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If you would like further copies of this Newsletter at cost, or to contribute to the April 2005 issue, or to join the National Ethnicity & Learning Disability Network, please contact: Bridget Fisher or Pam Smith Tel: 01246 555043 Email: [bridget.fisher@arcuk.org.uk](mailto:bridget.fisher@arcuk.org.uk) or [pam.smith@arcuk.org.uk](mailto:pam.smith@arcuk.org.uk)



The NLDEN Newsletter is produced by ARC. ARC is a national umbrella organisation supporting providers of services for people with a learning disability. ARC is not responsible for views of contributors to this newsletter.

The National Learning Difficulties and Ethnicity Network logo was designed by Anuradha Patel.



Delegates and speakers join together to make the Learning Disability and Ethnicity Network National Conference on 11th October a day to remember.



# A year to celebrate

**This is a bumper edition of the Newsletter. A lot seems to be happening in the world of Learning Disability and Ethnicity.**

On 11th October we held the National Conference and the report is enclosed. There were 150 people present – all keen to make a difference in the lives of people from minority communities.

The keynote speaker was Professor Anthony Sheehan

(Director of Care Services, Department of Health) who made clear his commitment to seeing meaningful change in the everyday lives of people with Learning Disabilities and he challenged all those present to work positively for this change rather than just expect it to be delivered by the government (see enclosed conference pack).

Also in the last 3 months the first reports from the

Ethnicity Leadership Course have been published on the Valuing People Support Team website. There are handouts available, for example, on engaging with communities, advocacy and person centred planning on the site.

The Ethnicity Training Network has started at Leeds University (see article on page 6), which hopes to bring together people, and organisations interested in



**Anthony Sheehan fields questions and a Karaoke request from Patricia Spry**

ethnicity and health and promote good training in this area.

The Shared Training Project to promote good practice regarding Learning Disability by Race Equality Officers is now underway and you can

find out more about this project and the project worker on page 8.

The National Learning Disability & Ethnicity Network held a stall at the Learning Disability Today Exhibition at the Design Centre, London on 24th November.

It was a fantastic day for us as many people came to chat to us about Learning Disability and Ethnicity. We had fortune cookies and Turkish Delight to hand out and Chantal Boulanger (of the Institute of Draped Clothing) demonstrated sari wrapping. As a result, over 200 more people signed up for the Network. This edition will run to 1000 copies so we feel that the Network is really on target to support those changes we are all working towards.



**Activities at Learning Disability Today included the opportunity to try on a sari**

## Partnership aims to break down barriers to employing disabled people

A new initiative has been launched in Bradford aimed at breaking down barriers between those with health and disability issues within the black and minority ethnic (BME) communities and their access to work.

A partnership between Remploy, the UK's largest provider of employment opportunities for those with disabilities, and POSH – Promoting Opportunities in Social Care and Health – has been formed to identify routes to employment within the NHS and care sectors, irrespective of ethnicity and disability.

Sabiya Khan from POSH points to the many challenges faced by Bradford's ethnic communities in securing work. "This city needs to embrace the skills and enthusiasm within all its communities – and that includes those with disability and health issues. Our aim is to ensure that disabled people within the BME community see that we have a relevance to them, and with Remploy's expertise, assist them into work."

Research shows that the traditional labour market is drying up, yet Pat Padgett from Remploy points out there is a plentiful supply of work-willing

people from all ethnicities who have health or disability issues who are ready – and able – to make the transition into employment.

"In Bradford there are some 26,500 people on incapacity benefit and 9000 claiming jobseeker's allowance," she says. "But alongside this, employers in our city are finding it increasingly difficult to fill their vacancies. By working together, Remploy and POSH can break down the barriers and help create diverse workforces."

Members of the BME communities within Bradford who have a disability or health issue and would like to investigate employment opportunities are invited to contact:

Pat Padgett  
Tel: 07977 436 188

## CRE Examines Treatment of Gypsies

The chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality has visited two Gypsy sites as it launched a review of how travelling communities are treated.

Trevor Phillips says: "Discrimination against gypsies and travellers appears to be the last 'respectable' form of racism.

"It is still considered acceptable to put up 'No traveller' signs in pubs and shops and to make blatantly prejudiced remarks about Gypsies and travellers."

A CRE spokesman said: "Many public bodies, including local authorities have a legal obligation to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of good race relations.

"This applies to all racial groups. CRE is keen to establish the extent to which local authorities are meeting these obligations in relation to gypsies and Irish travellers."

The organisation said the information from the scrutiny exercise will be used to produce guidance for local authorities.

It will set out what they should be doing in relation to Gypsies and Irish travellers, to meet their statutory race equality obligations, and giving good practice examples.

Story from BBC NEWS:  
<http://news.bbc.co.uk>

## Increasing employment for ethnic minority groups

For the first time in over a decade, there has been a measurable improvement in the ethnic minority employment rate and a narrowing of the inequality gap with the rest of the population.

