

Real ARC Change

from members of
the Association for Real Change

positive stories in learning disability



Karen Murphy



I moved from my family to Registered Care, then to a Supported House, then into my own Supported Housing flat run by Sanctuary Care. I do everything for myself, cooking cleaning etc., and I have a job in Woolworths. I have my own telephone line and a mobile and I am learning to text.

I travelled back from Manchester unsupported, I also went to the Lake District with a coach company alone I really enjoyed it.

I saved for a digital camera, and a laptop, for which I have lessons; I am also doing a cookery course.

I am going on holiday to Devon next week.

From a very busy Karen Murphy.

Robert Owen Communities

Office Support Team Social Enterprise

ROC Head Office has recently expanded the Office Support Team to include work-based training for six people with a learning disability. They are involved in reception work, photocopying, stock control, collating information and HR recruitment packs.



Salter's Hill

Salter's Hill in Gloucestershire have just completed a 12 month modernisation programme, re-housing 14 people in four new flats. The move means loads of opportunity to be more in control, build up skills and be with the people you want to be. They reckon the best bit was the work done with a local advocate who managed the whole 'who do you want to share a flat with?' decision with no influence or input from staff. Salter's Hill have now become landlords, and have one remaining question, "Can it really be that easy?!"



South Hams Partnership Network

Forward Living, Camphill Communities and South Devon Support Services got together a while back to form the South Hams Partnership Network.

The aim of this was to create a time where Managers and Area Managers could discuss common topics and practices, whilst sharing knowledge and offering advice to each other creating real partnership working that would make a difference to the people that we support.

One of our positive outcomes to date is: We introduced a social night open to people living in residential care, supported living or living at home with their families.

The aim of this night is to provide an environment which is local (we use the local pub) where people can meet up with old friends, make new friends and have a good time.

We normally have a game of pool or skittles, and quite a few of us have a meal and a drink.

What we have now started to see is that people are moving on by extending these friendships further a field by socialising at other venues or meeting up at different times, which was always part of our vision.

The level of commitment from all the people that started up the Network has been great, as is the level of feedback that we have received from individuals, carers and parents which has been very positive.

Through popular demand we will be organising other events in the near future, which I am sure will be received equally as positive.

These evenings are non profit making along with the time that we put in which is our own.

To share your positive stories and experience contact:
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