

Equal treatment

Challenging racism and health inequalities and strengthening self-advocacy and peer support

About the project

This project focused on peer support, self-advocacy and community networks led by or open to people with a learning disability and their families from minority ethnic groups.

This project will run for 9 months, from September 2021.

It is hosted by Learning Disability England who are working in partnership with the Race Equality Foundation. There is an established group of people with a learning disability, family members and paid workers who are part of coproducing the projects with Learning Disability England and the Race Equality Foundation.

The work will be led by separate groups or organisations who have strong links or experience that can help other peer support, family, self-advocacy, or community groups challenge racism and how they work with people from minority ethnic groups in their community.

What the project will focus on

NHS England are supporting the project because reports have told them that people with a learning disability from minority ethnic groups do not get equal health care. NHS England want to help more people know about health services, their rights, and choices and who can help them get fair treatment.

This project wants to

- strengthen existing self-advocacy & parent/carer organisations' work with people with a learning disability from minority ethnic groups and their families.
- Empower and support self-advocacy or family led groups to overcome barriers and taboos in relation to speaking up about racism and its impact on access to preventative healthcare and treatment.
- Increase the confidence of local organisations led by people from minority ethnic groups in working with people with a learning

disability and their families as part of their work on tackling health inequalities.

- Link the work being led by people with a learning disability and their families into the wider work aimed at reducing premature mortality and health inequalities.

The project is part of wider work the Race Equality Foundation is leading on that is finding the evidence and examples of what will help stop racism or unequal treatment.

What we will do

We will look for 3 partner organisations to lead on the strands of work. Learning Disability England will help make sure the strands connect and collate the resources and outputs.

1. Strengthening inclusive self-advocacy

We will recruit an organisation to:

- Coproduce with people from minority ethnic groups a set of training resources for self-advocates on
 - o understanding and challenging racism
 - o what existing self-advocacy groups can do to make it easier for people from minority ethnic groups to join them
 - o and make links with local community organisations led by and for people from minority ethnic groups
- Offer that training to 15 existing self-advocacy groups
- Create a set of resources from the work that can be shared more widely and used by others

The groups who take part in the training will be asked to share their action plan for change with others in the project to support shared learning. They will be paid to help cover some costs.

2. Strengthening family led or parent peer support

We will recruit an organisation to:

- Coproduce with people from minority ethnic groups a set of training resources for parent carer groups on.
 - o the experiences and impact of racism on people with a learning disability

- what existing parent or family carer led groups can do to make it easier for people from minority ethnic groups to join them
- and make links with local community organisations led by and for people from minority ethnic groups
- Offer that training to 15 existing groups across parents of children and young people as well as family of adults with a learning disability
- Create a set of resources from the work that can be shared more widely and used by others

The groups who take part in the training will be asked to share their action plan for change with others in the project to support shared learning. They will be paid to help cover some costs.

3. Strengthening local community responses on tackling health inequalities and unfair treatment

We will recruit an organisation to work with community organisations led by and for people from minority ethnic groups, tackling health inequalities to help them build understanding of the barriers people with a learning disability and their families face and consider how they can work to remove those. That will include helping local self-advocacy or family groups and community organisations to connect.

4. Sharing learning and growing understanding

We want to make sure the project has the most impact by connecting the work with different people and building on everyone's skills and experience.

Learning Disability England will

- Ask the organisations leading on strands 1–3 to be part of a 'learning group' with coproduction group reps that meets 3 times online to share their work, what they are doing and solve any problems together
- Collate the different resources each strand develops so they are accessible after the project
- Host at least 2 sessions with people who were part of the project for commissioners, other people with a disability or community led organisations to think about how they can learn from this and change their work

- Promote the project and make sure as many people as possible know about the work, the issues and how they might get involved

How to find out more or get involved

We would really like to hear from anyone working with local people or community groups on including people with a learning disability and their families from different communities.

Or let us know if you want to get the information on becoming one of the delivery partners

Contact us on

Samantha Clark – samantha.clark@LDEngland.org.uk

Or

Rachael Hall – Rachael.Hall@LDEngland.org.uk