Strengths Based Social Work

Applying the Strengths-based Practice Framework for Professional Practice in Adult Social Work

Monday 8th July 2019  De Vere W1 Conference Centre London

Speakers Include:

Mark Trewin
Mental Health Social Work Lead
DHSC and NHS England

Tricia Pereira
Co Chair Adults Principal Social Worker National Network, Principal Adults Social Worker, Lewisham Council
& Co Author, Strengths-based approach practice handbook
The Strengths-based practice framework for professional practice was released in February 2019. A Strengths-based practice is a social work theory that focuses on people’s strengths and goals rather than their problems. This conference focuses on implementing a Strengths-based approach, and applying the Strengths-based Based Practice Framework for Professional Practice in Adult Social Work.

“A strengths-based approach explores, in a collaborative way the entire individual’s abilities and their circumstances rather than making the deficit the focus of the intervention…. When using a strengths-based approach, risk is looked at as an enabler, not as a barrier.” Strengths-based approach practice framework February 2019

“Whilst practice evidence and research are vital tools to inform sometimes complex judgements, imagination, creativity and curiosity are also needed to make sure a person’s wishes are respected and their life goals remain at the heart of any decision making process. In other words, it’s about finding the balance between professional engagement and the holistic, co-productive approach we espouse to keep individuals at the centre of all care and support decisions. In this way, we are not dictating a person’s future, but instead working alongside them as trusted advisors, presenting and facilitating options with one ultimate goal: to support them and their families to make independent decisions about the lives they want to lead. A strengths and asset based approach is, I believe, the best way to achieve this.” Lyn Romeo Chief Social Worker for Adults (England), February 2019  Department of Health and Social Care

“Many social workers and social care professionals we met fundamentally supported a strengths-based approach within adult social work and social care but often found it difficult to demonstrate, evidence and practice such an approach in practice.”

Strengths-based approach practice framework February 2019

“A Strengths-based approach/practice is
An approach ‘how to carry out interventions, Holistic and multidisciplinary, Collaborative, Proportionate, Appropriate to the individual circumstances and flexible, Aligned with risk enablement and positive risk taking, focus on ‘what matters to you and what is strong
Identifying personal, family and community strengths and support the individual in linking with them, Supporting community development, Applicable to any intervention, setting, type or level of need or profession”

Strengths-based approach practice framework February 2019

This conference will enable you to:
• Network with colleagues who are working to implement a strengths based approach to adults social work
• Learn from outstanding practice in applying the Strengths-based Based Practice Framework for Professional Practice in Adult Social Work
• Reflect on national developments and learning, and the lived experience
• Understand the five quadrant model promoted as a set of practice triggers or prompts bought to action through knowledge, values, experiential learning, theories and skills – KcVETS
• Develop your skills in Delivering a Strengths-based approach to Adult Safeguarding
• Understand how you can improve the assessment process and the way you look at risk issues
• Identify key strategies for quality assurance
• Ensure your practice and interventions are proportionate through case study examples
• Self assess and reflect on your own practice
• Gain cpd accreditation points contributing to professional development and revalidation evidence
10.00 Chairman’s Introduction: Professor Samantha Baron

10.10 Strengths Based Social Work

Mark Trewin
Service Manager for Mental Health Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Mental Health Social Work Lead DHSC and NHS England
Chair Aftercare, discharge and care planning topic group

- what a strengths-based approach is and what it is not
- definition of a strengths based approach
- identifying, co-producing and facilitating solutions so that individuals can become the best version of themselves
- examples in practice

10.40 The Lived Experience

Andy Cooke
Carer and Champion Shared Lives Plus
with James
Ambassador Shared Lives Plus

- Andy’s experience of supporting James as a Shared Lives carer
- James’ experience of moving on from life in an epilepsy centre to being an active part of his community, with the help of Shared Lives
- what strengths based social work means to people using services
- how do we encourage an approach that focuses on users wishes and outcome goals?

11.20 Questions & answers, followed by tea & coffee at 11.30

12.00 EXTENDED SESSION: Applying the Strengths Based Practice Framework for Professional Practice

Prof Samantha Baron
Head of Social Work Manchester Metropolitan University &
Co Author, Strengths-based approach practice framework,
Department of Health and Social Care

- applying strengths-based practice framework for professional practice
- an over view of the five quadrant model promoted as a set of practice triggers or prompts
- bought to action through knowledge, values, experiential learning, theories and skills –
- KCVETS
- working through the framework: Interactive session
- applying the framework to a case study example
- applying the strengths based practice framework for supervision

12.50 Questions & answers, followed by lunch at 13.00

14.00 EXTENDED SESSION: Applying the Principles of the Mental Capacity Act to a Strengths Based Approach to Assessment and Decision Making

Andy Butler
Principal Social Worker (Adults)
Surrey County Council

- a strengths based approach to assessment, decision making and best interests
- choice, autonomy and the appropriate use of advocates
- a strengths based approach to assessing and managing risk
- unwise decisions vs unacceptable risk - whose decision is it anyway?

14.45 EXTENDED SESSION
Delivering a Strengths-based approach to Adult Safeguarding

Pete Morgan
Chair
PASA UK

- what are the principles underpinning a Strengths-based approach, and also underpinning Safeguarding Adults?
- what do we mean by the terms ‘Strengths’, ‘Safeguarding Adults’ and ‘Self-neglect’?
- consider the merits of a Strengths-based approach to a case of Self-neglect

15.30 Questions & answers, followed by tea & coffee

16.00 A strengths based practice framework for quality assurance

Rebecca Spurrell
Professional Lead for Adult Social Care
Sheila Wood
Head of Service for Adult Social Care & Principal Social Worker
Cheshire East Council

- ensuring organizational issues and procedures support a strengths based approach
- the practice framework as a quality assurance mechanism
- ensuring a strengths based approach to leadership and supervision
- undertaking an audit of practice quality

16.30 Ensuring proportionality is important in any social care intervention

Tricia Pereira
Co Chair Adults Principal Social Worker National Network
Principal Adults Social Worker Lewisham Council
& Co Author Strengths-based approach practice handbook

- proportionality in strengths-based interventions
- examples of strengths-based interventions
- moving forward with a strengths-based approach and practice

17.00 Questions & answers, followed close
Strengthen Social Work
Monday 8 July 2019 De Vere W1 Conference Centre London

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A map of the venue will be sent with confirmation of your booking.
Date Monday 8 July 2019
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