Jobcentre Plus contributes to this improvement by encouraging more job entries from those areas which house large numbers of ethnic minority customers. This is backed by specific initiatives such as Ethnic Minority Outreach, the Ethnic Minority Flexible Fund and Specialist

Employment Advisers, to help more and more ethnic minorities to enter the labour market.

The recent improvement in the ethnic minority employment rate is encouraging, but the gap is still too wide. We encourage our partners and local community groups to discuss local initiative with their Jobcentre Plus Business Development Manager, and help us to tackle labour market disadvantage for ethnic minority groups.

For more information contact:  
Tony Crompton, Email: [tony.crompton@jobcentreplus.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tony.crompton@jobcentreplus.gsi.gov.uk)

## Forced marriages made illegal

Forcing someone to marry may soon be a criminal offence.

A consultation will soon be launched on new legislation to protect young people from forced marriages.

Proposals will include making forced marriage an explicit abuse in child protection protocols; raising the minimum age for allowing people into

the country for marriage from 16 to 18; and the introduction of a new specific criminal offence of forcing someone into marriage.

A joint Home Office-Foreign Office Forced Marriage Unit is to be set up to investigate cases of forced marriage and repatriate young people brought into the country against their will to marry.

For more details go to website:  
[www.homeoffice.gov.uk/comrace/race/forcedmarriage/index.html](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/comrace/race/forcedmarriage/index.html)

## The 'Breaking Barriers' DVD/Video

This new video from Equalities - The National Council of Disabled People and Carers from Black and Minority Ethnic Communities is aimed at helping disabled people and those with long term conditions from black and minority ethnic communities to better

understand the complexities of the direct payment system.

Available with English, Urdu, Hindi or Somali subtitles the video can also be used as a learning tool by Health and Social care professionals .

Price and order details are available from Equalities, Tel: 0208 527 3211,

## Luton Learning Disability Services launch Diversity Forum

The forum links directly into the partnership board for Luton. The aim of the forum is to improve and develop services for people for services for people with a learning disability and their families who are from local ethnic minorities communities. The forum is made up of local community workers, people who use services, families and doctors and community nurses from Bedfordshire Health Trust.

As part of Luton Borough Council's commitment to developing services, the council is working in partnership with Advocacy Alliance Luton to develop an advocacy group for people with a learning disability who are from the local Asian, African and Caribbean communities.

Also being developed is a supported group for Asian women who have a child or young person with a learning disability.

In Bedford, Advocacy Alliance are starting a new action research project called 'Our Voice, Our Choice' which will explore how advocacy can support young people from 14+. The project is making sure that the views of young people from local diverse communities are being included. The work is funded by the Bedford Charity.

For further information about these projects please contact James Elliot:  
Tel: 01234262 080  
Email: jameselliott@advocacyalliance.co.uk

## £1.5 million for Contact A Family

A children's disability charity will receive an extra £1.5 million in government funding to help it extend its national freephone helpline and information services until 2008. Contact a Family, which offers advice, information and support to parents of disabled children in the UK, will use the Department for Education and Skills' money to plan and develop services; making them more accessible through GP surgeries, local community groups and children's hospitals.

Freephone: 0808 808 3555

## CDC – BME Disabled Children – Examples of good practice sought

Through DfES funding, Council for Disabled Children are undertaking work on a project looking to identify examples of good practice with disabled children from black and minority ethnic communities. The findings from this project will be shared nationally.

Any such good practices examples should be sent to [jsimon@ncb.org.uk](mailto:jsimon@ncb.org.uk) or can be discussed by telephone on 0207 843 6082

## New Information for Partnership Boards

The Disability Rights Commission with support from Commission for Racial Equality have recently commissioned

a guide for Partnership Boards to the implications of the equality legislation for services for people with learning disabilities. This guide is to be complementary to the Framework for Action on Ethnicity for Partnership Boards.

It will be ready for publication at the end of March and is being prepared by Robina Shah.

## Launch of the VPST Eastern Region Ethnicity Network

At the time of going to press the Valuing People Team were holding a launch day in the Eastern Region of the Regional Ethnicity Network.

Teams from Partnership Boards from across the region were invited to attend the day (20th January) which included presentations on the Ethnicity Framework; self advocacy work for black and ethnic minorities carried out by Value Into Action; information about existing initiatives and opportunities for teams to review progress to date.

The launch, held at Newmarket racecourse, follows a video sent by Dr Stephen Ladyman, urging all Partnership Boards to review their strategies addressing the needs of black and minority ethnic communities; and a subsequent announcement by the Department of Health that additional funding would be provided to enable each region to set up an ethnicity network to support Partnership Boards in their efforts to be more inclusive.

