

Friends, Families & Travellers A Manifesto for Collaboration

A System Change
Approach for Inclusion
Health

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The Presentation

- Gypsies, Roma and Travellers
- Inequalities
- Inclusion Health
- System Change
- Collaboration
- Our Manifesto

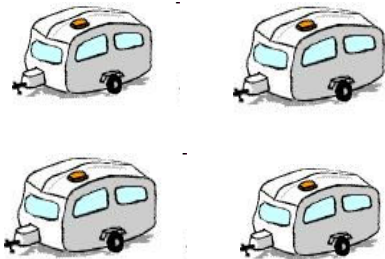
Gypsies, Roma & Travellers

Friends, Families and Travellers
www.gypsy-traveller.org
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Gypsies and Travellers

- 300,000 in UK (1 in 200)
- Scattered & invisible



European Roma

- Britain has one of the largest populations of East European Roma in Western Europe, with high concentrations in London, East and West Midlands, Yorkshire and the North West. Accurate estimates are difficult, but the total population is believed to be 200,000 – 300,000.

Law



- Romany Gypsies, Irish Travellers and Roma are legally recognised ethnic minorities under the Race Relations Act.
- New Travellers may have Traveller status under planning law

Romany Gypsies

- Left India in C11th, arrived in UK in 1500s
- Gypsies were key seasonal farm labour, blacksmiths and entertainers.
- Post war mechanised farming needed less seasonal labour
- Increasingly managed countryside leaves less room for Gypsies



Irish Travellers



- C12th century Irish term Tynker referred to nomads with a separate identity and dialect
- Many came to the UK during the C19th Irish Famine
- In 1960's Irish Travellers came to work as labourers
- Many settled in large urban areas like London, Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds and Birmingham.

New Travellers



- People choosing a nomadic life.
- Started in the late 60's - wide range of low income, alternative, eco and festival related lifestyles.
- The Criminal Justice Act 1994, criminalised groups of people on land - many moved to Europe or broke into smaller groups.
- 2nd and 3rd generation New Traveller children may have known no other life.

European Roma

- Recent migration of Roma from eastern European states to more prosperous, western member countries of the EU.
- Many have suffered a particularly harsh history of marginalisation and deprivation.
- Migration drives are regarded as economic and to escape racism - Very negative media portrayal.



Gypsy & Traveller Culture

Key values:

- Family is central – look after each other
- Traditional gender roles – men ‘provide’, women ‘care’
- Cleanliness and modesty, shame and gossip



Inequalities



- Life expectancy 10 - 25 years lower:
Low immunisation, high infant, child and maternal mortality, high chronic disease, high anxiety & depression. Just as bad if housed.
- Lowest educational outcomes
- Low adult literacy (under 40%)
- Highest prejudice 35% (Stonewall, 2003)

Homelessness

- 25,000 Gypsies & Travellers in caravans have nowhere legal to stop (CLG estimate)
- Families can be evicted up to 50 times a year
- Eviction *regardless* of behaviour
- Policing by eviction
- 50% of rough sleepers on London's streets were from the UK and 50% were from overseas. 29% were from Central and Eastern Europe including 13% from Romania.

Barriers to accessing services

- Feel that mainstream services are not accessible to Gypsies, Roma & Travellers.
- Sense of fatalism and low expectations (health)
- Literacy and isolation may play a part.
- People experiencing multiple need and/or trauma.
- Language issues for many Roma.
- Wider Social determinants of health – Poverty
- Racism

Effective Engagement

- Assertive Outreach
- Peer Education and support
- Culturally competent staff
- Long term programmes
- Start from the person's needs.
- Multi-disciplinary Teams
- Non-judgemental



Inclusion Health



- The concept of Inclusion Health is founded on the premise that not all UK citizens have access to the highest standards of healthcare. Meeting the health needs of a small group of socially excluded individuals and their communities remains a challenge. This population has poorer predicted health outcomes¹ and a shorter life expectancy than the average population.

Accessible Services

Accessible services are:

- welcoming
- don't need literacy
- flexible on times,
- holistic
- Non judgemental
- Introduced by a trusted person



So what has been happening?

- Good Policy is not enough on it's own
- Pockets of good practice:
 - FFT Outreach Project
 - Pathways Programme for homeless
 - Inclusion Health Care and Arch Health CIC
 - Drs of the World Unite
 - And more...
 - **But little coordinated action!**

What do we need?

- A Systems Change approach
- We need co-ordinated action
- Policy into Action
- Solidarity

“ Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones that we have been waiting for. We are the change that we seek...”

Barack Obama



SYSTEM CHANGERS

A programme which shows you a new way of looking at multi complex problems



HOW?

- MAPPING
- DESIGNING
- CHANGING
- LISTENING
- Prototyping
- Looking through multiple lenses
- Finding Flex
- Space for reflection



We are all in agreement then.

Relationships

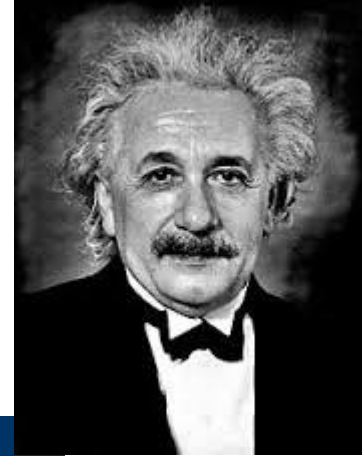
- Transforming systems is ultimately about transforming relationships among people who shape these systems.....”
- Peter Senge, Hal Hamilton and John Kania in *The Dawn of System Leadership*



The story of cholera and system change

One tiny lever changed London forever – led to ...modern sewerage system in London- improved Public Health- improved sanitary conditions- poor laws

EINSTEIN



- *“Without changing our patterns of thought, we will not be able to solve the problems we created with our current patterns of thought”*


How are we going to do this?

- We want to co-design a National Charter for Inclusion Health
- We need to see an accountable person on every HWBB
- Better Commissioning- Inclusive JSNAs
- We need Experts by Experience at the centre.

Our Manifesto for Inclusion Health

What would you like to see?

How can we work together?



Useful Publications

- The National Gypsy and Traveller Health Inclusion Project 2012-15 FFT and LeedsGATE
- FFT Inclusion of Gypsy Traveller Health Needs in JSNAs: A review
- Improving access to health care for Gypsies and Travellers, homeless people and sex workers – Inclusion Health RCGPs