

Embracing Our Youth
Prevention is Better than Cure

By

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Lewisham SLAM/CDW

Appendix A

Embracing Our Youth - Prevention is Better than Cure
Friday 12th October 2007 Civic Suite

Programme

9.30 Registration and Refreshments

9.50 Introduction to the Event and Launch of the CAMHS BME Network, *Zoë Reed, Executive Director and Juney Muhammad, Chair of BME Staff Network - South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust*

What's life like for Young Black Men? *Justin Cole, Pupil from Crofton Park School*

Young People's view of discrimination, *Philip Udeh – Race Equality Action Lewisham*

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, *Nick Topliss, Service Manager CAMHS South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust*

KEY NOTE SPEAKER

Reclaiming and taking responsible KEY NOTE SPEAKER
Reclaiming and taking responsibility for our Young People,
Paul Obinna Wilson-Eme Cultural & Engagement Specialist

11.25 Workshops

- 1 Impact of commonly misused drugs and early warning signs and symptoms of mental distress – *Early Intervention Team and Community Drug Project*
- 2 Science and Technology uplifting the black community – *Toyin Solanke*
- 3 Unlocking the genius in our children – *David Simon*
- 4 Mental Health and Wellbeing – *Juney Muhammad*

5 Gangs: The Peer Group Family – *Allan Gay and Philip Udeh*

12.30 Workshop Feedback, *Zoë Reed and Workshop facilitators*

12.40 Lunch

ility for our Young People, *Paul Obinna Wilson-Eme Cultural & Engagement Specialist*

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1.40 PRESENTATIONS

Frankie Sulke, Executive Director for Children & Young People

Good Practice - Ubuntu - Advocacy in Action UK, *Daniel Pink*

Educating our Children out of Poverty, *Toyin Solanke*

PANEL DISCUSSION - following up themes from key note addresses/workshops

How can we take this forward? – Comments from key agencies

3.20 Summary and close, *Jan Shapiro, Juney Muhammad & Daniel Pink*

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REFLECTIONS

- Working across paradigms to achieve a wider and richer contribution to problem solving is paramount to progressive and innovative service delivery.
- Working collaboratively provides the opportunity to share experience, knowledge, skills and resources. It opens up a wider perspective to embrace a range of vision.

- There are difficulties in partnerships around ability, flexibility and commitment to the challenge of making things happen. Approaching the community from a targeted perspective has been welcomed as good practice and demonstrated by the wide range of attendees from all levels of society.
- It is extremely important to include our elders who have broken down many barriers before us. We were blessed to have the presence of Mrs Sybil Pheonix (MBE).
- The conference demonstrated how the Lewisham BME staff network can reflect outwardly and connect with community to raise awareness.
- There was collective success because of the purpose and vision was driven and sustained.

As a result of what you've heard today what will you do differently in the future?

- I would like to be involved in a “parenting” group of some kind.
- Networking
- Try to access more information which will benefit more young people.
- Get more involved in the BME community groups.
- Use the tips from the Foster Mother on how to treat young people that misbehave with love.
- Keep my BME advisory group going.
- To keep in touch with the issues that our young people face.
- Never give up on our young people but keep going back. Listen more. x 4
- Listen to the children – see the child in the adolescent.
- To promote the achievements of black men and women in strategic posts in the BME community.
- I'll be linking up with Ebony Supplementary School to align the BCAPS & BPAP with their parenting courses.
- Make necessary contacts with children's services. Try to have more of a solution focused approach.
- Ask the young people within my own family how they are feeling/doing and then others.
- Look at gang members differently, children's well-being. Get involved in the education of parents.
- Transfer this new knowledge to the work I already do with Mental Health.
- Yes – research more into ways that I can support/work and encourage our young people.
- As a white, middle class, middle age female it has given me more of an insight into the real difficulties faced by BME young people. Although aware in part on how this impacts. It has become “REAL” with participants contributions about their own experiences.

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