



December 2024



South West
Yorkshire Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER



We are a specialist NHS Foundation Trust that provides community, mental health and learning disability services to the people of Barnsley, Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield. We also provide some medium secure (forensic) services to the whole of Yorkshire and the Humber.

Being a Foundation Trust means we're accountable to our members, who can have a say in how we're run and how they'd like our services to be developed. Around 14,300 local people (including our staff) are members of our Trust.

[Read More](#)



A message from our Chief Executive and Chair

A lot has changed since the NHS was created in 1948, with services adapting and responding to the ever-changing needs of society. It's been an important year for our Trust, as we refreshed our Trust strategy to define what we will do next and how we will do it.

We agreed our previous Trust strategy in 2018. Since then, there have been significant changes to the context in which we work. We've very recently welcomed colleagues from Cheswold Park Hospital, a low and medium-secure mental health hospital based in Doncaster. The NHS system has changed with the introduction and development of integrated care systems, and the welcome increased emphasis on collaboration.

Our #allofusconversation put co-production, involvement and engagement at the heart of our new strategy. We had a great response heard from over 25% of our colleagues and over 1,500 members from the communities that we serve, as well as many partner organisations we work with. These voices have directly shaped our strategy.

Our strategy sets out how, with our values as our guide, we will be the best we can be – providing the best quality services, being the best place to work and learn, being the best partner, and providing the best value. This will support us to achieve our purpose of helping people to reach their potential and live well in their communities.



With all of us in mind.

STRATEGY REFRESH

Thank you to all of you who contributed to our #allofusconversation, focused on what we should do as a Trust over the next five years.

The feedback and insight has helped to shape and support the refresh of our Trust's overall strategy, along with the development of a new Trust clinical strategy.

If you want to find out more about how your voice has influenced the strategy refresh, we have published a report with all feedback and insight findings available on our Trust website.

We are delighted to be sharing our Trust strategy which will demonstrate our ambition and commitment to deliver health and care reflective of what matters to our communities in the next edition of our membership newsletter.

[Read our strategy on our Trust website](#)



In October, a national conversation about the future of the NHS was launched, to gather feedback from the general public and people working in health and care to inform decision-making on the government's 10 Year Health Plan for England.

The plan will set out how we create a truly modern health service designed to meet the changing needs of our changing population, with a focus on moving more care from hospitals to communities, making better use of technology, and focusing on preventing sickness, not just treating it. Over 60,000 people have responded so far online, sharing views on what matters to them. It is clear that the voices of all our communities help to shape care and develop services that are responsive, compassionate and efficient. Whatever the NHS of the future looks like, we know that it is being designed with the person first and in the centre.

Seasons greetings and best wishes for 2025 from us all at South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

ABOUT YOUR LOCAL GOVERNORS

MEET YOUR LOCAL GOVERNORS

Part of the role of the Member's Council is to help shape the Trust's future plans and priorities. If you would like to engage with the Governor who represents your local community get in touch below:

email: governors@swyt.nhs.uk.
phone: 01924 316000 and ask to speak with the corporate governance team.

[Read More](#)



Helen Dale

Hello, my name is Helen Dale

Why did I apply to become a Governor?

I've worked for the NHS for just under 4 years, starting in February 2021 but before this role I worked for the local authority in a similar role within Adult Mental Health Services, in a Rehabilitation Unit and Outreach Scheme, so have over 20 years working experience and throughout that time I've seen many, many changes.

Because I'm on the "ground" so to speak I've never been involved in discussions or decisions re services, agencies, different organisations etc and the changes to these over the years, some of which I would most definitely challenge or disagree with, as these changes to Mental Health services have had a long standing impact on the people I work with in the community.

When I saw the request for Governors, I pondered on this for awhile, but then thought "Just go for it", I'd nothing to lose.

Plus I'm nosey..... Who are Governor's, Who are Elected Members? Who is behind decision making and service changes and what rationale and reasoning is behind some of these ? So I applied and crossed my fingers.

Imagine my surprise when my application was accepted, but then that throw up more questions for me. What do I have to do? What do I have to say? Can I have input in decision making and exploring different options from my perspective, working on the frontline, working closely with people with severe and enduring mental health issues.

So, at the moment I'm still `finding my feet` , getting to know the dynamics of being a Governor, learning about who's who and what they do, but I'm eager to learn more and look forward to meeting new people and hopefully having input into some decisions (however small they maybe)

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL GOVERNOR

Members' can contact the lead governor and deputy lead governor using the following email address:



John Laville
Lead governor
john.laville@swyt.nhs.uk



Claire Den Burger-Green
Deputy lead governor
claire.green@swyt.nhs.uk



CONNECTING PEOPLE ANNUAL EVENT



On Thursday 5th December, the Trust hosted its second Connecting People annual networking and celebration event. With over 40 people in attendance the purpose of the event was to raise awareness and celebrate the achievements made through the connecting people programme throughout the last 12 months.

Connecting people is a programme that allows us to ensure a level of consistency is met throughout involvement activity across our Trust footprint. Through the programme our connectors receive training which helps to build knowledge, skills and confidence around legal legislation around public involvement and the equality act, the way that the NHS works, and explores different approaches to ensure that approaches are reflective of the communities we are aiming to reach

[Find out more about Connecting People](#)



Cascades of gratitude to all Connector Champions,
One and all are community companions.

Set up to drive well being forward,
So all of you can jump on board,

To see better outcomes for one and all,
Don't delay let's answer the call,

To stand for all our rich diverse local groups,
We are each the Connector Champion troops,

Pushing for awareness and inclusion,
Better pathways a welcome solution.

