



LPCC Conference Newsletter Part 1

February/March 2010

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During February/March 2010 the Lincolnshire Parent Carer Council hosted seven conferences throughout Lincolnshire. These were the first events hosted by ourselves and have received a very positive response.

The conferences were attended by over 400 parents and professionals and we have collated over 550 pieces of feedback.

The first aim at each event was to give parent carers as much information as possible relevant to their needs. By working in partnership with service providers, we gave them an opportunity to showcase what their organisation has to offer families. We invited at least eight speakers to each event ranging from Short Breaks to Independent travel trainers. The second aim was to ask for parents' feedback on certain issues e.g Direct Payments, Hidden Carers etc. The evidence of this feedback is contained in Part 2 of our newsletter. Our third aim was to follow up what parents told us throughout the coming year.

We also had numerous information stands for parent carers to browse round before and after the conference.

For those of you who were unable to attend the conferences, we have included some information that may be useful to you over the page.

Speakers at our conferences

Therese-Chair of the Lincolnshire Parent Carer Council.



During our presentation we explained the role of the LPCC, in that we are an independent, voluntary group that represent parents of children with disabilities and additional needs.

We explained our involvement in the 42 work-streams of service providers and how we serve as a communication pathway between parent carers and service providers and back again.

We also presented information from our Education questionnaire that we circulated to parents via schools last year.

We are at present writing up the report, which will be available shortly. If you would like a copy of the full report, please send your email address to :-

enquiries@lincolnshireparentcarercouncil.org.uk

Or phone 0845 33 11 310. Alternatively you can view this report on our website.

Speakers at our conferences included the following:-

Lisa Holmes -Getting a life project -Tele 01522 527 928

Spoke about a Government programme that has been asked to show what it will take to help young people with learning disabilities into work when they leave school or college.

Sarah Westwood -Buckles Solicitors-Tele 01780 484 530

Spoke about Trusts and how parents of children with disabilities might be affected.

Independent Travel trainers -Tele 01522 553 440

Gave a presentation about the new role of the Independent Travel Trainers. Their role is to train young people between 14-25 with SEN or additional needs who are resident in Lincolnshire to travel independently.

Val Frow -Work focused support for carers-Tele 01522 343058

A voluntary scheme for carers who are looking to combine their caring role with paid work.

Fire Service -Tele 01522 580389 -Mark Fowell

The fire service spoke to us about home safety, free smoke alarms and safety checks. They also suggested planning a safety route in case of emergency.

Carers Connect-Tele 01522 812830

Spoke about providing benefit checks and advice, face to face carers assessments, information, emotional and practical support and Emergency Response plans.

Parent Partnership -Tele 01522 553351

Told us how they provide information and advice to parent carers to enable them to take an active and informed role in their child's education.

Carers Partnership-Tele 01522 554214

Told us about six things you should know about as a carer; Carers' Assessment, Emergency Plan, Information pack, Newsletter, Support groups and Carers' partnership and the District Councillors Carers' Champion.

Short Breaks -Tele 01522 782111

Told us about Buddying/mentoring schemes, Sitter service, children's Activities, changing places, accommodation for whole family breaks and kids e-learning.

Action for young Carers -Tele 01522 358 834

Spoke to us about providing one to one support, youth groups, support, recognition, friendly ear, activities and giving young carers a voice.

Transitions and person centred planning -Tele 01522 782111 (age 14-25)

Told us how they aim to provide a joined up inclusive service, sharing expertise, knowledge & good practice, working together to support young people through transition.

Tom Stevens -Transitions assistant -tomday.stevens@btopenworld.com

Told us about himself and how he wishes to set up a radio station for people with learning disabilities. Email him above if you are interested.

We also had other presentations including speakers from two of our Local Children's Partnerships, Karen (Parent Support Advisor) from Spalding and also Liz Wells -nurse specialist who kindly stepped in at the last minute.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all of our speakers who supported our conferences by giving parents and carers lots of invaluable information .



We were also extremely well supported by the local support groups who gave their time to provide parents and carers with information and advice.

We have collated all the feedback given to us by parents and have included the findings in Part 2 of our Conference newsletter.

We will be feeding this important information back to the professionals who make the decisions that affect parent carers' lives.

We are also looking into the possibility of holding our own meeting regarding direct payments as it appears to be an area of great confusion. We will let you know when this is confirmed.

Many thanks to all parents who took the time to feedback your views. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us -see front cover.



Over the seven conferences, we were supported by a total of 100 stands promoting support groups and organizations.

A big THANK YOU to all those who supported us.