## Action Plan outlines Government's response to the David Bennett Inquiry

David 'Rocky' Bennett, a 38 year old African-Caribbean patient, died on 30 October 1998 in a medium secure psychiatric unit after being restrained by staff. The report into his death was published on 12 February 2004. 'Delivering Race Equality in Mental Health Care' is the recently issued Government action plan delivered in response to the 2004 David Bennett Inquiry. Outlined within it are proposals to tackle and eradicate discrimination in the NHS Mental Health Services and plans to deliver better care for black and minority ethnic people with mental health problems.

The main elements of the action plan include:

- PCTS providing more responsive and demographical targeted services based on the needs of the local population;
- NHS trusts being assessed by the Healthcare Commission on their performance in challenging discrimination and providing equality of access;
- a new commitment to reduce disproportionate rates of compulsory detention of health patients from black and ethnic minority communities, and the prevention of death in mental health services following physical intervention;
- new focused sites where SHAs and organisations will work together to drive changes on a local level and develop best practice;

- better race equality training for staff, assisted by the Royal College of Psychiatrists;
- the creation of a national community engagement scheme to develop the role of the independent sector and identify black and minority ethnic voluntary and community organisations that can advise, and, in some instances, work in partnership with PCTs. PCTs will be supported by the creation of 500 community development worker posts;
- the provision of a national interpretation and translation service within the NHS Direct and directories of NHS and social services targeted at BME people;
- working with the Home Office and police to improve local liaison and the National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) to reform the process of independent inquiries and issue guidance on creating safer environments on acute psychiatric wards.

Rosie Winterton, MP, and Minister of State at the Department of Health said:

"We know what the problems are. There are significant and unacceptable inequalities in the access to mental health services that black and minority ethnic patients have, in their experiences of those services, and in the outcome of those services.

"We've made some progress, but not enough. Now we have a clear and

comprehensive action plan for making sure that progress continues and accelerates.

"Together, DRE and the response form a coherent and comprehensive action plan for eliminating discriminatory practice... we expect by 2010 that we will see a service characterised by a reduction in the disproportionate rates of admission and compulsory detention of BME patients, a more balanced range of effective therapies, increased patient satisfaction and less fear of services among BME communities.

Copies of Delivering race Equality in Mental Health Care can be seen at [www.dh.gov.uk/publications](http://www.dh.gov.uk/publications).

Article taken from the 'Wire' website: [www.machineanswering.me.uk/wire/](http://www.machineanswering.me.uk/wire/)

Many thanks to the people who have responded to the questions raised. In the last issue we were asked to highlight the story of a young Asian man with Asperger's Syndrome looking to find suitable guidance and employment. Thanks to the people who have responded – interestingly coming up with very similar ideas. These were that the young man and his family contact the National Autistic Society Prospects scheme. Details can be found on the web: [www.nas.org.uk/nas/jsp/pdopoly.jsp?d](http://www.nas.org.uk/nas/jsp/pdopoly.jsp?d). Alternatively, telephone 0207 704 7450.

It was also suggested that the family would benefit from knowing about the National Centre for Independent Living which explains direct payments and supports schemes to help people live in the community. Their website includes details of payments that various local authorities will make ([www.ncil.org.uk](http://www.ncil.org.uk)). It is possible to claim the carers allowance on-line ([link from direct.gov.uk](http://direct.gov.uk)).

To gain the most from advice available the family will need access to the internet. Hopefully, their carers group can support them with this. Also, these sites are in English, but most use clear language.

Unfortunately, all this seems a long way from the majority of many people's lives.

## Question



*In this edition we have been asked to raise the story of an Asian mother who is caring for a daughter aged 15 who is doubly incontinent and a husband who has kidney problems. They had asked their local authority for help to have a downstairs toilet. They have been trying to organise this for five years. When the husband became too ill to work and his continence problems were severe the local authority agreed to build a downstairs toilet. In June workmen arrived and started on an extension, digging out foundations. After a few days they stopped work and have not been back since. The mother does not have fluent English and after repeated phone calls, was told that the money has run out. She does not know what to do or who to approach and says that she has given up hope of help. She has asked us via an interpreter for advice. What should she do next?*

Please forward any ideas you may have to:

**Bridget Fisher**

ARC, ARC House, Marsden Street,  
Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 1JY  
Email; [bridget.fisher@arcuk.org.uk](mailto:bridget.fisher@arcuk.org.uk)

## PRESS RELEASE



Last year the **LDAF (Learning Disability Awards Framework)** Development Team invited a wide range of organisations to take part in consultations for developing VRQ units for staff working within Children's Learning Disability Services in residential, respite and residential educational settings. Using the information we gathered from these events we have subsequently drafted a raft of units for staff to effectively support children with learning disabilities and are undertaking national follow up consultations in order that the sector may influence these draft units.

If someone from your organisation would like to participate please do not hesitate to contact me for further information on: 01246 555043.

