South Central England
GP Mental Health Commissioning Skills and Leadership Development Programme 2014/15

Programme Summary

Provided by East of England Strategic Clinical Network
Programme Overview

The purpose of this programme is to build on the Department of Health’s Medical Leadership Competency Framework (2010). The programme aims to provide support for existing Mental Health Commissioners on their path to becoming even more effective Mental Health commissioning leaders. Our programme is designed to equip participants with specialist knowledge of high quality service provision, commissioning, and support to develop the leadership qualities that are needed to provide high quality, safe care for our patients and their carers.

Our programme will centre around three key themes:

- Leadership Development - in order to support you in your clinical leadership.
- Commissioning skills - to support you in your vital role as commissioning lead.
- Mental Health clinical knowledge - To empower you to ensure parity of esteem in your work as Mental Health Commissioning lead.

The East of England Strategic Clinical Network has designed a programme in conjunction with its development partners to ensure a practical and innovative development programme. This programme has been reviewed and agreed by your SCN and aims to ensure that any time away from your clinical role is both respected and rewarding.

Programme Structure

At the East of England SCN we recognise the demands on your time and the need to provide a programme which focuses on local challenges and acts as an opportunity to share best practice with colleagues to discuss practical issues for patients and families in our local area. Therefore, we propose a regional approach to our programme and intend to run the first three modules (making up 4 full days of face to face development) in your area between November 2014 and February 2015.
If for any reason you are unable to attend a module event run in your SCN, please do not hesitate to let our Programme Co-ordinator know and they will provide you with the dates of alternative sessions run elsewhere.

**Key dates**

**September-October 2014**- You will be contacted by our Programme Co-coordinator to complete a short on-line questionnaire. This ascertains your views on the topic areas covered by this course, asks you for a self-assessment of your skills in Mental Health Commissioning and Leadership and the development and provision of Mental Health services in your area. The information gathered will be used to ensure that the programme is as specific and relevant to the needs of your CCG and Strategic Clinical Network as possible.

The Programme Co-ordinator is Charlotte Cummings, but Sally Kemp will be deputising for her between 9th and 19th September. Either Charlotte or Sally will make contact with you once you have registered.

**November/December 2014**- Our programme will be separated into five modules. Module 1 will be run as a 2 day residential workshop in a central geographical location which has been recommended by your SCN team. Module 1 is set to commence in November 2014 dependent on your area. Module 2 will then be a further one day.

Modules 3 consists of masterclasses by expert speakers tailored to your local area needs (as determined by survey responses at the beginning of the programme).

Module 4, a local improvement project, will run concurrently with other Modules between November 2014 and March 2015, when the programme ends.

February-March 2015- A final celebration day will be held in your region to enable networks to agree next steps in their local area.
**Frequently asked questions**

1. Who has commissioned this programme?

   Our programme is sponsored by Geraldine Strathdee, the National Clinical Director for Mental Health in conjunction with NHS England.

2. Why is the East of England Strategic Clinical Network providing this programme rather than my own SCN?

   The delivery of this programme was subject to the NHS England procurement process and East of England was the successful provider for the South Region (covering South West SCN, Thames Valley SCN, Wessex SCN and Kent, Surrey and Sussex SCN).

3. Is the East of England SCN providing this programme across the whole of England?

   The programme of work was commissioned by NHS England by region, splitting England into three sections (North, Midlands and East, South). Each area was awarded to separate providers and the East of England SCN was successful in being commissioned to deliver the programme for the South Region.

4. Will my travel expenses be reimbursed?

   CCGs would be expected to cover travel costs and to support attendance on the programme.

5. Are my overnight accommodation and food costs included?

   Yes, as per details included in this pack.

6. What are the rules for ‘back-fill’ payments whilst I am attending this programme?
Locum costs are available for up to four days to cover attendance at the programme modules. CCGs would be expected to cover travel costs and to support attendance on the program. Please contact our Programme co-ordinator for further details. Payment of up to £500 per day will be made by the SCN to the participant's CCG on receipt of invoice.

7. What does the ‘improvement project’ mean in practice?

Each participant will be invited to complete a local improvement project which will enable improvements to be made in the short term to Mental Health commissioning in your area as a result of this course. This project is intended to ensure that all learning can be applied to your local health economy and that the programme is practical and of real value.

8. When is the programme likely to finish?

The programme will formally close on the 31st March 2015.