So all are heard and all voices do count,
With no issue for us too big to mount.

Connectors are the best way to move ahead,
And help resolve and ease service users dread...

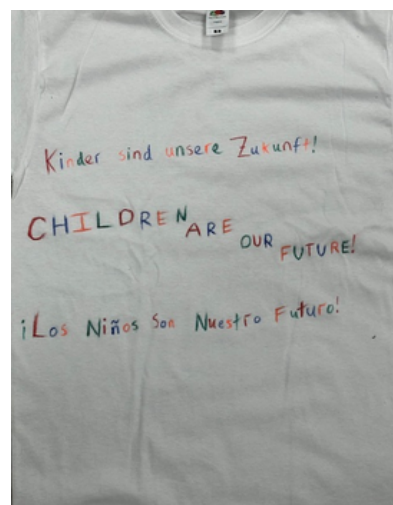
'Connectors'
Martyn Haymonds
Serendipity Creative Writers
December 2024



HEARING THE VOICE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Over the last 12 months we've been doing a lot of work with our partner organisations to help ensure we hear the voice of children and young people in the design and delivery of our services. The Equality and Involvement team have worked to coproduce a set of shared principles to involvement ensuring that whenever working with children and young people we are able to create a physically and psychological safe space to hear feedback in an honest and meaningful way.

The Trust have begun work in Partnership with Chilypep in Barnsley to design a children and young people friendly version of the Connecting People programme, which aims to promote and ensure we have the right mechanisms in place to hear from all our communities, regardless of age. The Trust went to speak with the group to understand what current barriers there are to involving people in decision making. The group created tshirts sharing why it's important to give children and young people a voice and work will continue in the new year to develop a training programme based on what matters to them.



PATIENT CARER RACE EQUALITY FRAMEWORK (PCREF)

NHS England's anti-racism framework for NHS mental health trusts and providers



PCREF is the patient and carer anti-racism equality framework. **It aims to improve people's experiences of mental health services, making them more racially inclusive and culturally appropriate.**

The Trust is more open about having conversations about race and inequalities, and is working hard to come up with solutions to address racism and racial inequality.

We are encouraging our service users, carers, families, community and voluntary organisations, governors, staff and members of the public to get involved and work in partnership to make PCREF part of standard practice for our trust and our partners.

We will make changes based on feedback from people who live in our communities. We will show the actions we are taking in our PCREF action plan. Everyone will be able to see the progress we are making on the actions described in our plan and tell us what they think.

Our website is in the process of being updated with information about the PCREF and how to share your views, ask a question or get involved. In the meantime if you would like to find out more then talk to a member of the equality and inclusion team:

Involving people@swyt.nhs.uk

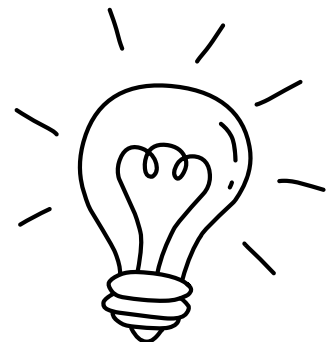
[Find out more about PCREF](#)

WORDSEARCH

V O L U N T E E R D
 E Z K I R K L E E S
 Y Q F L G W M P Y Q
 U B A R N S L E Y T
 P B S U P P O R T Y
 C A L D E R D A L E
 P W A K E F I E L D
 N Z H E A L T H F S
 C O M M U N I T Y P
 A W E L L B E I N G

CALDERDALE
 BARNSELY
 WAKEFIELD
 KIRKLEES
 COMMUNITY

WELLBEING
 EYUP
 VOLUNTEER
 SUPPORT
 HEALTH



VOLUNTEERING SPOTLIGHT

Volunteers play a really important part in the NHS and volunteers at our Trust are no different, they are the unpaid heroes of our Trust and we value each and every contribution that they make.

Volunteers can offer personal, cultural, spiritual and creative contributions and offer the time that people need. By working this way, our Trust can provide the best possible, high quality care to ensure our services are person centred, compassionate, caring and effective. By volunteering with us, you can give your community a voice in everything we do, whilst building new friendships; improving your confidence, boosting your CV and improving your own health and wellbeing.

We welcome anyone who can bring skills, time or life experiences. We encourage applications from people from all communities and backgrounds. If you're over 16, you can volunteer with us.



Find out more
about
volunteering

CASE STUDY: KAYLEIGH

How long did you volunteer and where?

I have been volunteering for about 18 months. I am a befriender on Crofton Ward at Fieldhead.

What do you like about your role?

It's interesting, very varied and I like being with people. The staff are a great source of learning that I can tap into that helps me in my degree. They support me, especially with my university work. I love being with the service users, their lived experience provides a great learning experience for me. I just love coming in!

Why did you decide to volunteer for the Trust?

I wanted something that I could link to my degree. University gives me the theory, which is great, but I wanted something that would provide practical experience as well. Specifically, something in mental health and my volunteering role does that.

BECOME A MEMBER

You can support your local NHS services by becoming a member of our Trust. We want to work with our members to ensure our services are the best they can be, and to support local people to look after their wellbeing and make best use of services available, this is why anyone from the age of 11 years can become a member. If you haven't already signed up, do it now and encourage your friends, family or colleagues to join us too.

[Read More](#)



BECOME A 'COMMUNITY CONNECTOR'

'Connecting people' is about giving the public a voice. You will take part in training to support you to involve your local connections, community, family and friends in the development of NHS services.



GET IN TOUCH

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. If you have any queries or would like any additional information about anything included within this newsletter please contact us.



phone: 01924 316000

email: governors@swyt.nhs.uk

website: www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/