**Kate Hird**

LDAF Project Manager

## Radio Ramadhan Dudley (87.7fm)



Radio Ramadhan Dudley presenter Rukia Rasool, with Joseph Parkes from Public Health and Annette Callear from Dudley Social Services

**An innovative radio campaign had been launched in Dudley during the month of Ramadhan to promote health and social services to the Muslim community.**

Staff from Dudley Social Services and Dudley Public Health had worked with Radio Ramadhan Dudley to produce a series of radio slots which were broadcast in English and Mirpuri and Urdu. There were also radio interviews with staff from health and social services and listeners were asked to phone in with their questions.

The campaign promoted a number of different services including services for children with disabilities, exercise for health, stop smoking and services for adults with learning disabilities. Display stands in Mosques had information available in community languages.

Radio Ramadhan Dudley is one of 33 community radio stations set up across the country to broadcast to Muslim communities during the fasting month of Ramadhan.

Linda Warren, Director of Social Services, said:

“We are always looking for new ways to reach people in our community with information about the services we provide. Many families from the Muslim community lack awareness of the range of services on offer due to language and other barriers so I’m hopeful that this campaign will help to bridge that information gap.”

Dr Akber Mohamedali, spokesperson for the Muslim Council of Britain, said:

“Almost 40 per cent of Dudley’s black and ethnic minority population is Muslim. Dudley Council’s partnership with Radio Ramadhan Dudley is an excellent step towards responding to the needs of this community.”

Radio Ramadhan Community radio stations are non-profit making, rely on advertising and sponsorship and are run by volunteers.

For information please contact Ali Mohammed on 01384 813238

## Ethnicity Training Network

The Ethnicity Training Network is a group of people and organisations who are interested in ethnicity and health. It offers information and skills for staff and service users on health and ethnicity with special focus on disability.

The Network aims to increase training on ethnicity and health for service providers; share knowledge and skills between service providers, service users and family carers; help improve professional courses for health and social care staff; support people to deliver government policies to people from ethnic minority groups; and create connections between trainers, services and training organisations.

Currently the Network is establishing a database of interested people and making links between service providers. Soon it will be holding training events, conferences and workshops for health providers, service users and family carers. Meanwhile, the Network provides continuing support for its members.

If you are a trainer (or you want to become one) or need training, please do not hesitate to contact us at the following address:

Dr Hala Abuateya or Miss Catherine Bennett

Centre of Research in Primary Care  
School of Medicine

University of Leeds

71-75 Clarendon Rd Leeds LS2 9PL

Tel: 0113 343 6903

Fax: 0113 343 4836

Email: [medcben@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:medcben@leeds.ac.uk)

## The Shared Training Grant

This Shared Training Grant project began at the beginning of November when I started in my post as Project Worker with ARC. It is designed to raise awareness amongst race equality officers of the needs of people with a learning disability from BME communities and will hopefully steer Race Equality Officers towards the sharing of good practice in their provision of services.

This subject area has become increasingly topical due to legislation published in the last few years which has emphasised the need for equal access to, and treatment within, public services.

In 2000 the Race Relations Amendment Act threw emphasis on the legal responsibility of public bodies to tackle institutional racism. This was a key premise in Learning Difficulty and Ethnicity a Framework for Action prepared by ARC for the Dept of Health in 2004. This Framework stressed the problem of 'double discrimination' and the need to support people who are disenfranchised as a result of belonging to a BME community whilst simultaneously having a learning disability.

The need to address disenfranchisement amongst people with a learning disability and adapt public services was embodied within the government's White Paper Valuing People, published in 2001.

However, it is in the footprints of ARC's Learning Difficulty and Ethnicity a Framework for Action that this project focuses specifically on raising awareness amongst Race Equality Officers of the needs of people with a learning difficulty.

Work on the project thus far has involved locating the Race Equality Officers in Primary Care Trusts and Local Authorities in England in England, collating a database of their contact details and raising their awareness of the project.

This January an email survey will be sent out inquiring into Race Equality Officers' knowledge of and services provision for people with a learning disability in BME communities. An email forum will subsequently be established so that these officers can contact each other to offer mutual support and share good practice through their provision of services to these people. The project will host three regional conferences for Race Equality Officers to attend to learn more about learning disability issues faced by people in BME communities.

The project is vital for many reasons, not just the legislative commitment to improving equality within public services. The article in October's newsletter describing the findings from the Parents for Inclusion report 'All Our Children Belong' revealed that people with a learning disability from a BME community and their families need to be empowered by readily accessible information about education, social and health services.

Key to achieving such empowerment is the need to sustain an ethos amongst service commissioners that

seeks to continually develop services through consultation with people from BME communities. Without such direct liaison with service users, partnership boards and race equality officers cannot be certain that they are delivering services sensitive to the needs of the very people they aim to cater for.

