

Speakeasy Advocacy Annual Report

April 2015 – March 2016

We have worked with

625

people this year



* 40 were allocated to Choices Advocacy

** 87 people with a Learning Disability, 11 Older People, 4 people with a Physical Disability



Message from the Chair of Trustees Rob Hannah

“This year the Trustees have had to make some difficult decisions to change the way we do things and I thank them for that and all the other work they do to oversee the work in Speakeasy.

We must also thank the staff team who successfully coped with these changes and their ongoing responsibilities.

Amanda as Chief Executive keeps us up to date on changes needed and progress made. We cannot thank Amanda enough for her professionalism, foresight and dedication to Speakeasy.

Later in the report you will see the details of the work we now do. We are working with more people than ever before across more of Hampshire than ever before. We continue to provide statutory and non statutory advocacy to adults and children. Then there are all the other things we do (Learning Disability and Autism Partnership Boards, user involvement, forming consortia and bidding for contracts etc etc).

Well done Speakeasy!”

A year in t



April

- Start providing Care Act Advocacy as part of the HARG consortium
- Friday Network hold a mock election ahead of next month's election

"I have never voted before, but because of the work we have done at Friday Network I have voted for the first time in the general election"



May

- Speakeasy staff take part in the HARG Care Act Advocacy training as learners and teachers
- Basingstoke Saturday Coffee Morning celebrate the Spring Bank Holiday with bingo and a quiz



June

- We take part in the HCC Advocacy consultation workshop



July

- Happy Club have a successful evening out in a local Basingstoke bar as part of their new Friendship group activities
- The Internet Explorers group meets for the last time when the Children in Need funding ends

"Young people will have the chance to improve their prospects and aspirations as a result of Speakeasy" Children In Need



August

- We support 13 people with a physical disability to take part in a consultation about the future of a HCC respite service
- Wednesday Network give their feedback on Being Healthy to the Partnership Board



September

- Part of a Serious Case Review panel which reports on the death of a vulnerable adult in Hampshire



the life of Speakeasy...

October



- Attend the National Advocacy conference in Birmingham with a HARG exhibition stand
- Take part in a Law Commission consultation on proposals to change the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards provisions

November



- Submit tender for new Advocacy Contract as part of the HARG consortium

December



- We begin working in the Hart & Rushmoor area at the request of the previous advocacy organisation



January



- Farnborough Self Advocacy Group meet with Speakeasy for the first time
- Speakeasy Annual General Meeting
- Friday Network interview people who apply to be the new advocate

February



- Speakeasy awarded the new Advocacy Contract as part of the HARG consortium
- Student Social Worker starts a 100 day placement

March



- Henry, Leon and Marcia are supported by Speakeasy to attend the Partnership Board Representatives meeting in Winchester
- The group room and some of the offices at 17 New Road are rearranged
- New Advocate starts



"I'm not afraid to say what I think. It's important to speak up for other people and get the answers for them in case they get left out" Henry

"The Farnborough group ask me to go to the Partnership Board with queries because they trust me to come back with feedback" Marcia

"Speaking up for other people has made me more confident" Leon

Finance

TOTAL INCOME £205,336



EXPENSES £205,619



The difference is -£283

1. Includes £13,755.00 that was paid to Choices Advocacy as a sub-contractor
 2. This includes the £2,375 we paid back to Children in Need as grant underspend
 3. These contracts were held with the HARG consortium

Challenges for the year ahead



Deliver the new Advocacy contract with the HARG consortium

- working with new partner organisations
- restructuring and training our staff team
- setting our budgets
- making changes to how we provide advocacy



Work towards the Quality Performance Mark

Apply to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation



Get in touch with us:



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A copy of the Charity Commission Report which includes the full Accounts is available on request