

Platform newsletter 2012-2013

Platform Young Peoples' Drugs Service in Leeds focuses on allowing young people up to the age of 18 to make an informed choice about their lifestyle and seek help regarding substance and alcohol use. We will ensure that anyone accessing our service is offered a safe, comfortable environment and a worker who will listen and not judge. We believe that confidentiality and trust is a crucial part of our service and our workers will always try to maintain this.

THE WORK WE HAVE DONE:

OVER THE PERIOD OF APRIL 2012-MARCH 2013

TOTAL NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE REFERRED INTO SERVICE: 330

TOTAL NUMBER OF PROFESSIONALS ATTENDED PLATFORM TRAINING: 526

Percentage of young people making a planned exit from Platforms services: 97.7%

Over this period Platform has placed a large focus on skilling up the young peoples workforce of the city by delivering various training programmes to professionals. We are currently delivering, Basic Drug Awareness training & Identification and Brief advice around alcohol. As well as this we have delivered lunch time seminars at the Public Health Resource Library focusing on Legal Highs, Stimulants, Depressants and Volatile substances. Our training over the past year has been delivered to a wide range of organisations such as School staff, alternative education staff, Social Care, Police officers, Youth workers, school nurses & Signpost workers. We have ensured that all training sessions incorporate the participants needs and meet there expectations.

Platform, 20 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2EX. Tel: 0113 3971300 Fax: 0113 2345 772

The delivery of group work forms a large part of the work that we deliver as a service. over the 2012/2013 period we have delivered 218 separate sessions to a total of 3,015 young people . These sessions have ranged from targeted group work to health events at schools and colleges. We have also delivered various targeted sessions to parents and careers of young people who are at risk of using substances in order to increase there knowledge of substance misuse. Throughout the evaluation of these sessions we have consistently received exemplary feedback from participants.

STABLE CHANGE

During the summer of 2012 Platform piloted a brilliant and innovative program called Stable Change. The Stable Change programme used learning through horses to help 7 young people reach their goals around their substance use. All of those who took part reported an improvement in health, aspirations and ability to reach their substance use goals.

Our feedback

"They are supportive and don't judge"

"You were really supportive"

"Was a good help. Built my confidence up. Power to make my own choices"

"They help you at every aspect don't need a spliff now"

"Felt like my worker wanted to help Its a great service"

"They don't lie to you, tell you how it is"

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