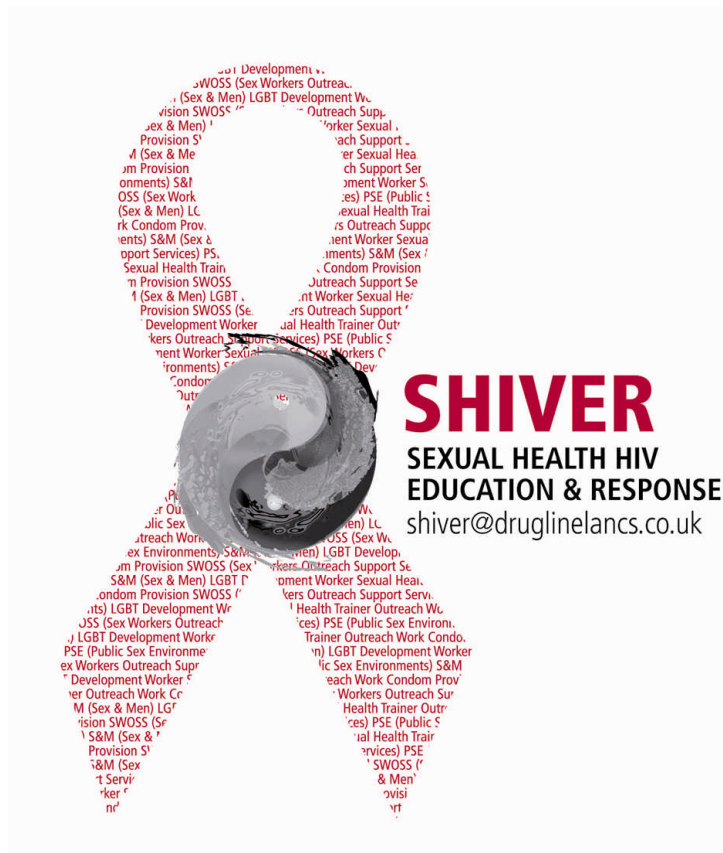


drugline lancashire ltd



Annual Report

2008/2009

LGBT Community Development Project

Report Author: Andrew Thompson

**SHIVER – LGBT Community development Annual Report Executive
Summary 2008/2009**

1.	Name of Project:
	LGBT Community Development Worker
2.	Description of provision (including area(s) covered):
	To offer strategic support through active networking and meeting attendance with key opportunities in Blackpool, to include Blackpool HATE crimes, Blackpool LGBT PACT, World AIDS day consortium, Pride, Navajo-and sub groups-LSEF etc' to offer operational support through existing LGBT focused groups, to work closely with LGBT scene in Blackpool, to work with existing bodies and offer support acquisition of funding for events of projects from statutory and voluntary sources To offer strategic support through identification, active networking and meeting attendance with key opportunities available in Blackpool, to identify un met needs within the LGBT community, to offer capacity to dedicated statutory and voluntary sector focused projects and to include best assurance of sexual health screening, testing, and vaccinations through facilitating the development of projects acting as the named contact for LGBT venues culminating in an overall improvement in general and sexual health for Blackpool's LGBT community.
3.	Tiers and strategic compliance coverage:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tier one: offering information and awareness schemes via poster, drop card internet, referrals, condom distribution & associated literature and advertising campaigns. • Tier two: offering a one to one face contact, information provision and signposting by the project worker working from leads picked up via word of mouth, an advertised (on resources/web site) mobile contact number or email address, web presence and referrals of the project from service providers/venue owners. • Tier three: to be offered via leads gained from inreach/outreach nights and social forums/gatherings/outings providing a private meeting offering one to one counselling with individual community members conducted either within venues, via mail, email, telephone or face to face meeting
4.	Agreed outcomes of service:
	Annual Targets = na Quarterly Targets = na
5.	Current monitoring arrangements:
	* Quarterly reporting/ other funding reporting as appropriate -All reporting completed and submitted on time -All reporting presented in the format requested and on time.
6.	DIP linkages
	Not Applicable
7.	LDAT spend for quarter
	Not Applicable
8.	Other funding source and spend for quarter:
	£
9.	Over view of activity and significant events for the year

LGBT people are believed to lead less healthy lifestyles: they have higher levels of alcohol consumption, are more likely to smoke and more likely to misuse substances than heterosexual people.

