

# BRENT CARE JOURNEYS \* BULLETIN 12



This issue is dedicated to celebrating the quality of our partnership working with Brent staff and goes out with heartfelt **THANKS** to Nana Ama-Serwah, Yiolanda Wiliamson, Denise McLean, Maxine Isaac, Belle Ohene-Djan, Darren Wright, Kenlyn Garraway, Shania Rankin, Shermaine Mahoney, Shobha Harrid, Danielle Thomas, Tracey Low, Lauren McKenzie, Josephine Onwubiko, Paula Oluwaseyi, Zach Hinkson, Alivia Jennings and Natalia Oganessian for supporting and attending the second iteration of the coproduced training course **Locations and Placements**. BCJ felt proud and grateful to be in the company of so many skilled and compassionate professionals.

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BCJ presents ..



## LOCATIONS and PLACEMENTS

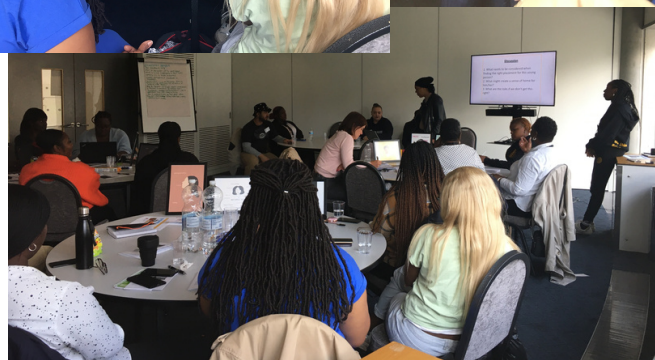
Thinking about *your* role in finding a positive, stable home for children at pivotal points in their lives

**Training created and facilitated** by people with lived experience of being placed in semi-independent accommodation as children.

**When:** Tuesday 6th June \* 13.00 - 17.00

**Where:** Boardroom 5, Brent Civic Centre

**LIMITED PLACES. BOOK NOW**

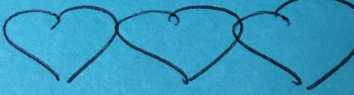


## feedback from attendees

"should be rolled out to all social workers - we need to hear the issues raised here to drum it home."

Brilliant! One of the best training sessions I've attended in a while. So refreshing to have the real life experiences of the care leavers. It made the impact hit harder! Snacks & playlist <sup>were on point!</sup> THANK YOU

Thank you so much for today's session. It was very powerful, informative and real



"Very good and informative, interactive training session. The presenters were very knowledgeable."

## feedback from facilitators

"The highlight of the day was the pitching exercise, whereby social workers were given a home to pitch with both positive and negative key features, based on real accommodation that young people are facing. I had a great time and was proud to see that those who attended were so reflective and able to accept criticism and aim for change. I thought this was very positive... We thank the 11 YP who designed the training, as well as the social workers who attended. I look forward to doing it again!"

# Also this month..

We hosted a kick off session with young people with lived experience of seeking asylum as unaccompanied children. With the support of an Arabic and Kurdish interpreter we were able to explain the detail of codesign and the complexity of systems change. **Fifteen** young men attended (that's **five** new engagements!) as both researchers and research participants, excellently led and supported by our Assistant Project Workers Sabrin and Zamin.



Calling all our brothers... Come help us create a space for you.



## Key insights so far:

- Friendship and solidarity is everything
- We appreciate becoming part of the wider community of care leavers but we also need a closed, safe space.
- Practicing English is our priority
- Football is a universal language!

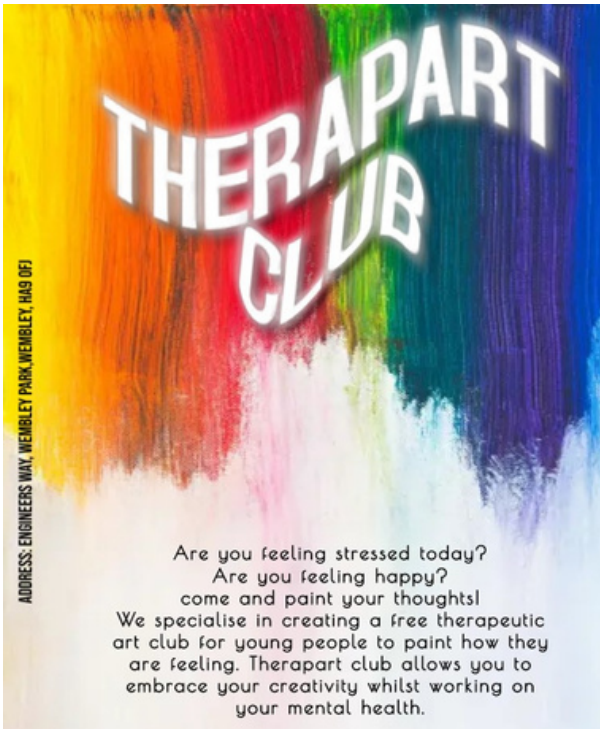
## And finally we recommend..

this [article by Adam Lent](#) discussing the need for the "acceleration of a fundamental shift in the delivery of public services" and goes on to say that we must reject **"..paternalist mindsets that regard service users as 'cases' to be processed by professionals"** instead adopting **"'strengths-based' approaches that recognise that those in need of support bring their own insights and capabilities to any personal challenge."**

This really goes to the heart of BCJ's approach to systems change where, day by day, we seek out **"..the insights and capabilities present in the communities of which service users are a part."** Reading this article is encouraging, noting that **change at the micro level "is having a transformational effect on what a service can achieve: Practical solutions to big challenges."**

**Mondays 5 - 6.30**  
**Civic Centre**

**Sundays 12 - 1.30**  
**Civic Centre**



ADDRESS: ENGINEERS WAY, WEMBLEY PARK, WEMBLEY, HA9 0PJ

**THERAPART CLUB**

Are you feeling stressed today?  
Are you feeling happy?  
come and paint your thoughts!  
We specialise in creating a free therapeutic art club for young people to paint how they are feeling. Therapart club allows you to embrace your creativity whilst working on your mental health.



**LOUD FUTURES & BRENT CARE JOURNEYS PRESENTS**

**SPEAK ABOUT IT, HEAL OUT OF IT**

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

A safe space to express, talk, share & understand life and all that comes with it.

Facilitated by Aaron Roach Bridgeman & Appia Douglas

**SUNDAY'S TWICE A MONTH**

Contact Appia for more info:  
07746 126 910

**LOUD FUTURES**

**care journeys**

**Believe in children**  
**Barnardo's**

Brent Civic Centre  
12-1:30pm

Don't miss out!  
Special guests coming soon...

**Wednesdays 5 - 7 \* Bridge Complex**



**BCJ EAT CLUB**

Learn how to cook tasty meals on a low budget

Learn healthy eating tips

**Come Eat With Us**

From 5pm - 7pm

Bridge Park Community Centre, Harrow Road,  
London NW10 0RG (18 mins away from Brent Civic Centre)

Contact Appia to confirm your place  
07746 126 910

**care journeys**



**THE BCJ WAY!**

**BCJ STATUS QUO**

Information, advice, and guidance on hot topics.

Sessions twice a month filled with laughter and unity!

from 5pm - 7pm

Contact Appia for more info  
07746 126 910

**BCJ day!**

**care journeys**