The project will offer encouragement to race equality officers to familiarise themselves with and adopt proposals made in Learning Difficulties and Ethnicity a Framework for Action. For example, it is essential to ensure that people with learning disabilities from BME communities are welcomed onto local Partnership boards

Obviously, the journey towards true equality across all public services is far from nearing completion. Different localities in England are at different stages in their understanding and problem solving of the issues that people with a learning difficulty in BME communities face. Hopefully this project will work to inspire and encourage Primary Care Trusts and Local Authorities to share their knowledge of good service provision for these communities.

Conferences for this project will be held on:

**6th April in Birmingham**

**12th April in Leeds**

**19th April in London**

If you would like to be involved in this project or know anyone who may like to be, contact:

Carolyn Bayley

ARC (Association for Real Change)

Tel: 01246 555043

Email: [carolyn.bayley@arcuk.org.uk](mailto:carolyn.bayley@arcuk.org.uk)

## PentaHact and the Asian Respite Service in Barnet

PentaHact is an innovative and creative provider of services to people with learning disabilities, autism and/or mental health problems. Our mission is 'to provide person-centred support enabling people to make the most of opportunities in their community'.

PentaHact is a regionally focused organisation. We provide services to over 500 people in the London

Boroughs of Barnet, Brent, Waltham Forest, Enfield and Haringey and across Hertfordshire, Essex, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire.

The Asian Respite Service, managed by PentaHact is a new service being developed after a need was identified by Asian Carers in Barnet. The Learning Disability Development Fund is funding this service for a year. The respite service will offer a

tailor made service to each service user, will offer culturally sensitive support to individuals, offer support in their home environment and in the community.

PentaHact has been working closely with Barnet Mencap and Barnet's Learning Disability Social Work Team to set up this service. The service operates from PentaHact's Head Office in Finchley and is managed by Stephanie White.

If you would like to know more about the Asian Respite Service, please contact Stephanie White on 020 8343 6385. ■

## The Jeevan project

The Jeevan Project which meets every week, helps widen the involvement of young Asian women with learning disabilities in the broader community which interest them by group activities and the involvement of Advocacy partnerships.

Jeevan is developing partnerships to encourage more independence and integration. The group intends to encourage and empower the young women to speak up for themselves.

The project is unique, is based in Sheffield, provides single sex activities and is developing an understanding about self-advocacy. The young Asian women are involved in planning for the group activities, which help develop their skills.

These members have spoken up on BBC radio Sheffield, participated in various workshops, presentations and filming projects and some members have found paid employment through the building up of self-confidence and self-esteem.

Early research showed these members did very little outside their family environments.



Since Jeevan has been set up it has helped break down barriers of social exclusion and encouraged social solidarity in a person centred approach.

Studies by Pam Allen (2002) 'Mental Health Needs of Minority Ethnic

Groups' show areas like FirthPark and Burngreave suffer the highest areas of deprivation in Sheffield.

The case study reveals the population of Asians with learning disabilities are far greater than their white counterparts. This figure is expected to double over the next decade thus showing a need for groups like Jeevan to survive.

Jeevan has always aimed at being a model of good practice and hopes other cities can set up similar projects to help the most isolated groups.

Currently activities and work are limited due to lack of funding.

If you can help, volunteer, join the group or simply want to find out more, visit our website:

[www.jeevanguard.l.blinkz.com](http://www.jeevanguard.l.blinkz.com) or contact Saara Nawaz on 0114 261 9130 or 07961 061 642 or email [jeevanproject@lycos.co.uk](mailto:jeevanproject@lycos.co.uk) ■

## My Life Day to Day

A conference for people with learning disabilities to talk about how services can include people from different ethnic communities.

The Leicester Advocacy Project aims is to support people who have a learning disability to advocate for themselves and work with local services to improve services. The project facilitates different self advocacy groups one of which is the “We Think” group. “We Think” is part of the Leicester City Learning Disability Partnership Board and works with other groups from the board to try and improve services.

“We Think” and the Leicester Advocacy Project hold two conferences a year. The conferences are about the changes in services and making sure people with learning disabilities have a say in the changes. This year we decided to find out about how services could be made more accessible for people from the ethnic minority community. “We Think” decided the conference should be for everyone and about everyone so that we could all learn from each other. We had a conference on the 18 August 2004 called ‘My life Day to Day’ (Finding out how people from different cultures and religions live their life).

Although Leicester is a very multicultural society the day was short and we could not talk about everyone and therefore “We Think” decided to have four workshops in

the morning looking at a persons life. The workshops were My Life Day to Day as a Muslim, My Life Day to Day as a Sikh, My Life Day to Day as a Hindu and My Life Day to Day as a White person. In the afternoon everyone could talk about their own lives and put forward their comments about how services could make sure that people from different ethnic communities could be included.

Here’s what some people at the conference said...

