



3-Day Hearing Voices Group Facilitation & Network Development Training

Facilitator: Jacqui Dillon

13, 14 & 15 June 2012

Catherine McAuley School of Nursing and Midwifery

Brookfield Health Sciences Complex

University College Cork, Ireland

Funded by the Nursing and Midwifery Planning Development Unit

Health Service Executive – South

Organised in association with the Critical Voices Network Ireland



An Experiential Workshop for Mental Health Staff and People with Lived Experience who want to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to facilitate a Hearing Voices Support Group

Hearing Voices Groups offer a safe place for people to feel accepted and comfortable sharing their experiences of voices, visions, tactile sensations and other unusual experiences and perceptions. People meet together to help and support each other, to exchange information, and to learn from one another. Groups also offer an opportunity for people to accept and “live with voices” in a way that enables them to regain some control over their lives.

Jacqui Dillon is a respected campaigner, writer, international speaker and trainer specialising in hearing voices, ‘psychosis’, dissociation, trauma, abuse, healing and recovery. She is the national Chair of the Hearing Voices Network in England and a Board member of Intervoice – the International Network for Training, Education and Research into Hearing Voices. Jacqui is Honorary Lecturer in Clinical Psychology at the University of East London. Along with Professor Marius Romme and Dr Sandra Escher she is the co-editor of *Living with Voices*, an anthology of 50 voice hearers’ stories of recovery. She is also co-editor of *Demedicalising Misery: Psychiatry, Psychology and the Human Condition*, and has published numerous articles and papers; is on the editorial board of the journal *Psychosis: Psychological, Social and Integrative Approaches* and is a member of the collective for *Asylum*, the magazine for Democratic Psychiatry. Jacqui is also a voice hearer. For further information please see www.jacquidillon.org

For expressions of interest, application form and further information contact:

Dr Harry Gijbels

School of Nursing and Midwifery

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University College Cork

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Please turn the page for further information

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There is an established and emerging body of evidence to support the effectiveness of Hearing Voices Groups. They offer people who hear voices the opportunity to share their experience and find ways of coping with this experience which can be complementary to other support methods. There are – as yet – very few Hearing Voices groups in Ireland. In order to continue the development of a network of Hearing Voices Groups, a 3-day training programme for people who are interested in becoming group facilitators has been organised by the School of Nursing and Midwifery, in association with the Critical Voices Network Ireland. The programme has been funded by the Nursing and Midwifery Planning Development Unit, Health Service Executive – South.

The programme takes place on 13, 14 and 15 June in Brookfield Health Sciences Complex, University College Cork, and is facilitated by Jacqui Dillon. On completion of the training, participants will be expected to start up a hearing voices group and/or co-facilitate an existing group. It is also envisaged that the programme will lead to the establishment of a network where practising facilitators can meet regularly to share good practice and their experiences.

Expressions of interest are now invited from voice hearers who have a genuine interest in facilitating/co-facilitating a group and from mental health staff who have agreement and/or opportunities to start a group in the setting in which they work. Joint applications are specifically welcomed from two voice hearers or voice hearer/mental health staff member (maybe supported by the services they use/work in), who have an interest in starting and facilitating a group. Others interested in starting a group, ideally those who have identified a service willing to support them to establish a group, are also welcome to apply.

Places on the programme are limited and will be allocated on the basis of and ability to attend all 3 days and a willingness and commitment to start a Hearing Voices group

Expression of interest and application forms available from Harry Gijbels: h.gijbels@ucc.ie. Tel: 021 490 1551. On receipt, please complete either the joint application or the individual application form. The closing date for applications is Friday 25 May 2012.

If you would like to discuss making an application and/or would like more information about the programme contact Harry at the above email or telephone number.

Harry Gijbels
School of Nursing and Midwifery
University College Cork