There are less social spaces for LGBT people apart from clubs and bars and they can feel obliged to use the scene to fit in with their peers there is also an added association with harassment between LGBT people in the workspace. The LGBT CDW project focus is primarily HIV prevention and sexual health promotion with lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, trans and men who have sex with men. Additionally the Community Development approach means the project is concerned with the wider LGBT social, health and equality agendas i.e. to include general and mental health along with personal wellbeing and worth. The project works closely with all LGBT communities and services both statutory and voluntary to tackle at grass roots level the underlying causes of physical and mental ill health.

Services offered by the project include;

Provision and accountability of the PCT funded free condom and lube initiative supplied to LGBT venues (including the bars and clubs, gay saunas and gay friendly hotels). I have recently visited and added two new venues to the list of contacts for the free condoms and lube and information resources namely two separate cruisy T girl hotels both of whom hold twice weekly sex parties and orgies for T-girls, their admirers and swinging couples who where until recently were un aware of the condom and lube services and resources available from the project. These hotel leads were picked on whilst inreaching the saunas and will in future be receiving regular visits and resources along with sexual health advice and information and details of regarding services available for their customers. I supply all the LGBT licensed venues in Blackpool with free resources and maintain robust relationships with the venue managers and staff teams, frequently picking up information relevant to the project. Improving networking through liaising directly on a personal level with local LGBT business providers and management teams strengthens existing bridges and helps remove any barriers that may at times present themselves between health based service providers and the LGBT community.

I attended as a committee member the quarterly LSEF meeting where the dissolution of the LSEF and the merger with Navajo and the development of a joint initiative re named the Navajo Consultative Partnership was decided. Attended several forums and meetings: attended 3 Hate crime meetings in Blackpool, facilitated the monthly sauna outreaches in three saunas (see separate report). I facilitated all the project group meetings as listed below, attended the police and licensing authority led LGBT licensee meetings, I attended and represented the Shiver/Drugline Lanc's service at Equalities and diversity forum, attended the council Stonewall presentation, facilitated a training session with the staff regarding LGBT awareness at a young offenders residential centre. I attended the Blackburn with Darwin conference "Defining LGBT Needs" I attended the LGF led "Throughout the Ages" event on Preston. I devised and developed an LGBT History Month Display in Blackpool's Customer First Centre throughout February. Attended an LGBT awareness event at Lancashire Constabulary HQ and represented the LGBT CDW project. Facilitated a Restorative Justice

Program meeting between a local licensee, the police and a young person (details in report)

I maintain and facilitate the web sites 'LGBT Community' and 'LGBT Forum' on Blackpool's local information web site 'Blackpool4me' facilitating access to multiple relevant sites can be accessed, examples being;

- NHS Stop Smoking Service
- Age Concern
- Harassment Reporting including HATE crimes (Wyre and Blackpool)
- Liberty Church (LGBT Christian group)
- Relate Partnership and Advice available for homosexuals as well as heterosexuals
- Housing Matters: Blackpool Coastal Housing
- Individual and group support through not only the support groups but individual advice and support
- Crown Prosecutions Service
- Press For Change (Trans gender support group)
- Blackpool Pride's official web site link and information
- LGBT Forum (support group)
- LGBT PACT (Police And Community Together)
- OK2B Youth Group (late MVFM)
- Relate Partnership help, information and advice
- Wyre Area Community LGBT Group
- Fylde Coast Men's Support association (male rape and sexual abuse support group)
- All the support groups as ran within Shiver

Many associated partnership agencies have links within the main page included providing direct access to their corporate sites and associated services. Hits counters included in the appendix provide statistical information.

Websites the project lead occasionally takes a presence on allowing direct interactive talk contact with the LGBT community include Fitlads.net, Crusingground.com, Facebook, Squirt, and Caffmos, these sites all provide a space for MSM to cruise for anonymous casual sex. By entering local chat rooms the CDW project is able to offer one to one sexual health advice, free resources and information.

I engage regularly with Blackpool's trans community-both trans female and trans male-where solid and reciprocal relationships have been forged. I facilitate informal forums, group and one to one support for these individuals on a regular basis and facilitate peer support, a safe social space to meet and advice and information as may be required.

I am on the Blackpool Pride committee and actively involved in the planning of Blackpool's annual Pride Event which takes place in May. I attended a consultation event at Bispham college in March for their Ofstead Equality and Diversity Good Practice visit where the college was accessed on their inclusivity of LGBT

students and their equality and diversity mechanisms. I am in receipt of a personal hand written thank you from Catherine Hill the Director of Quality standards at the college for my professional support and input on with the Ofstead inspectors who reported the college's collaborative links with partners was outstanding. I have been promised a copy of the final report as soon as published which shall be included in the appendix of a future report.