- We want to be able to choose what language we speak.
- We want staff to understand our religion and beliefs.
- Not everyone can read information should be put on tape.
- Everyone should celebrate each others festival, it build friendships.
- I would like to pray more when I am at college or Day centre.
- Muslims don’t pray together, should be separate place for men and women.
- Sikh and Muslims use running water to wash, staff should have understanding of their religious needs.
- Want support workers who are the same sex for personal care and prefer someone from same background or culture.
- There should be a space for people to go to if they are fasting, so they are with people who know us and why we are fasting.

At this conference we were fortunate to have food that was either Halal or vegetarian and therefore Muslims and people who eat meat could do so. We also had a variety of food from West Indian, Indian and English food. Everyone tried at least one thing new,

and everyone agreed it would be nice to have a chance to try different foods at day centres or college.

A report of the conference and presentation about the day has been done for the Leicester City Partnership Board, and we hope that this will enable social services to plan better services for people with a learning disability living in Leicester, and promote good practice in the future. The Advocacy Project worked closely with a number of different organisations and individuals to help plan the conference, it must be said that without their support the conference would not have been the success it was. We worked with:

**Ansaar** - A charity which provides day care for people with a learning disability in the community.

**The Sikh Centre** – A community centre that runs groups for different people including people with a learning disability.

**Minakshee Patel** - BME Development Worker at Voluntary Action Leicester.

**Rakhee Palmer** – Social Care and Health. Rakhee was writing a support pack to help people from Ethnic Minority Communities do their person centred plans.

For a full copy of the conference report or for more information contact:

Louisa Whit, Advocacy Co-ordinator or Hawa Makani, Community Advocacy Support Worker on 0116 2422742 or write to us at Leicester Advocacy Project, Mencap Regional Office, Kimberley House, 3rd Floor, Vaughan Way, Leicester, LE1 4SG  
Email: [louisa.whait@mencap.org.uk](mailto:louisa.whait@mencap.org.uk)

## Income Generation:

### **'Black voluntary and community sector funding, its impact on civic engagement and capacity building'**

*Karen Chouhan, Clarence Lusanne: 1990 TRUST. Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2004*

This report by the 1990 Trust explores current practices in financing black voluntary and community groups and asks whether the help or hinder.

**ISBN 185 935 1700**  
**Books/Mono QJP BLA CM 8EB**

## Funding for BME Groups

### **'Working Together A Strategy for the Voluntary and Community Sector and the Learning and Skills Council'**

In this document the LSC recognises the need to support capacity building and in particular the need for capacity building amongst the Black Minority Ethnic (BME) organisations.

£2 million is being made available nationally with the aim of improving the capacity of organisations so that they are better able to work with the LSC and its partners. The allocation for South Yorkshire is £60,000, however the procedure for accessing this fund has not been finalised yet. The Open Forum will be keeping an eye on developments and more information will appear in the November Update. In the mean time you can contact us for the latest.

'Working Together A Strategy for the Voluntary and Community Sector and the Learning Skills Council' is available on the LSC's website: [www.lsc.gov.uk](http://www.lsc.gov.uk) or call Anne at the Open Forum for a hard copy.

## Social Security

### **'Direct experience, a guide for councils on the implementation of direct payments in children's services'**

*Jeanne Carlin; Christine Lenehan. London: Council for Disabled Children, 2004*

Reports on a survey of 13 English social services departments on their practices of managing direct payments to the parents of disabled children and to 16 and 17 year olds in their own right

**ISBN 1904787304**  
**Books/Mono QFF KR PAMPHLET**

## The Hilden Charitable Fund

The Fund lists its present concerns as:

- Homelessness (particularly amongst the young,
- penal affairs,
- minorities, and
- overseas.

Full contact information, and guidelines about the Fund's criteria for grant aid can be found via the Trustfunding website, [www.trustfunding.org.uk](http://www.trustfunding.org.uk). (access subject to annual subscription).

## The Wates Foundation

The work of the Foundation is centred around social welfare in the Greater London area (in particular South London) and the South East of England, and focused primarily on the following;

- community support and development,
- ethnic minority and immigrant communities,
- crime, prisons and resettlement,
- substance abuse.

Grants awarded by the Foundation may be towards a specific event or activity, or cover core cost such as revenue, infrastructure, or service provision costs. Grants range from a few hundred pounds up to a normal maximum of £25,000 over three years.

Full details of the Foundation's objectives, procedures for application and guidelines for funding eligibility can be found on the web: [www.watesfoundation.org.uk](http://www.watesfoundation.org.uk). Potential applicants can also ring on 020 8764 5000.

The Wates Foundation  
Wates House  
Station Approach  
Leatherhead  
Surrey  
KT22 7SW

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## Rehearsing Real Life

Fletchamoores Way looks like any small high street in Britain. There is a Safeway, Barclays Bank, a few parked cars and a bus stop - but only the front half a bus. Even if the number 999's back end was attached, though, passengers would not get far, because these streets are inside a large warehouse near Bournemouth.

Welcome to **Streetwise**, a rather weird, life-sized, education centre where people with learning difficulties are taught how to live more independently by role-playing in a lifelike but safe indoor environment.

