



# Manchester LINK

AUGUST 2009

## Dignity & Respect



No matter what health or social care services we use, we would all like to be treated with dignity and respect when we do. Therefore the Manchester LINK has made a commitment to try and improve Dignity in Care for local people.

Following initial research and meetings a working group consisting of interested LINK members decided to do a project around homecare.

The group felt that users of homecare agencies were particularly vulnerable and might need the LINK to have their voices heard. Members had different ideas about projects around homecare. One idea was to collect personal stories about their care from current service users. These stories would highlight what works well and what doesn't. Based on this we could then tell services what they need to do better.

In addition, the LINK is organising a Christmas party for local dignity champions in early December. This is to thank them for their efforts throughout the year and to let them know about the work the LINK is doing. It will be an

opportunity for champions to get to know each other, share their experiences, and discuss how they can improve Dignity in Care in the organisations they work for. This will help to change services for the better.

However, we would like to develop the work stream further and we need your help for that. So please get in touch with Valeska on 0161 214 3981 or by email to [valeska@blackhealthagency.org.uk](mailto:valeska@blackhealthagency.org.uk) with your views, ideas, and suggestions for projects and for how the LINK can help to improve Dignity in Care for the people of Manchester.

You are also welcome to join our working group or to **request our Dignity & Respect leaflet** with lots of information and resources.



## Sign up to become a Dignity Champion today!

Do you believe that being treated with dignity is a basic human right, not an optional extra? If the answer is yes and you want to help Manchester achieve care services that are compassionate and person centred, then you already are a dignity champion.

However, if you would like more

information on how you could promote dignity or would like to become more active in the campaign you can join us and become an official Dignity Champion online at [www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/dignityincare/BecomingADignityChampion/](http://www.dhcarenetworks.org.uk/dignityincare/BecomingADignityChampion/)

Alternatively, contact Valeska on 0161 214 3981 for a paper copy of the joining form.

## Tell us Your story!

Have you got a story to tell about using health and/or social care services? Then we would really like to hear from you!

At the moment we are especially keen to find out more about care services people receive in their own homes. Therefore, if you or someone you know is using homecare services we would like to come and talk to you. We are interested in all experiences (good or bad) and what you think of



the services you receive.

The LINK is an independent organisation and whatever you tell us

will be strictly confidential. We will not share the information with your service provider or anyone else unless you ask us to do so.

If you would like to tell us your story or find out more about this project, please contact Valeska on 0161 214 3981 or by email to [valeska@blackhealthagency.org.uk](mailto:valeska@blackhealthagency.org.uk).

## What is the Manchester Local Involvement Network (LINK)?

A network bringing together local people and organisations who want to improve health and social care services in the city.

To find out more or to register contact the Manchester LINK Support Team on 0161 214 3909 or e-mail: [manchesterink@blackhealthagency.org.uk](mailto:manchesterink@blackhealthagency.org.uk).