I have attended and provided professional input at two LGBT Licensee Forums regarding matters around underage drinking, the smoking ban, alcohol and drug related issues.

I attend and represent Drugline Lancs and the Shiver service at the Equalities and Diversity forum at Blackpool Town Hall, which meets bi- monthly to ensure all council led services are open to inspection and to standard with equalities legislation. The meetings cover all aspects of equality and diversity in Blackpool for all communities including disabled & mobility issues, the implementation of the Masterplan for Blackpool, local strategic partnership updates, housing, liveability (neighbourhood renewal and cleaner/greener safer areas etc') health and action plans etc'. Guest speakers are usually in attendance at the meetings and presentations delivered include; Local Strategic Partnership Updates, Mobility Panel Reports, Masterplan up dates, Enterprise Reports and PCT led Performance Management Reports, Health, Safety and Education.

I network regularly with Body Positive a charitable foundation that provides help and advice, counselling and refuge for those whose life is impacted by HIV or AIDS. Regular social evenings are held which I attend offering the support and assistance of the LGBT project along with any resources and information packs I have as required. I have represented both Drugline Lancs and the Shiver service at the Mental Health Day at the Hilton Hotel in the summer of 2008.

I arranged a multi agency meeting of relevant parties at the Shiver premises in mind to tackle the issues of underage drinking in LGBT premises and how to combat further occurrences.

I arranged and co-facilitated with the police LGBT liaison officer a restorative justice meeting between a licensee and regular and troublesome junior LGBT customer. The meeting was reported a success with all involved, and the regularly re occurring and ongoing issues between the licensee and customer have since seem to have been resolved.

I facilitated a Restorative Agreement between two of the sauna operators who have had several escalating arguments over the past few months. These arguments were personal and business around shared clients and petty jealousy culminating in threats of violence and bad feelings within the shared community. Relationships between the sauna operators were escalating at a rapid pace and the Restorative Agreement was facilitated to attempt to stem problem prior to escalating out of control. The meeting took place early March and to date seems to have restored the peace between the two parties. As a further precaution both parties been invited to meet at the Shiver offices on a monthly basis where any further issues arising can be discussed on neutral ground with my self and the police in attendance as arbitrators.

I liaise with the Fylde Coast Men's Support Association (male sexual and physical abuse support group) offering assistance and support of the project and offer access to the groups facilitated to their members and regularly visit them on their social evenings to offer any support and resources required.

I have attended and provided professional input at two LGBT Licensee Forums regarding matters around underage drinking, the smoking ban, alcohol and drug related issues.

I facilitate the 'One Stop. Information Shop's within several premises locally, offering free relevant resources to the community covering issues diverse as sexual health and relationships to housing concerns and the Samaritans. Facilities are provided and utilised for partnership agencies to utilise the OSSs as a showcase for their organisations providing a stage for their information resources and awareness schemes. The One Stop Shops are situated in the Flamingo, the Trades Bar and the Mardi Gras with two local Polish delis taking leaflets where relevant.

Objectives of the One Stop. Shop Project are;

- As a contact and pick up point for resources and information for services/service providers relevant to the LGBT community.
- To encourage and promote the facilities available to any organisation that could find a useful contact group within (a group who could normally be marginalised from within their usual catchment area).
- To encourage service providers to raise their profile and increase their accessibility to the local LGBT community.
- To promote an increase in the take up of services and resources leading to improved sexual health and ultimately the lowering of percentages of new STI and HIV diagnosis within the community

I facilitate a Third Party Reporting point for HATE crimes for the Wyre Community Project and Blackpool.

A HATE Crime Incident is an incident motivated by an offender's prejudice or hatred of someone. They may not have committed a crime but their actions are hostile and they have intended to cause offence or hurt.

I am lead on the PCT funded Sauna Inreach Initiative and visit weekly the management teams of Blackpool's gay saunas discussing opportunities for the promotion of safer sex practices and the distribution of resources with their clients.

(see separate sauna report as included in the appendix of this document for full details of this initiative)

Approached by a networking colleague I designed and developed a poster and drop cards for Wyre Borough Council Community Safety Partnership aiming to tackle the escalating problem of MSM cruisers at Stanah park informing the public the area is now regularly policed for inappropriate activity.

I arranged a meeting between the Wyre Hate Crime officer and Shiver's PSE project workers regarding the possibility of Shiver's PSE workers outreaching the area occasionally and offering their advice and input regarding this problem.

