



*Community Development  
Work & Partnerships*

# What is Sharing Voices (Bradford)?

- Sharing Voices (Bradford) is a Community Development Mental Health Organisation – Operational August 2002
- Funded by the Teaching PCT
- Work primarily with BME Communities
- Employs 7 Community Development Workers
- First SLA April 2005- CDW PIG Compliant

# *SVB : What we offer/What we support*

- Pilot Befriending Scheme
- Family work and support
- Outreach work/one-one support
- Peer support
- Community self help initiatives
- Volunteer recruitment/training
- Training/consultancy/Advice on BME issues
- Employment and meaningful daytime support
- Mental health awareness/promotion seminars/events
- Capacity building individuals/groups/communities
- Sign posting
- Policy work

# *Why use CD in Mental Health?*

- Alternative forms of support to individuals experiencing distress and/or mental health crisis
- It's not a "one size fits all" model
- Bottom up approach not Top down
- Involvement of Local Individuals/ Communities in terms of design and delivery of services/safe spaces that affect them when accessing Mental Health services
- Tapping into individual and community expertise and experience

# *Partnerships*

- Mental Health Services, VCS & Local Communities
- Local Communities: Visibility, Social Networks, Trust, Geographical & Cultural knowledge
- Role of Voluntary Sector : Essential part of DRE, Working outside traditionally defined parameters of Psychiatry eg Countryside services
- Statutory Services – forging links
  - In reach Project – Befriending on Wards BDCT
- Conduct & Professionalism

# *Partnerships*



# *Challenges*

1. Work load issues – challenge of facing 3 ways
2. Inter-organisational tensions – differences of political & cultural perspectives
3. Supervision support & staff protection
4. Funding
5. Challenges in engaging at grass root levels
6. Outcomes & outputs
7. Confusion with provision of service
8. Members moving on
9. Limited resources

# *SVB/FIS*

- FIS Bridge between SVB – Statutory Services and Voluntary sector
- SVB Profile
- Capacity Building-funding/training
- Legitimises Community Development Approach
- Greater Opportunity
- Strategic Involvement
- BME User Involvement
- Baseline Workshops
- FIS Enhanced by the arrival of remaining CDW's through a team approach
- FIS – HUB!

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