

Information Exchange

Name :- Gabrielle Eisele

Organisation: Powys Advocacy Service, Tros Gynnal

Contact details : Powy@trosgynnal.org.uk
01982 552450

What are you up to at the moment?

- Preparing a DVD with disabled young people on advocacy and how to make their voices heard in conjunction with John Evans.
- Practice group on non-instructed advocacy
- NAS Social group / participation group which is feeding into the ASD Strategy

Name :- Margaret Stanton / Jim Dunne

Organisation :- ASBAH (Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus)

Contact details:- margaretst@asbah.org and jimd@asbah.org
029 2075 2922 01792 203886

What are you up to at the moment?

- About to appoint a Director for Wales who may well be interested in policy issues
- Delivery of front line services, dealing with benefits, education, health, housing
- Providing advice, liaison, intervention, support for services users, carers and families and issues that arise
- Working in conjunction with other voluntary groups and establishing local neuro alliances

What do you need?

- Up to date information on what is happening more widely in Wales.
- Limited funds to attend conferences
- Further opportunities for networking for professionals and service users and families to attempt to reduce social isolation

Name :- **Jill Bartlett**

Organisation :- **Contact a Family Wales**

Contact details:- jill.Bartlett@cafamily.org.uk

01248 670965

What are you up to at the moment?

- Contact a Family have recently received money from Children in Need to hold 6 free film showings and workshops alongside them in various Arts Centre throughout Wales.
- Also to organise 3 residential weekends – 2 on wheelchair training and 1 for siblings

What do you need?

- Suggestions of accessible venues
- Help with distribution of information

Name :- Ann Shercliff

Organisation :- Family Fund

Contact details :- ash@familyfund.org.uk

01792 361498

What are you up to at the moment?

- The age limit for the Family Fund is now the day before the 18th birthday
- Family Fund Extra available on line for families with disabled young people to purchase goods from a wide range of retailers with major discounts. No income limit is required.
- If other people via Family Fund Extra no discounts will be available but Family Fund will get monies to use for families
- Organisation now using some key working specialised disabled children's teams to make direct assessments for Family Fund grants. This saves families duplicate assessments.
- Also if families are receiving high rate of DLA care component – no assessment required.

What do you need?

Name :- Judith McNamara

Organisation :- Pembrokeshire County Borough Council and Voices for Choices

Contact details:- judithmc@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

07769 934501

What are you up to at the moment?

- The group is still working on issues around transition to adulthood, ie presentations, consultations
- Some members involved in producing a DVD for Action for Children in Pembrokeshire on transition
- Play Strategy Group – WAG funded

What do you need?

Name :- Sian Owen

Organisation: Mudiad Ysgolian Meithrin

Contact details:- Sian.Owen@mym.co

01978 363422

What are you up to at the moment?

- Working with Asthma Cymru – training for practitioners on Asthma in the Early Years pack
- Autism Cymru – Children in Need project – raising awareness on ASD for early years practitioners
- Next Children in Need funding application in area of speech and language training for staff on developing this in early years
- Working with DCMW Campaign to raise awareness of needs of referral scheme
- Submitted an application to the Big Lottery Fund to commission a piece of research work on the needs of inclusion in the early years
- Developing an electronic report form to gather reliable statistics – this coupled with research will give an accurate knowledge base to build on and add support to application for funding of the referral scheme
- Participating in the Early Support work

Name:- Andrea Storer

Organisation: Children in Wales- Co-ordinator Young Disabled People's Network

Contact details :- Andrea.Storer@childreninwales.org.uk

029 2-34 2434

What are you up to at the moment?

- Aim to link in the Young Disabled People's Network in more closely with the Disabled Children Matter Wales Campaign
- Looking at ways of increasing the membership of the Network and having two levels – junior and senior membership
- Funding for activities now provided through Convergence funding
- Have been in contact with many of the groups across Wales and become apparent that there is no group in Carmarthenshire

Name :- Zoe Richards

Organisation:- Learning Disability Wales

Contact details :- Zoe.Richards@learningdisabilitywales.org.uk

What are you up to at the moment?

- Zoe visited Germany last week and saw how young people with learning disabilities are supported. Found that a Trade Union funds their wages and provides support worker. The young people do an apprenticeship and 90% of young people are usually kept on by employers at the end of their apprenticeship.

Name :- Rhain Allen

Organisation :- Denbighshire County Council
Integrated Services Programme Manager

Contact details :- Rhian.allen@denbighshire.gov.uk
01824 712978

What are you up to at the moment?

- In the early stages of developing Integrated Services for disabled children and young people.
- Early consultation with health, social services, education and some voluntary organisations showed keen interest in working together in one building as a multi agency team. This is now being taken forward.

What do you want?

- Any information on voluntary organisations working in the area and their involvement working with disabled children and their families.

Name:- Pippa Boss

Organisation: - Shared Care Network

Contact details:- pippa.boss@sharedcarenetwork.org.uk
01597 811563

What are you up to at the moment?

- The organisation is expanding to look at other forms of short breaks and not just short breaks provided by family based short breaks
- Shared Care Network is also organising a Carers Network where parents and carers can come together
- The second year of funding for short breaks in Wales has come to an end and Shared Care is going to collate the info from short break carers to assess how the funding has been spent.