I attended along with four group members the intergenerational event Throughout the Ages facilitated by the LGF (Lesbian and Gay Foundation) where several workshops and exercises took place as a consultation event to bring

together LGBT community groups of all ages from the North West. This proved a great opportunity for all age groups to have their say about LGBT issues and to share knowledge, ideas and experiences. It proved a great opportunity for different age groups to network, celebrate and to learn from each other. The agenda and notes are enclosed in the appendix for this event

I facilitate several groups for the LGBT community. The rationale behind the groups is to make individuals more aware of health service provisions as available, provide social support to the individual thus combating social exclusion often suffered by individuals within the community and to provide an environment in which to discuss health issues and concerns they may have with their peers.

There are less social spaces for LGBT people apart from clubs and bars and they can feel obliged to use the scene to fit in with their peers thus increasing the instances of alcohol abuse. There is also an added association with harassment between LGBT people in the workspace providing feelings of isolation and stress and the associated ills that goes with this.

The LGBT CDW project focus is primarily HIV prevention and sexual health promotion with lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, trans and men who have sex with men. Additionally the Community Development approach means the project is concerned with the wider LGBT social, health and equality agendas i.e. to include general and mental health along with personal wellbeing and worth. The project works closely with all LGBT communities and services both statutory and voluntary to tackle at grass roots level the underlying causes of sexual, physical and mental ill health.

The groups and forums facilitated by the project for the LGBT community:

Older LGBT Members Social Group The 55+ group meet on the second Tuesday of the month and has now been offering support and help for the members for around two years. We have recently developed a luncheon club which meets each Thursday; the luncheon group has proved really successful as a social support group attracting an even better weekly attendance and more opportunities for support than the original monthly office meet. Occasionally relevant partnership agency representatives have met with the group both within the monthly support settings and the more informal weekly luncheon club promoting the awareness of their services.

Older LGBT people often feel vulnerable about being open with their sexuality and passing as heterosexual has often been a survival strategy. These people have lived when being gay was a crime and being outed would risk them losing their jobs, children, friends and families. Although the equality act (sexual orientations) 2007 has improved the situation for the LGBT community, many older people do find it hard after a lifetime living in stealth mode to adjust and actively still maintain to keep their sexuality private, this in itself provides unique situations when seeking both health based services and social support.

LGBT Trans Inclusion Group-The Transinclusion support group is one of the

better supported groups facilitated with an ever increasing member base. Although not all members attend each and every meeting there is always a good turn out of around eight to twelve individuals. The group consists of T girl community (both TV and TG) members at all stages of their journey all of whom all without exception eager to offer much needed support and advice to their peers.

Tran's people face prejudice in their daily lives, this continues to limit their employment opportunities, their personal relationships, their access to goods and services and housing, their health status and their public safety and their access to health and social care. Many trans people regardless of their social position or class experience isolation and face limited understanding of their lives. These experiences place many trans people at an increased risk of alcohol and substance misuse, depression, self harm, suicide, violence and HIV

Girls Group- Again a well established and supported group meeting each month at alternating venues supplying needed social support to its members. This group is co-facilitated by a colleague of mine and again offers along with social, much needed peer support and guidance to all the members. Many issues regarding female health have been discussed at these regular meetings and much needed peer support is provided.

Lesbian health is commonly presumed to be the same as heterosexual women, but research suggests key differences in lesbian's health risks and health behaviours and in their experiences of health care. Lesbians are less likely to have children than heterosexual women and are more likely to be overweight. These factors may increase their risk of breast cancer and cardiovascular disease. Lesbians may also lead less healthy lifestyles than heterosexual women. Limited opportunities for building social networks mean that some lesbians socialise more often in bars and pubs leading to more instances of alcohol, smoking and substance misuse.

LGBT Trans men group- Again a well established and supported group with around eight members regularly in attendance. Along with one to one and group support, help and assistance is provided via a web portal co-facilitated by the LGBT CDW and the group chair.

19-25 Icebreakers group- Targeting gay and bisexual males aged between of 19 and 25 offering advice, information and support. It is planned to arrange regular social evenings for this group away from the normal drug and alcohol based scene and provide a more solid basis to their lives away from the pub and club scene.

25-55 Ice breakers group- This group targets the 25-55 age group offering as the above groups stability, information and peer support away from the regular scene.

Sunday surgeries; Twice monthly the project facilitates Sunday surgery within the club Mardi Gras OSS for the police staffed by one regular PC and PCSOs. These surgeries have been running successfully for approximately two years and facilitated on a regular basis have become a very well known, trusted and utilised service. There have been numerous positive reports fed back to the project from the police, the licensee and the community as to the success of the initiative.

