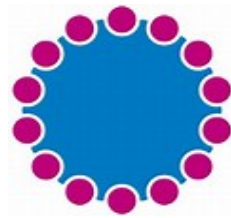




Introducing the role of Mental Health Occupational Therapy within Newham Primary Care Networks (PCNs)

Christine Lam (Occupational Therapist), Kristina Hantsa (Occupational Therapist) and Sarah Nerva (Operational Lead)



Living well, working with our communities

What was the problem?

Medical-model focused culture with PCNs and fragmented systems leading to service users being passed from one service to another and falling through the gaps.

Aim(s)

Improving access to mental health services within primary care for individuals identified with a mental health need by offering a specialist occupational therapy provision.

What did you do?

- Understanding PCNs landscape and forming relationships with 12 GP surgeries
- Increased knowledge of local service pathways
- Linked PCNs with secondary mental health teams
- Participated in job planning pilot project
- Took part in community capacity building

Identifying the OT need between June to August

GP	Count
Shrewsbury Road Medical Centre	29
E12 Medical Centre	28
Wordsworth Health Centre	41
Plasnet Harmony Practice	14
Lathom Road Medical Centre	16
Liberty Bridge Road Practice	29
Abbey Road Medical Practice	9
Newham Transitional Practice	9
Church Road Medical Centre	11
Glen Road Medical Centre	4
Total	190

How did this work improve the lives of our service users or staff?

- Provided faster access and smoother transitions between primary and secondary services for people with mental health needs e.g. improving GP huddle efficiency.
- Offering holistic assessments and interventions that are proactive and preventative to keep service users functioning and active.

Learning and what next?

- Continue to manage different expectations from the various GPs
- Importance of continuing with data collection to show effectiveness of service provision using outcome measures
- Gain qualitative data such as service user feedback
- To start a quality improvement project on needs identified at PCN level