



Service User and Carer Research Partnership

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Ymchwil Iechyd
a Gofal Cymru
Health and Care
Research Wales



Ariennir gan
Lywodraeth Cymru
Funded by
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NCMH
National Centre for Mental Health

Addressing the inequalities of opportunity to shape Health & Social Care Research – *The Mental Health Approach*

Alan Meudell

Lay Lead (South)

Service User & Carer Research Partnership

The story so far...

- **February 2009** SUCLRDG formally established in South East Wales with funding from the MHRNC Executive.
- **February 2012** The MHRNC considered a new application, and agreed to fund the revised SUCPRDG as an RDG within the MHRNC.
- **March 2012** The Executive of the new SUCPRDG met formally and begins work.
- **May 2015** NCMH agree to continue to fund the SUCRP.

“The NCMH recognised the value of service user involvement and we were keen to support opportunities from design to dissemination. Researchers can benefit from the unique perspectives of service users and carers and we are delighted that SUCRP NCMH has developed a general advisory function for mental health researchers in Wales.”

The Partnership:

- **Service Users and Carers** – bring their unique perspectives of living with or caring for someone with a mental health condition.
- **Academics** – bring their expertise in research from putting bids together through to dissemination and access to the wider research community.
- **Third Sector** – bring their expertise of working with service users and carers and access to the wider service user and carer populations through their own organisations.
- **Support Centre Health & Care Research Wales** – brings their expertise on public and patient involvement in research as well as provide support, information and guidance.
- **NCMH** – Hosts the group and provides admin support.

Partnership structure:

- North and South Wales Hubs
- Lay Lead from each hub and an Academic Lead
- Must have 50% Service Users and Carers

Three main objectives:

- Ensure that mental health service users and carers are supported to have an active involvement in mental health research in Wales across the whole research cycle from design to dissemination.
- To support opportunities for researchers in Wales to benefit from the unique perspectives of service users and carers in undertaking their research.
- To provide a general advisory function for research studies led by researchers in Wales.

SUCRP Achievements

- Development of the North and South Wales Hubs.
- Workshop to investigate Service User and Carer Research priorities for Mental Health.
- Facilitated workshop at INVOLVE Conference.
- Posters accepted for 2 conferences.
- Publication in the Research, Involvement and Engagement Journal.
- Developed a 'research clinic' where researchers will be able to seek advice and discuss their research ideas, research proposal drafts, ethical issues, participant information and recruitment processes, research instruments and so on.

Objective:

To ensure that mental health service users and carers are supported to have an active involvement in mental health research in Wales across the whole research cycle from design to dissemination.

Individual Achievements:

- Filled over 10 advisory roles in both mental health and non mental health research projects.
- Filled 7 Service User Researcher roles on H&CRW and NIHR funded research projects.
- One co-investigator on a H&CRW funded project.
- One Chief Investigator on a NHS based H&CRW portfolio study.
- Two members of the group are currently undertaking their PhDs.

“The SUCRP was originally established as part of Mental Health Research Network Wales so that service users and carers had a voice in research and could develop research skills. It is a marker of its success that it has successfully transitioned into the National Centre for Mental Health and is continuing to do excellent work.”

Professor Keith Lloyd

Ghisoni et al. *Research Involvement and Engagement* (2017) 3:4
DOI 10.1186/s40900-016-0054-7

Research Involvement
and Engagement

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

Priority setting in research: user led mental health research



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Meudell et al. *Research Involvement and Engagement* (2017) 3:5
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Research Involvement
and Engagement

COMMENTARY

Open Access

"Hitting the spot": Developing individuals with lived-experience of health and social care as facilitators to deliver a course to enhance public involvement in research – a Welsh perspective



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Service User and Carer Research Partnership

The Service User and Carer Research Partnership for the National Centre for Mental Health (SUCRP-NCMH) is an initiative which encourages service user and carer involvement in mental health research.



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