The project maintains eight free vend resource pack cabinets in the main LGBT licensed premises and four local hotels-see appendix for breakdown details

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I have facilitated several in reach drop-ins within the saunas in Blackpool-please see separate report for further details on the Sauna Inreach Project.

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World Aids Day was arranged by the red ribbon awareness group of which I am chair and takes place annually on the 1st December. This year's events proved a fantastic success with several innovative and interactive initiatives being facilitate to involve the community and raise the awareness of HIV/Aids

As a group we managed to secure the help of Rob Swarbreck, a local young people's worker who trained 50 peer educators to deliver the message of HIV and AIDS, the importance of safer sex and distribute the Red Ribbons within the schools and colleges to this very important strand of our community.

There was a general knowledge competition and prize draw open to all students with substantial prizes of a (PRODUCT RED) IPod and six (PRODUCT RED) IPod shuffles for the winning entrants. In total in excess of 900 pupils and students took part in the quiz proving the massive interest in the subject matter. All peer educators were kitted out in multi coloured "Lead the Fight Against AIDS" T-shirts and fully trained and equipped to answer any relevant questions the students had.

Hundreds of pounds worth of resources were distributed around the schools consisting of "Unite Against AIDS Erasers", "Do You Like Surprises Drop Cards", "Unite Against AIDS posters" and "Do You Like Surprises Bookmarks"

All prizes and resources were purchased by the funds raised over the period last year by both the Red Ribbon Group volunteers and the fantastic response and invaluable help from our partners here in the LGBT community. Along with the initiatives within the schools we also held several mini, mobile, roving vigils around the LGBT venues in town over the WAD weekend involving all the Saturday and Sunday night time community. These mini vigils consisted of a short service and candle lighting vigil within the venues and provided an opportunity again to increase awareness amongst the LGBT community. The services were topped off on the actual WAD day which was the following Monday at St John's Church with many community and civic dignitaries involved and the inclusion of the shoppers and passers by the church with a laser and light show provided by the illuminations department. Over £1,500 was raised over the weekend to fund next year's awareness training resources to be used in the schools. Please see additional reporting of this initiative in the appendix.

10.	Statistical activity for the year

	<p>Networking with the following organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navajo group members • The One Stop. Shop facility users • LSEF (Lancashire Sexual Equalities Forum) • PSE outreach group • Numerous club and bar operators • Nightsafe group • Blackpool police • The licensing authority • Blackpool PACT group • Gay pride management committee • Licensee forum • Blackpool PCT • Blackpool LGBT group • All LGBT friendly hotels and guesthouses • Both gay and bi sexual saunas <p>See appendix for comprehensive details of networking contacts.</p>
11.	Overview of Conclusion for the Year
	<p>I feel the trust and mutual respect developed between myself, the licensees of the LGBT venues, sauna managers and hotel owners and by leading on the free condom provision and maintaining my relations with them can only help in the promotion of the LGBT CDW project and its goals. I am very receptive to the feed back given from these groups and individuals, always taking on board all offered information and leads which when worked upon proactively prove invaluable to the success of the project.</p> <p>The bridge building on the trans scene is running very well and many new members have been introduced to the available facilities. I am on great terms with the owners of and a number of T-girls at the Hotel Renaissance and have plans for future occasions and outings together and social events.</p> <p>All the web portals have provided me with many enquiries and prove an invaluable tool in the distribution of sexual and general health information.</p> <p>All meetings, conferences and networking partners mentioned in point 9 are proving invaluable to me at this stage of the project and weekly new members of statutory services, voluntary services and indeed members of the LGBT community are coming forward and proving of mutual benefit to my commitment and enthusiasm for the task in hand.</p>
12.	Overview of Plans for the Following Year
	<p>I intend to build upon the friendly repertoire held with the free condom and lube clients and to work in conjunction with them in finding new ways to actively promote not only the take up of, but also the utilisation of, the many and diverse resources available at my disposal.</p> <p>The trans community development is running very well and I do feel that as I</p>

