Partners in Policymaking
A Leadership Development Programme for Parents of disabled children and disabled adults

2016—2017

DoubleTree By Hilton
Dunblane Hydro
Perth Road, Dunblane
Perthshire, Scotland,
FK15 0HG

“Thanks for such a liberating experience guys - It’s totally changed the way I deal with things, for the better. “ Cindy Godfrey McKay
‘Partners in Policymaking’ is an internationally recognised leadership development programme for parents of disabled children (up to the age of 18) and disabled adults, including people with learning difficulties, mental health issues, autism, sensory impairments and physical impairments.

This programme is a chance for participants to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to campaign and advocate for better treatment and social justice for disabled people within our society.

The programme is designed for parents and adults who:
- think that life for disabled children and adults could be better
- want to improve the way things are now, but don’t know where to start

Some people on the programme will already be members of groups and organisations who are working for change, while others may be new to this.

By the end of the programme we expect that participants will be better able to contribute to the successful implementation of self directed support

PLEASE NOTE: This programme is not open to:
- Paid professional staff
- Parents with a disabled child over the age of 18.

People living anywhere in Scotland are entitled to apply for a place. **There are 40 places available.**

We will be looking first and foremost for people who want to make improvements in the way services are provided for disabled people. We expect demand to be high and not everyone will be able to get a place. However, it is our intention to run more Partners in Policymaking programmes in the future.
The programme is free to participants. We will try and make sure people get the support they need to successfully complete this programme, whether this is material on audio tape, sign language interpreters or support to read the materials and carry out the coursework. We may also be able to help with financial support, i.e. travel expenses.

WHAT DO I DO IF I AM INTERESTED IN THE PROGRAMME?

For more information and an application form contact:

June Dunlop, In Control Scotland, c/o Neighbourhood Networks, Pavilion 5A, Moorpark Court, 25 Dava Street, Glasgow, G51 2JE

Tel: 0141 440 5250
Email: june.d@in-controlscotland.org.uk
“Attending Partners has provided me with a wealth of information around every aspect of disability. We have been privileged to hear from an array of inspirational speakers and fellow parents who sought to make positive change. This sharing of experience has enabled me to develop my skills and knowledge base and so better plan for all of my family’s future, not just for my disabled son. At times the course has been challenging and emotional, but always worthwhile. And I have met such lovely people along the way! I would wholeheartedly recommend this course to any family wishing to give their disabled son or daughter the same opportunities as everyone else”.

“I’m really glad these courses are running to help people, every day is like a school day, I am learning something new and interesting at every session”.

“Core funding for this programme has been provided by the Scottish Government

“Before the course, I had a fear of the future my son might have. I didn’t know what options were available to him. That fear is almost gone now as I can see he can have a fulfilling life (and so can I!). The course has really changed the life not just of my son but for our entire family”.

Partners has provided me with a platform of support at a crucial time in both my children’s young adults life. (During transitions and the introduction of Self Directed Support). The course has been awe inspiring and from week 1 has it has been uplifting to be surrounded by so many like-minded people who have experienced similar challenges in life. The facilitators and guest speakers have shared their vast experience, knowledge and passion especially for equality and inclusion in every aspect of life. I have learned so much from this and with the support of everyone have felt empowered. This course has helped provide me with the confidence and drive I need to speak out for what I believe in. I am proud to feel part of a disability rights movement and keen to strive to help make change possible, knowing that even a small change can go a long way....

“I’m halfway through the Partners journey and I’m unrecognisable. The course content, the participants and the speakers are all changing the way I think and act for the better! The energy I have gained from being part of this process is going to help change my son’s life and our family’s future. I’m becoming braver and thinking bigger with every month... Thank you

in Control Scotland

inni inspiring inclusion