([www.societyguardian.co.uk](http://www.societyguardian.co.uk) - 27th October 2004)

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## Race Equality through Leadership in Social Care

Race equality is an 'inseparable part' of good management of organisations, according to a new guide from the **Association of Directors of Social Services**. It offers self-assessments for planning an inclusive workforce.

This booklet will enable you to:

- Argue the case for race equality in your political, managerial and business environments
- Identify actions that a leader can take to promote good practice in this area of work
- Prepare a leadership check list to enable you to engage all managers and measure success
- Work in a multiplicity of environments and take the lead in this vital area of work

Downloadable from: [www.adss.org.uk](http://www.adss.org.uk)

Hard copies can be obtained from the ADSS Administrator, Marinda on 0207 072 7433 at a cost of **£2 each plus postage**

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## Mental Health Services for Minority Ethnic Children and Adolescents

*Edited by Mhemooda Malek and Carol Joughin. Foreword by Kedar Nath Dwivedi*

Bringing together current research on mental health services for children from minority ethnic backgrounds, this much needed resource provides guidance for both practice and policy. In the light of their interviews with child and adolescent mental health managers about their approaches to service development, the authors argue that the delivery of effective services can be achieved only by recognizing the diversity of cultures and individual needs of minority groups and encouraging more communication between service providers.

They consider how ethnicity is defined, and how the field of mental health has developed in the West according to Western concepts of health and well-being, and show how an understanding of the key practice issues and policy and academic debates can enable professionals to develop and fine-tune their cultural competence.

**Child and Adolescent Mental Health Series** – [www.jkp.com](http://www.jkp.com)  
Tel: 0207 833 2307  
Email: [post@jkp.com](mailto:post@jkp.com)

2004 224 pp

**ISBN 1 84310 236 6 pb**

**Price: £16.95**

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## Rathbone's Special Education Advice Line

For advice and help on:

- concerns about children falling behind their peers
- getting extra help in school
- assessments and statementing
- appeals
- annual reviews
- exclusions and admissions.

A new number for Asian languages, free-phone: 0800 085 4528; in Punjabi, Hindi, Bengali, Gujarati and Urdu.

The English line remains at freephone 0800 917 6790

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## The Asian Family Counselling Service

This is a national service offering counselling on marital and family issues for Asian men and women. The national helpline is open from 9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday.

Telephone counselling is also available. Tel: 0208 571 3933

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## Language Line

This service can provide an interpreter on the telephone immediately in 100 different languages, 24 hours a day. Tel: 0207 520 1430

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## Hard to Believe: Mental Health and Spirituality

A video which places spirituality as an integral part of people's mental health recovery, rather than an expression of mental health distress. It shows a range of perspectives – personal testimony and professional – to explain this neglected area in mental health care, while highlighting research linking mental health and spirituality in a positive way.

It explores the need for the inclusion of spirituality within service delivery and of building bridges with various faith communities to find out how they may support people with mental distress.

### **Mind in Croydon,**

Tel: 0208 668 2210

Email: admin@minincroydon.org.uk

**Price: £35**

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## Rising Number of People with Learning Disabilities

The population of people with a learning disability in England is predicted to grow and, although Valuing People has successfully raised the profile of people with a learning disability, barriers still exist to prevent people achieving full citizenship.

A report by the Learning Disability Task Force published in November 2004 exposes the difficulties in pulling together demographic and financial information that would enable central and local Government to plan future services. It highlights the Task Force's concern that plans for improvements

in provision of housing and support, day services, fulfilling lives and better healthcare are not being realised because there is a lack of information about what is actually spent, and, therefore, what the future investment needs to be.

The report draws together new research into demographics and financial information. It reveals the extent to which levels of demand for services are increasing and where deficits in funding will occur. For example by 2021 there will be a 37% increase in adults with learning disabilities aged over 60; there will be an overall 11% increase in the total numbers of adults with learning disabilities. This highlights the need for adequate funding arrangements to be put in place to ensure consistent and improving services.

Copies of the report and key recommendations are available from:  
Francesca Deakin  
Tel: 0207 969 6949  
Email: francesca.deakin@mencap.org.uk

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## 'Cross-cultural working in community learning disabilities services: clinical issues, dilemmas and tensions'

S. J. Summers and J. Jones

An examination of the difficulties involved in providing people with learning disabilities from minority ethnic communities with appropriate services.

Conclusions drawn include: conflicts between the principal service values of individuality, choice, promotion

of mental health and normalization, whilst also respecting the beliefs and values of other religions and cultures can raise tensions and dilemmas for learning disabilities services. The importance of sensitive and appropriate service configuration, sharing good practice and good staff training.

*Journal of Intellectual Disability Research, Vol. 48, iss. 7, p687-694, October 2004*

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## Muslim Women's Helpline

This confidential telephone helpline offers information, advice, and a listening service for Muslim women from any ethnicity. Some face-to-face counselling is available.