	<p>build upon their trust eventually more and more individuals within this large yet traditionally covert community will respond and become more receptive of the information, help and facilities we provide.</p> <p>I believe older LGBT people are definitely a forgotten group in all areas though probably more so here in Blackpool with the town and local social facilities being geared towards the 'young holiday maker' element that prevails in the town, which is why I am continuing to maintain the monthly forum and weekly luncheon club for the older LGBT members of our community. Older people say they find the scene in Blackpool quite uncongenial and excluding and they often become very isolated and lonely as they get older unless they have managed to maintain their own networks.</p>
13.	Significant event for the project for the year
	<p>I In March I attended the 13th annual CHAPS (Community HIV&AIDS Prevention Strategies) conference in Brighton (see attached report in appendix).</p> <p>All the LGBT sub groups and forums are being developed, maintained and built upon.</p> <p>Networking is regularly undertaken throughout the year with the LGBT venue owners and management teams.</p> <p>Facilitated a new drop in surgery with Dr Lewis Turner for Wyre Hate Crimes, this new initiative will take place from 6.00-7.00pm second Tuesday of the month prior to the Lanc's Lads group meeting which both Dr Turner and the CDW project lead co-facilitate.</p> <p>Attended the 1st year birthday event of Preston LGBT centre and presented the Shiver project.</p> <p>Facilitated a women's health talk to the Girls Group.</p> <p>I sat in as a professional in a consultation event with Bispham college around LGBT & T involvement in further education.</p> <p>Attended the Equalities and Diversity forum at Blackpool Town Hall and showcased the Shiver service, attended two forums and meetings of the LGBT forum where issues relevant to the project concerning the LGBT community are discussed.</p> <p>Several training sessions have been facilitated by me in the area of sexuality awareness training.</p> <p>All the eight free vend condom and lube machines within licensed venues in the town are regularly maintained and fully restocked.</p> <p>The WAD event was one of the more successful events of the year making great inroads in HIV and Aids and sexual health awareness will all members of Blackpool's communities.</p>

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Appendix

Monitoring forms

I. Introduction

The project aims is to offer strategic support through identification, active networking and meeting attendance with key opportunities available in Blackpool and to identify un met needs within the LGBT community, to offer capacity to dedicated statutory and voluntary sector focused projects and include best assurance of sexual health screening, testing, and vaccinations through facilitating the development of projects acting as the named contact for LGBT venues culminating in an overall improvement in general and sexual health for Blackpool's LGBT community. The project focus is HIV prevention and sexual health promotion with lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and men who have sex with men. Additionally the Community Development approach means the project is concerned with the wider LGBT health, social and health and equality agendas i.e. to include general and mental health along with personal wellbeing and self worth. The project works closely with all strands of the LGBT communities and services both statutory and voluntary to face head on the underlying causes of physical and mental ill health.

I.1 Background to the project

The project commenced late December 2006 to work closely with voluntary and statutory focused projects involved with the LGBT scene and to provide a hub to coordinate information and assist with the ultimate aim of improving the sexual health and general well being of the LGBT community.

I.2 Definition of Terms

SHIVER Sexual Health HIV Education and Responses-Drugline Lancashire's sexual health service

LGBT Lesbian Gay Bisexual & Transgender

PACT Police and Community Together. A group concerned with building a great relationship between the police force and local communities.

Recreational drug use Is the use of psychoactive drugs for recreational or pleasure purposes rather than for medical use.

BP Body Positive

NAVAJO An umbrella group for LGBT self help groups.

Fun Packs The fun packs handed out on in/outreach nights contain 5x drop cards, 2x sweets, 2x condoms, 1x lubricant and some sweets

STIs Sexually Transmitted infections

LSEF Lancashire Sexual Equality Forum

PSE Public Sex Environments

MSM Men who have Sex with Men

WAD World Aids Day

I.3 Rational

Figures according to the NHS highlights the rising cases of new sexually transmitted diseases reported particularly with HIV and affecting huge proportions of LGBT people. The LGBT CDW project was commissioned to tackle this issue from within the individual strands of the LGBT community.

2. Aims and Objectives

Aims:

- To improve the all round health of the LGBT community in Blackpool with particular emphasis on sexual health with a reduction in the uptake of new HIV diagnosis figures.
- To identify un met needs within the community and support the development of services including working with and offering administrative support to community members
- To support the acquisition of funding , capacity building and project development, including innovative working
- To offer capacity to dedicated statutory and voluntary sector focused projects to include best assurance of sexual health screening, testing, vaccinations

Objectives:

