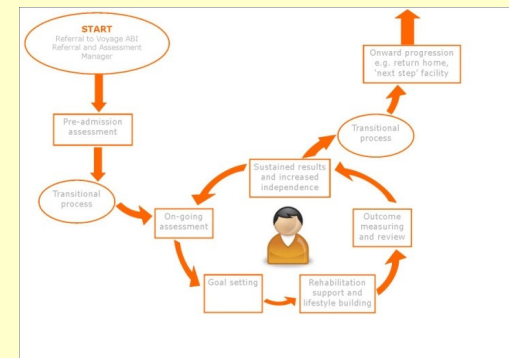
In addition, savings of £26,044 have been identified from interventions on cases to date



# Issues and Challenges

The Acute Liaison Nurse's role is vital to make sure good practice is maintained. The role will:

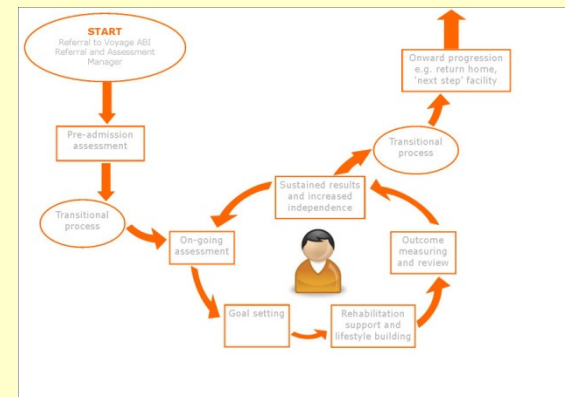
- Make sure issues identified in the training needs analysis and education and awareness raising continues
- Make sure all outcomes from “Health Care For All” and “Six Lives” are achieved in Mid Yorkshire Hospitals
- Ensure implementation and embedding of care pathways throughout the Trust, to ensure seamless care and treatment



# Issues and Challenges

The Acute Liaison Nurse's role is vital to make sure good practice is maintained. The role will make sure:

- All patients with learning disabilities are treated on a care pathway and have the right Mental Capacity Assessments



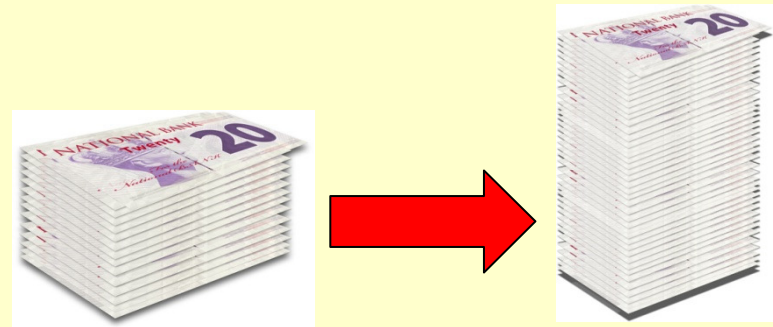
- Best Interest Meetings and reasonable adjustments happen where appropriate



# Conclusion and Recommendations

The Acute Liaison Nurse's role has made significant savings as well as greatly improving patient experience

- If the role continues the savings of £36,535.59 will increase



- More in-depth studies found savings are likely to be between 2 and 4 times the above amount



# Conclusion and Recommendations

The recommendations from this evaluation are therefore to:

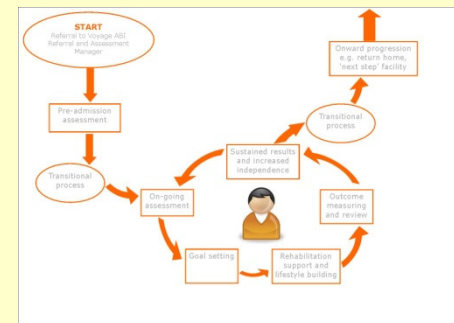
- Fund a full-time permanent learning disability Acute Liaison Nurse



- Develop a better system to record outcomes from Acute Liaison Nurse interventions



- Embed care pathways across the Trust



# Where we are now?

The Acute Liaison Nurse post is continuing until 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2012



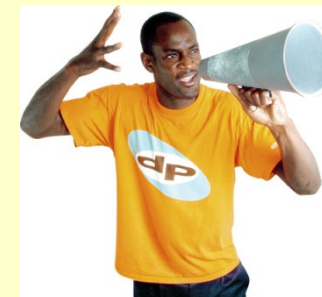
Lots of discussions and meetings are taking place about the Evaluation Report and what should happen next

The Mid Yorkshire Hospitals **NHS**  
NHS TRUST  
*Bringing together community and hospital services*

**NHS**  
**Wakefield District**

South West Yorkshire Partnership **NHS**  
NHS Foundation Trust

Please use other groups and meetings to have your say



# Any Questions?

