

Together for Better Mental Health: Co-creating services that reflect lived realities & shared expertise

Michael Ryan, Clara Meehan, and Dr Donal O'Keeffe



Motivation for Co-Creation in HSE mental health services

- Human rights: "Nothing about us, without us"
- Mental health recovery = holistic
- Lived experience = vital source of knowledge
- Ensures right service, right time, right place



Description of Partnerships

Recovery Principles and Practice Workshop









Impact of Partnerships

Recovery Principles and Practice

- 50 clinicians attended in 3 Integrated Healthcare Areas
- Enhanced understanding of the recovery approach, confidence in working, understanding of personal family, and clinical perspectives
- "insightful", "helpful", "informative", "practical" and "it humanises distress"

Enhancing Family Engagement training

80 webinar attendees

- Enhanced clinician confidence in engaging with families and family member understanding of the resources available to them + a sense of inclusion and agency.
- "importance of kindness", "focusing on family recovery", "addresses consent", "connecting on a human level"

Shared reflection on our partnership experience

- 1. Cocreation = difficult, not linear, requires a humbleness and openness
- 2. Lived experience = a vital source of knowledge, insight, and wisdom
- 3. Asks clinicians to hold professional knowledge tentatively and be open to having critical conversations
- 4. However, organisational commitment required