- To offer strategic support through active networking
- To offer operational support through identification and networking with established LGBT groups
- To build positive relationships with venue owners/managers and other statutory and voluntary organisations
- To work with existing bodies and support acquisition of funding for events and projects for the LGBT community
- To facilitate and develop the OneStop.Shops within venues
- To identify un met needs within the community and support development of services including working with and offering facilitative administration support to community members, supporting acquisition funding, capacity building and project development, including innovative working
- To work closely with the training lead and program and support identification of individuals, particularly community members
- To work closely with the Equality and Diversification lead within Blackpool town council and Master Plan development to ensure to inclusion of LGBT issues e.g. an identified LGBT area and highlighting LGBT tourism potential. Both presently not within the Master Plan areas
- To offer capacity and support to existing LGBT focused projects e.g. HEAL, MVFM Drugline, Police PACT, LGBT forum etc'

- To lead on provision of LGBT condom through strategic linkage with PCT commissioning, venue networking and assurance of condom availability through self or development role within SHIVER/HEAL
- To offer capacity to dedicated statutory and voluntary sector focused projects to include best assurance of sexual health screening, testing, vaccinations through facilitating the development of projects and acting as the named contact for LGBT venues to best ensure access to venues and the community and ensuring the best marrying of services within venue opportunities.
- To offer additional support through identification and active networking with existing LGBT focused groups including MVFM, Renaissance Transgendered Group and Age Concern etc'
- To support the development of appropriate groups as identified by community members.
- To liaise with appropriate LGBT voluntary and statutory services who may offer resources, and to whom we may offer resources.
- To develop active partnerships and co-working practice with appropriate services.
- To work closely with the funders of the service.
- To be responsible for the coordination, delivery and development of the community development project and to ensure that the aims, objectives and outcome related targets of funding requirements are met, whilst working to Drugline's philosophy.
- To promote people's equality, diversity and rights within the LGBT community.
- To create, develop and maintain a contact list of individuals and groups interested in coming together to develop community self help groups.
- To promote the organisation and its services as a whole to stakeholders.
- To manage information and monitoring to Drugline's strict guidelines.
- Manage the use of financial resources under the guidance of the Senior Management Team.
- To develop productive working relationships.
- Develop and sustain arrangements for joint working between workers and agencies.
- To undertake project administration, co-ordination and development

Methodology

- Developing up to date and imaginative materials regarding sexual health, general health, mental health, general well being and personal safety issues
- Providing regular outreach and material distribution opportunities
- By liaising regularly with project facilitated groups and forums e.g. the Renaissance group of T-girls, 55+ group etc'
- By working closely with LGBT venues in Blackpool, building and maintaining positive relations with venue owners, management teams and staff thus ensuring community networking
- By facilitating and building the brand of the One Stop. Shop within town centre venues.
- By leading on the PCT funded free condom and lube initiative
- By offering active support to other LGBT orientated organisations
- By offering in/outreach nights to LGBT venues around town issuing fun packs and offering peer led information awareness schemes to night time revellers

One Stop.Shop

It is the responsibility of the project coordinator to facilitate the One Stop. Information Shops situated within diverse venues within the town. These shops furnish us with facilities to showcase projects relevant to the individual venue customer base as provided by the shiver service and partnership agencies. The OSSs are situated within the Flamingo, Trades Bar, Mardi Gras with a couple of local Polish Delis taking on board relevant resources

Objectives of the OS.S

- The distribution of resources, leaflets and information for services relevant to the LGBT community.
- To provide and promote facilities available to organisations to engage with a community contact group that either would or would not necessarily be within their usual catchments audience.
- To encourage service providers to increase their accessibility to the LGBT community
- To improve the communities awareness of available services and resources

Current shop regular service providers;

Blackpool Western Division Police Crime Prevention Unit

A police surgery is facilitated within the Mardi Gras Club for two hours every second and fourth Sunday afternoon

Dance Drug Safety Outreach

DDS project offers regular drug information and safer sex in-reach support services. Targeting club goes on a Friday or Saturday night offering practical and non judgemental information and advice regarding recreational drug use.

Public Sex Environments

This project offers regular support within the OSS raising awareness of the project that targets MSM and offers support information on sexual health concerns.

The following organisations and service providers utilise the facilities available at the OSSs regularly

- Body Positive
- Drugline Lancashire Ltd
- PSE project
- S&M project
- Blackpool Youth Service (Young Gay Men's worker)
- BAGS (Blackpool Accommodation For Gays)
- Blackpool fire service
- Blackpool police
- MVFM
- The Hub
- The Police
- Blackpool Fire Service

The project facilitates several LGBT sub-groups and forums namely:

Older LGBT Members Social Group the 55+ group meet on the second Tuesday of the month and has now been offering support and help for the members for around two years. We have recently developed a luncheon club which meets each Thursday; the luncheon group has proved really successful as a social support group attracting an even better weekly attendance and more opportunities for support than the original monthly office meet. Occasionally relevant partnership agency representatives have met with the group both within the monthly support settings and the more informal weekly luncheon club promoting the awareness of their services.

