

CYPSP LGBT Subgroup 'Come Walk in My Shoes' Award Victory!

Involving you, Improving care: our involvement story- A shared event for staff, service users and carers to progress thinking on PPI and showcase good practice.

The PHA and QUB Personal and Public Involvement (PPI) Awards were established to recognise the excellent work involving service users and carers in Health and Social Care. The PPI Awards were held in Riddell Hall, Belfast on 22 June 2016.

Awards are presented for:

- Quality and/or Safety
- Service improvement
- Innovation in involvement
- The Best Involvement Story – voted by participants in attendance at the conference

The CYPSP LGB&T subgroup were recognised and awarded under the *Innovation and involvement* category for their recent 'Come Walk in my Shoes' campaign as part of LGB&T Awareness Week.



CYPSP LGB&T subgroup members; Deirdre McNamee, Hiliary Johnston, PHA and Alison Foster, HSCB receiving PPI award with Dr, Eddie Rooney, CEO of PHA



PHA/QUB PPI Awards for Innovation in Involvement, June 2016

The Come walk in my shoes event was organised in response to the feedback received from young people about their lived experiences and the issues they face in a range of settings including schools, further education, youth and community and public spaces. The interactive event held in the Radar Centre Belfast, was designed by young people and participants who attended the event were invited to assume the role provided on a “foot” while moving through a series of facilitated discussions and workshops. These interactive presentations and short role plays were designed by the young people. The role plays allowed them to present the issues and then engage in discussion with participants. The first event was organised in 14th May 2015 as part of LGB&T Awareness Week. Based on the positive response received from this event a second event was organised on 7 March 2016.

Koulla Yiasouma, Commissioner for Children and Young People, highlighted from the event ‘as a society we cannot ignore the experiences of our LGB&T young people and how we need to understand their lives and experiences better and ensure that their rights are respected’.

CYPSP and the HSCB Social Care Directorate would like to congratulate the CYPSP LGB&T Subgroup and all those participated in the event.

For further information about the campaign and the work of the LGB&T subgroup please see www.cypsp.org.

‘Come walk in my shoes, the lived experiences of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender young people in Northern Ireland.’
 The event was supported by a working group of the Regional LGB&T Sub Group for Children and Young People.





Quotes from Participants

- I will always remember how I felt tonight.
- Look for the person—not the name.
- Start the discussion.
- Not just challenge jokes, but explain why it is wrong.
- Be a champion.

Quotes from Young People

- Showed us that things can get better because people care.
- Loved people's reactions.
- Events like this are really important, they give opportunities to get insight into the issues that young LGB&T young people face on a daily basis.





Lessons learned

- There's one key to success of the night
- All supporters related event as excellent and would recommend to a colleague.
- Normalise LGBT in my workplace through language and imagery. Spread the word to colleagues.
- Go back to my organisation and continue to work for equality.
- Change attitudes of teachers & peers through education & awareness raising.
- Try to solve & shape the issues and experiences highlighted amongst with my work colleagues and start the discussion. Your best bet is help.

When moving through a series of interactive workshops and short role plays participants were asked to assume an identity of an LGB or T young person. Example: Male, 15, not out, identifies as transgender, lives in a city. Participants were then asked at the end of the event, to leave their thoughts with event organisers to inform future events.

