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**Literature search results**

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<td>Search completed by:</td>
<td>Marilyn Shaw</td>
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**Search details**

Community groups working within adult mental health – 16 – 55. Use of volunteers in the groups, what support do the volunteers need and benefits of the groups. UK, 2004 onwards.

**Resources searched**

NHS Evidence; TRIP Database; Cochrane Library; AMED; BNI; CINAHL; EMBASE; HMIC; Health Business Elite; MEDLINE; PsychINFO; Google Scholar; Google Advanced Search

**Database search terms:**

**Evidence search string(s):**

**Google search string(s):**

**Summary**

There is very little in the way of information about volunteers working with adult mental health groups. Various sites on Google deal with individual local authority provision in this matter and some of the mental health charities have entries on Google under general search terms such as community groups and volunteers. I have searched 10 pages of Google and found only a handful of items!
Published research – Databases

1. The INFOM project: A service user-led research endeavor.
Citation: Archives of Psychiatric Nursing, December 2012, vol./is. 26/6(448-456), 0883-9417 (Dec 2012)
Author(s): Taylor, Sue; Abbott, Stephen; Hardy, Sally
Language: English
Abstract: Effective engagement with people who experience mental health care services, as research participants and as research leads, is presented. A group of volunteer mental health survivors, called INFOM, worked for 6 years to develop and complete a research project, exploring service user experience of a home treatment and crisis resolution service. Within the article, discussion is given to the significance of service continuity, alongside personal accounts of the impact and consequences of health care staff's interpersonal interactions. Two contrasting messages arise from this study: first, the articulation of what services users want from services, and how that relates to what they actually receive, continues to be a necessary debate and issue for consideration at a time of considerable health care reform. The second message is that such articulation, although necessary, is not sufficient in itself to ensure that services are responsive to service user needs and preferences. Findings from the evaluation are consistent with other service user-led research. However, what is also evident is that more work is required in enabling health care consumers to provide feedback that can then be used to inform practice and service delivery improvement. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2013 APA, all rights reserved) (journal abstract)
Publication Type: Journal; Peer Reviewed Journal
Source: PsycINFO

2. Not the community, but a community: Transforming youth into citizens through volunteer work.
Citation: Journal of Youth Studies, December 2012, vol./is. 15/8(1063-1077), 1367-6261;1469-9680 (Dec 2012)
Author(s): Nenga, Sandi Kawecka
Language: English
Abstract: Public discourse suggests that volunteer work will transform youth into productive citizens by connecting youth to their communities. However, the meaning and practice of 'community' is rarely defined or investigated. Using interview and observation data from a study of 47 volunteers aged 15-23, I argue that there are three different types of community youth commonly join via volunteer work. One kind of community was composed of a homogenous group of students. A second type of community was formed from a diverse group of volunteers and far-flung networks of marginalized groups. A third community developed when youth became attached to a city-wide web of nonprofit agencies but formed few ties to other volunteers and clients. The types of communities youth join through their volunteer work may shape their ongoing civic and political socialization differently. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2013 APA, all rights reserved) (journal abstract)
Publication Type: Journal; Peer Reviewed Journal
Source: PsycINFO

3. 'That's me, the Goother': Evaluation of a program for individuals with early-onset dementia.
Citation: Dementia: The International Journal of Social Research and Practice, August 2011, vol./is. 10/3(361-377), 1471-3012;1741-2684 (Aug 2011)
Author(s): Kinney, Jennifer M; Kart, Cary S; Reddecliff, Luann
Language: English
Abstract: We conducted face-to-face, semi-structured interviews with six white men with early-onset dementia (EOD) and supplemented the interviews with a focus group with six wives of the men to document perceptions of a weekly, supervised volunteer program for the men at the local zoo. The program, 'Get Out of the House,' is designed to provide individuals with EOD a weekly opportunity to participate in meaningful, supervised volunteer work in the community. Interviews with participants revealed that they strongly identify with the program and are eager to share their experiences, about which they show
some depth of insight. The focus group revealed that the program represents a break in
the day-to-day routine for spouses and families, as well as participants, and has benefits
that extend beyond the program time itself. Challenges with the development and
implementation of such programs and implications for research and practice are
discussed. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved) (journal
abstract)

Publication Type: Journal; Peer Reviewed Journal
Source: PsycINFO

4. Doing it from your heart: The role of older women as informal volunteers.
Citation: Journal of Women & Aging, 2006, vol./is. 18/2(55-72), 0895-2841;1540-7322
(2006)
Author(s): Warburton, Jeni; McLaughlin, Deirdre
Language: English
Abstract: This paper explores the contributions made by older women to the community as
informal volunteers. It argues that ageing policy is not gender neutral and tends to ignore
the contributions made by women outside paid work. As well as being ignored in policy,
women's unpaid roles have been denigrated by some feminist commentators, who suggest
that these roles subordinate the position of women. The aim of the present paper is to
explore the lived experiences of older women in relation to their informal volunteer roles,
using role identity theory as a framework. The study utilizes data from a qualitative study
using focus group methodology. Findings demonstrate that informal volunteering
contributes to the women's identity and gives their lives meaning. These findings suggest
that a more positive policy framework around ageing is needed to ensure that the worth of
these contributions is recognised. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights
reserved) (journal abstract)

Publication Type: Journal; Peer Reviewed Journal
Source: PsycINFO

Full Text: Available from EBSCOhost in Journal of Women & Aging

Published Research - Google Scholar

From 1st fifty results:

1. Social action for health and well-being: building co-operative communities
Department of Health strategic vision for volunteering
Published by Dept of Health, 2011

Published by Skills for health
www.skillsforhealth.org.uk/ciag-healthcare-volunteering/

3. Making every contact count for public mental health, August 2013

4. Kountouras, Georgios

The psychosocial dimension of volunteering in mental health

http://www.lse.ac.uk/europeanInstitute/research/hellenicObservatory/CMS%20pdf/Events/2013_PhD_Symposium/Papers%20for%20website/Kountouras
5. Spear Jon, Kaanders H, Moulton June, Herzberg J

A volunteer project for elderly people with mental health problems


6. Volunteering boosts self-esteem and wellbeing and helps recovery. 2010

http://www.mentalhealthcare.org.uk/media/downloads/capital_volunteering.pdf