LGBT Trans Inclusion Group-the Transinclusion support group is one of the better supported groups facilitated with an ever increasing member base. Although not all members attend each and every meeting there is always a good turn out of around eight to twelve in attendance. The group consists of T girl community members at all stages of their journey all of whom all without exception eager to offer much needed support and advice to their peers.

Girls Group- again a well established and supported group meeting each month at alternating venues supplying needed social support to its members. This group is co-facilitated by a colleague of mine and again offers along with social, much needed peer support and guidance to all the members throughout the quarter.

LGBT Trans men group-again a well established and supported group with around eight members regularly in attendance. Along with one to one and group support, help and assistance is provided via a web portal co-facilitated by the LGBT CDW and the group chair.

19-25 Icebreakers group- targeting gay and bisexual males aged between of 19 and 25 offering advice, information and support. It is planned to arrange regular social evenings for this group away from the normal drug and alcohol based scene.

25-55 Ice breakers group-this group targets the 25-55 age group offering as the above groups stability, information and peer support away from the regular scene.

Sunday surgeries Twice monthly the project facilitates Sunday surgery within the club Mardi Gras OSS for the police staffed by one regular PC and PCSOs. These surgeries have been running successfully for approximately three years and being facilitated on a regular basis have become a very well known, trusted and utilised service. There have been numerous positive reports fed back to the project from the police, the licensee and the community as to the success of the initiative.

4.1 Implementations

Implementation of the project is through a full time Co-ordinator. The Co-ordinator is responsible for conducting all aspects of the project including:

- Monitoring the impact of the project utilising both qualitative and quantitative methods.
- Offering regular support, attendance and guidance to local forums e.g. Blackpool Community Safety and Drugs Partnership, Blackpool Pride, LSEF, Blackpool Equalities and Diversity group, Navajo group and attendance of meetings
- By coordinating the One Stop.Shop, booking in and attending the shop facilitators
- Offering a three tier approach to the local LGBT community
 - Information awareness schemes provision
 - One to one face to face contact
 - Leads gained from the community and within group settings

4.2 Impact

Overall and long-term impact of the project aims to cover:

- The community having increased access to services - sexual health, drugs, alcohol harm reduction etc'
- Reduction in certain areas of the communities social isolation and exclusion
- A marked improvement in the general and sexual health of community members
- To offer operational support and networking between service providers and the community

5.1 Outcomes

Overall Outcomes of project has focused in the 2008-09 period ensuring:

- Increased health awareness to LGBT community
- Increased partnership working
- Increased appropriate networking
- Increased material development and access
- Increased outreach/inreach work practice
- Increased understanding of LGBT community user needs and area of work
- A decrease in statistics for new STI's and HIV diagnosis's

5.2. Monitoring statistics

- | | |
|------------------------------|------|
| • Face to face contacts | 2080 |
| • Groupwork and activities | 1840 |
| • Training and presentations | 33 |
| • Networking contacts | 4706 |

See attached appendix

Networking and meetings regularly attended

- LGBT Licensee sub forum
- Adult training task group
- Alcohol task group
- Blackpool PACT
- Blackpool Pride
- Blackpool LGBT forum
- Alcohol Harm Reduction Public Health
- One Stop facility users
- LGBT Forum
- PACT group
- Blackpool police Hate Crimes Group
- Renaissance group
- Navajo charter mark

6. Goals and Priorities

The 2008-09 period has allowed a continued co-ordinated response to LGBT health issues. It has also been a year of positive learning opportunities, allowing the development of more targeted resources and skills ensuring the best inclusion of members and the best representation of all diverse sub groups within the LGBT community. Challenges remain as the project lies between and yet is crucial to so many internal community groups i.e. lesbians, gay men, bi sexual, MSM and the trans community which in turn presents various sub groups and castes. It is hoped to ensure better joined up thinking and working across these individual groups in 2009, ensuring better communication and co-ordinating of communication across all relevant areas providing a marked improvement in new STI's diagnosis figures and more importantly a reduction of new HIV diagnosis.

A priority is to carry on developing what is now a much respected project and to build on the confidence and trust gained within the local LGBT community and associated service providers. Networking with all relevant agencies is of paramount importance as is offering good researched advice, signposting and the easy availability and awareness of the resources as available.

Appendix

Monitoring forms and resources