

Is your service accessible to people with communication difficulties?

Communication Access Project

The South London Cardiac and Stroke Network is commissioning an exciting new *Communication Access Project* with Connect: the Communication Disability Network (www.ukconnect.org).

The project aims to improve communication access to services working with stroke survivors with a communication difficulty.

We're looking for healthcare sites to participate in a year long project starting in autumn 2010.

How will it work?

We are inviting nominations for a number of communication champions to receive a 2-day Communication Access Toolkit training session at Connect.

This will equip the champion with all of the resources required to cascade the training (at least 3 times) to different groups of colleagues and evaluate its impact.

The champion will receive ongoing support and attend a mentoring day to receive additional support. A final evaluation day will allow champions to showcase service changes to a panel of local experts with aphasia.

Who can be a champion?

Champions can come from any background – they do not need to be a health professional but must:

- Work in any part of the stroke pathway (health, social or voluntary services)
- Be passionate/enthusiastic about communication
- Have experience of or an interest in training others
- Ideally Band 5 or higher (not essential if other criteria are met)

What are the benefits for your service?

- Help to meet a range of National Stroke Strategy Quality Markers
 - QM 1: Awareness
 - QM3: Information
 - QM4 involving service users
 - QM13 Long term advice and support
- Receive practical advice on how to improve communication access for all service users, not just stroke survivors
- Attend complimentary 2 day training session at Connect plus mentoring/support throughout the duration of the project
- Enjoy networking with participants in similar projects across London
- Raise awareness of communication access for service development issues (e.g. patient reported outcomes, involving users in service development)

Please forward your interest to alice.jenner@slcsn.nhs.uk.

For more information please contact Alice on 020 8812 5951.