It is open Monday to Friday from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

### **Advice Line**

Tel: 0208 904 8193 / 0208 908 6715

### **Administration Line**

Tel: 0208 908 3205

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## **'Access to Services with Interpreters: User Views'**

*Joseph Rowntree Foundation*

People who speak little English need interpreters in order to use health, legal, social welfare and education services. Most evaluations of interpreting provision have been conducted from a service provider perspective. An in-depth study by researchers from London South Bank University, Salford University and the LSE, examined the experiences of people who need interpreters. The research found that:

- People decide for themselves what level of English proficiency is necessary on particular occasions, and who is best able to meet their need for an interpreter. Sometimes they can manage themselves, sometimes they seek help from a family member, friend or professional interpreter. Specialist help is seen as important in medical or legal matters.
- A good interpreter is regarded as someone who does more than change words into another language. People prefer proactive interpreters who can empathise with them, help with understanding procedures and plead their case. The personal character, attitude and trustworthiness of an interpreter are seen as crucially important.
- There is a lack of knowledge about who is a professional interpreter and how to get access to one. Even people who know how to access them often have difficulties in obtaining one.

- Experiences of professional interpreters are mixed. On the one hand users can value them for their knowledge of medical and legal systems, and can establish trust with an individual interpreter they get to know over time. On the other hand users are often critical of them, feeling that service providers control provision and that they have an uncaring attitude or are even actively against them.
- People most prefer family or friends to interpret for them. They trust them because they have an ongoing relationship with them that includes emotional commitment and loyalty.
- The researchers conclude that training in the basics of interpreting should be made more widely available to members of minority ethnic communities who regularly act as interpreters for family members or friends. Refocusing professional interpreting services to allow for a 'case load' approach, where feasible, would help to build the ongoing, trusting relationship between service user and interpreter that users want.

The full report by Claire Alexander, Rosalind Edwards and Bogusia Temple, with Usha Kanani, Liu Zhuang, Mohib Miah and Anita Sam, is published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, York Publishing Services Ltd, 64 Hallfield Road, Layerthorpe, York YO31 7ZQ  
Tel: 01904 430 033  
Fax: 01904 430 868

**ISBN: I 85935 228 6**  
**Price: £14.95+£2 p&p per order)**

You can also download this report free from: [www.jrf.org.uk](http://www.jrf.org.uk)  
**(ISBN: I 85935 229 4)**

## **'Mental Health Services for Minority Ethnic Children and Adolescents'**

*Mhemooda Malek and Carol Joughin*

This publication contains the results of an analysis of current research, and the findings of a small-scale survey of commissioners and child and adolescent mental health services.

**Jessica Kinglsey Publishers**  
Tel: 0207 833 2307

**Price: £16.95**

## **'Child Welfare Services for Minority Ethnic Families – The Research Reviewed'**

*June Thoburn, Ashok Chand and Joanne Procter (Introduction by Beverley Prevatt Goldstein)*

Based on extensive studies into child welfare services, this book brings together research into what works in service provision for minority ethnic families. Drawing on current government statistical returns and the 2001 national census, this wide-ranging analysis challenges dated research and practice and proposes a revisionary agenda for future research and culturally sensitive child welfare practice.

Available from: [www.jkp.com](http://www.jkp.com)

2004 256 pp  
**ISBN: I 84310 269 2**  
**Price: pb £19.95**

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## **'Spirituality'**

Turner S, et al

Religious expression amongst adults with intellectual disabilities.

A study based on interviews with 29 people with learning disabilities of the Christian, Islamic and Hindu faiths.

*Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities, Vol. 17, iss. 3, p161-171, September 2004*

**Price: £2.00**

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## **'Developing services for minority ethnic older people: the audit tool; practice guidelines for councils with social service responsibilities'**

Eruku Morgan, Department of Health 2002

Both the National Service framework for Older People and the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 aim to improve standards of care for older people, providing them with services free from discrimination. In this context this audit tool has been prepared by the Department of Health to act as practice guidance for all minority ethnic older people. It supports the publication 'From Lip Service to Real Service', published by the Department of Health in November 2001 (this publication was the first product of the Department of Health's 'Developing Services for Black Older People' project). The audit tool includes a diagnostic questionnaire and an action plan template, both of which are a positive step to real service changes for minority ethnic older people.

Available to download from: [www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics](http://www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics), Publications and Guidance Articles or to order hard copy from DH publications.

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## **'Celebrating our Cultures: Guidelines for Mental Health Promotion with Black and Minority Ethnic Communities'**

The guide was launched by Health Minister Rosie Winterton at the Bradford Festival of Commissioning Mental Health Services for Black and Ethnic Communities on Wednesday 1st December 2004.

This guide is available to download at: [www.nimhe.org.uk](http://www.nimhe.org.uk) in the News and Events.

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