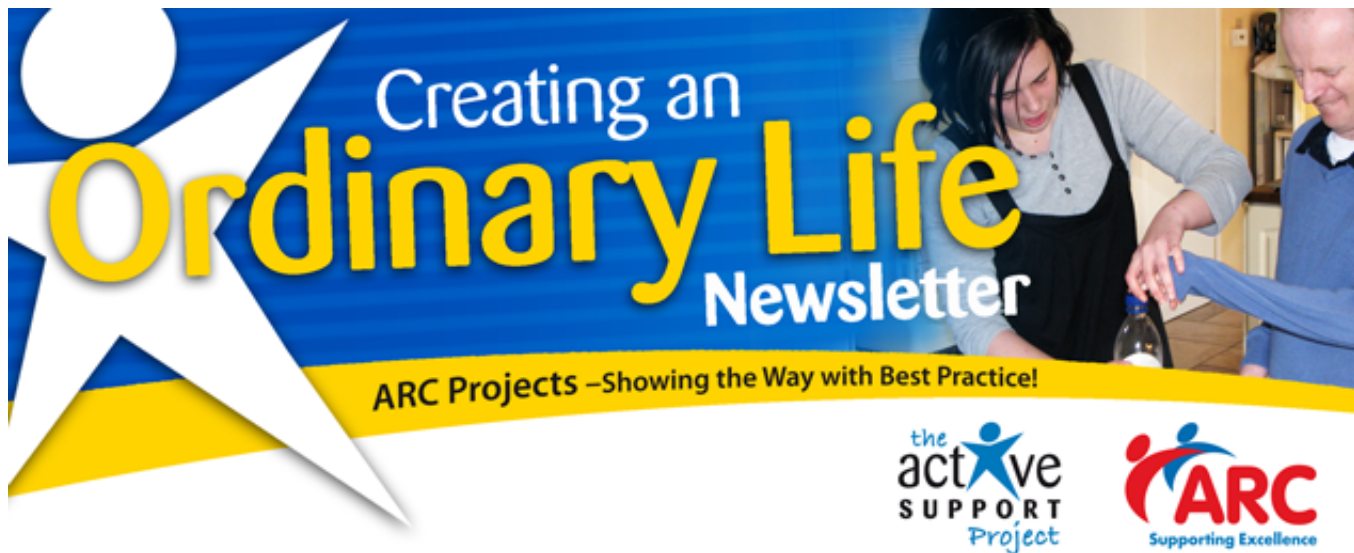


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### Advisory Group



**An Advisory Group has been established** to support the work of the Project with representation from:  
The Department of Health, Mencap, Autism

### Creating an Ordinary Life - Active Support

In March 2012 the **Association for Real Change (ARC)** was awarded a 3 year grant from the Department of Health to carry out an exciting new project in England called Creating an Ordinary Life.

Over the next three years ARC will be supporting a total of 30 services to embed an Active Support approach to working with the people with learning disabilities they support. For details see the **Creating an Ordinary Life Project webpage**.

**Year One** is a Pilot year with the Project being rolled out across the East Midlands. A total of ten ARC member services have already enrolled on the Project after attending one of the two introduction days held in Chesterfield and Leicester. Each Service will receive **five days of training and support** to embed

Care UK Ltd, The Challenging Behaviour Foundation, Perthyn, The Avenues Trust, Nottingham Community Housing Association, Derbyshire County Council, Helen Sanderson and Dr Edwin Jones.

The first meeting took place on 24th September in Chesterfield. The group will bring their expertise, experiences, suggestions and ideas to the Project. The Project Team are very grateful for their support.

## **E forum**

**An e-forum has now been set up to support those working in the project services.** We want those staff to be able to keep in touch and to share what they are doing to embed Active Support in their everyday support of the people with learning disabilities that they work with. It will also enable the Project Team to give on-going support to the staff in the pilot sites.

The *Creating an Ordinary Life* project is a great

Active Support within their services.

## **Comments from project pilot services**

**Here is what staff from some of the pilot services had to say about the first input sessions:**

- "This will help us gain new ways of working and helping service users"
- "This was enlightening on the subject"
- "It has helped me to realise what matters in a service user's life"
- "It was helpful to be able to break things down into small steps"
- "Small steps help people to reach bigger goals"
- "It was excellent and will help me to know my role better as a support worker"
- "It reminds me of the importance of evidencing outcomes"
- "This will help me improve the way I record things"

## **Promotional Events for Year Two**

A couple of Active Support promotional events have already taken place in Ashford and Exeter and the *Creating an Ordinary Life* Project has been promoted at both of these.

A further promotional event is planned for 22nd November 2012 in Sutton Coldfield as we aim to enrol a further 20 services to benefit from the project in Year Two. Please see the **ARC Website** for further details of this event.

There will be a window of opportunity for a further 20 services to apply for this free training and support, starting on 3rd December 2012, and an application form can be requested by emailing

opportunity to keep informed, and supported to be at the forefront of service development in the learning disability sector.

**margaret.webster@arcuk.org.uk**. Training and support will be starting in April 2013, and we are expecting a lot of interest, so don't delay in requesting that application form. We will be asking these services to contribute to travel/overnight expenses.

Keep checking the **Project webpage** and watch out for the next newsletter where we will have more news about progress at the pilot sites.

If you would like more information about the Project, or want to find out more about ARC's other Active Support Services please contact:

**Christine Harcombe**

**Project Officer**

**Tel: 07917523778**

**Email: [christine.harcombe@arcuk.org.uk](mailto:christine.harcombe@arcuk.org.uk)**

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