



**Early years** – early intervention and prevention

Lacked representation for Early Years at the June Community of Practice event

**Community of Practice  
June 2025  
Manchester and Salford**



**Older family carers** – planning ahead

- Link **Learning Disability** nurses attached to GP surgeries (Salford)
- Get to people **before they reach crisis** (NCA)
- **Carers contact point**
- **THRIVE** (Manchester)
- **Families resilience** and using own **networks** when able
- 3 big **carer organisations** in Manchester City Council
- 1x social worker for carers (NCA) – 1x Social Care Assessment for carers (MCC)

**WHAT'S  
WORKING  
WELL?**



**Transition** – moving from child to adult services

- Recent **lessons learnt**
- **Integrated team**
- Increased involvement by the transition team at an **earlier** stage
- Opportunities for **families** to get involved in developing policies around transition
- Access to 'liquid logic' – increased **information sharing** systems
- **Multi-Agency Planning** (MAP) meeting attendance



**Risk of crisis at any age** – additional support

- Listening to **families experiences** (Salford)
- **Face to face** visits and contact (Salford)



**The Challenging  
Behaviour Foundation**  
making a difference to the lives of people with severe learning disabilities



## Early years – early intervention and prevention

- **Initial information** and **support**
- **Education of staff** – prevent biases/ assumptions
- Use of **evidence** above opinion
- Listening to and believing **families**
- **Outreach** to and contact with families
- Understanding **population of families**

## Community of Practice June 2025 Manchester and Salford



## Older family carers – planning ahead

- People don't know what **services** are available and **how to access** them
- Not enough **supported tenancies/ mobility/ environment**
- Provider **skill set/ staff retention**
- Older carers may be **reliant on income** of adult with learning disabilities
- Carers can be **worried** and are not often asked to share their fears or worries
- **Prevention needs** not being met (MCC)
- Sharing and learning from **good practice** examples
- **Transport** issues to enable carer breaks

## WHAT COULD BE BETTER?



## Transition – moving from child to adult services

- **Funding** constraints
- Lack of **respite/short breaks services**
- Improve understanding of the **Mental Capacity Act (MCA)** And **Best Interest (BI)**
- Improved **communication, information sharing** and **joint working** systems between services
- **Earlier intervention** with better understanding of the expectations for transition
- **Managing risk**
- Improve **relationships and trust** with family carers



## Risk of crisis at any age – additional support

- **Out of area placements** far away from families and **lack of support** for individuals and their families
- Tenuous nature of **placements**
- **Housing** issues – loss of placement when sectioned
- Lack of **person-centred** and **creative approaches** to care in some providers – **provider accountability**
- Offer of **bespoke placements** should be increased to ensure decisions are made in the best interest of the individuals
- **Involving families** in decisions from the **start**– families living in fear of speaking up, often labelled as **being 'difficult'** and professionals not **understanding their journey**
- Individuals without **family advocacy**
- Funding cuts affecting **workforce**
- Improve ways of **communicating** what isn't working



### Early years – early intervention and prevention

We did not have representation for Early Years at the first Community of Practice event

- Link more early years families and colleagues into the network

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### Older family carers – planning ahead

- Provide **alternative ways** to reach more older family carers not only online and think about how we identify carers
- **Adapting behaviour management** to make it manageable for older family carers
- **Increase awareness** of what is available such as **directory of support**
- Increase understanding of the **impact of caring** and **understanding behaviour**
- Share **CBF resources** and phone line number in places such as GP surgeries and libraries
- **Information and signposting** to formal and informal groups

## WHAT ACTIONS CAN WE TAKE?



### Transition – moving from child to adult services

- **Information** – more available, more accessible and shared in sessions with input from all services
- **Key working / specific transition workers** in all area
- **Networking** between children and adult services
- Improved **joint working** with **streamlined processes**
- **'Fact sheets'** with key information at key ages
- Increased **advocacy support**
- **Creative ways** to gather the views of all individuals and families
- **Co-produced videos** on the local offer for transition

### Key themes

- Information and resources sharing
- Networking and peer support opportunities
- Creative ways of sharing information
- Clarity of responsibilities and accountability of professionals
- Utilising existing co-production programs



### Risk of crisis at any age – additional support

- **Family carers groups** with representatives from professional teams to feedback
- Working with **integrated teams** in a **proactive** way
- **Improve working between families and professionals** through **clearer communication pathways** and **sharing advice and information**
- Working backwards with family **case studies** to identify what needs to change
- **Clarity** needed for families whose relative's care is spread across **multiple areas/providers/funders** – encourage **responsibility** and **accountability** of services
- Engaging families with Salford City Council programme focusing on **co-production and lived experience**



## Forward Together – Manchester and Salford

### Progress so far....

Shared CBF resources and reports:

1. 'Planning for the Future' Resource

Family carers:

- Connected into the CBF's family carer email network
- Provided with information for carers catch up sessions, listening ear calls and family support details
- Shared details of local parent carer forums
- Facilitated discussions with professionals working in the area to express their experiences and views

Invited professionals from the regional networks to join the CBF's Professional Email Network to connect with other professionals working with people with severe learning disabilities and behaviours that may challenge, providing peer learning opportunities.

Shared information gathered at the CoP event with leads at Northern Care Alliance (Salford) and Manchester City Council.

Considered plans for next community of practice event including locality, how we can support more family carers to engage and to get the right information and to be more connected into services.

Maxine, Family Carer Project Worker for the CBF meeting the programme lead for Salford City Council's co-production and lived-experience work to support getting more family carers involved.