

Mental Health (MH)/Dementia Champions

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Project method

MH/Dementia Champions are available 24/7 to provide advice/information and support to peers if required. They have access to additional information and resources and have regular contact with the Trust MH Lead.

An outline of the 'Champion' job role was drawn up and all eligible (front line) staff were invited to apply through normal Trust processes; this included demonstrating a positive attitude towards mental health and required support of their line manager. All staff grades were eligible.

The MH Champion 'training' was delivered by the Trust MH Lead (an RMN) and the programme was drawn up with input from the Trust legal advisor, police, AMHPs and service users.

The Dementia elements (Tier 2) were delivered by the Trust Dementia Lead in conjunction with Trainers from the Alzheimer's Society, and included experiential learning in the Trust Simbulance.

Project results/evaluation

Fifty four members of staff became Champions. An additional 43 were enrolled as a core group of staff with an interest in mental health, and now form a waiting list for when additional training can be rolled out.

Every Team across the Trust has access to a MH/Dementia Champion and additional training opportunities/resources have been made available from partner agencies.

Project area classification

Hospital care		Emergency care	X
GP care		Dementia	X
Social care		Learning disability	
Voluntary sector		Other mental health	
Financial services		Palliative care	
Police		Advance planning, LPAs	
Legal		Commissioning	
Community health care		Training	X
Nursing and care home		For professionals?	X
Acute care		For public and service users?	
Chronic care			