

**Dissemination of Longitudinal Study of Consumer/Survivor Initiatives
Summary of Regional Workshops**

**Meeting in London
Tuesday, June 29, 2004**

Participants:

CSI staff, members and service providers: 21
OPDI staff: Janice Towndrow, Raymond Cheng, Shawn Lauzon
Presenters: Joanna Ochocka and Geoff Nelson

Summary:

A morning workshop took place between 9 am and 12:00 pm to review the findings of the longitudinal study. After lunch, the afternoon consumer/survivor caucus further analyzed the implications of the survey. Participants shared the following comments:

- There is a trend towards recovery-based empowerment treatment. I think this research strengthens positions of survivors to be more accountable
- Responsiveness to consumer needs and outcomes shown
- Evaluation can be a tool for planning
- Ownership of activity shared/great participation in evaluation process
- Employment implications – evaluation can produce case for pay equity
- Reason for evaluation is to strengthen our voice
- Consumer/survivor movement links to decision-makers (finally!)
- Importance to get promises based on this research
- Education and training are important followup strategies
- Need for education that supplies accommodations and supports
- Write to local politicians (MPPs, mayors, city councilors, to contact them about the regional meetings)
- Diversity is important and needed
- We could benefit from a cross-disability alliance which could reduce stigma
- When we understand, we can understand what to do

Following this was an interactive Logic Model Exercise where CSI members were asked to name as many activities that took place within their organizations. These were sorted out as individual and systemic outcomes/impacts/changes, and the question of how the activities and outcomes were linked.

Finally, there was a discussion of what were the principles of good evaluation. Points raised by participants were:

- Links to somebody in power
- Cost-saving/cost-effectiveness has to be demonstrated
- Stigma around “mental illness” has to be addressed (external factors such as society and lack of love)
- Language is important (strong, simply, perceptive)

- Similar to values of consumer/survivors
- Life experience is very important
- Aim is towards self-determination and empowerment
- Honoring experiential knowledge
- Social justice plays an important role
- Understand the helpful role of CSIs
- Good evaluation can make system change government policy
- Authenticity – clarification of roles and clarification of commitment

Next Steps:

1. Summary notes to all participants
2. Further discussion about developing Evaluation Framework for CSIs in Ontario at the OPDI Conference in September 2004
3. A proposal to develop Evaluation Framework for CSIs In Ontario - drafted and distributed for feedback