

day **BREAK**
Family Group Conferences

ANNUAL REVIEW 2011

A new
view on an old
problem



TESTIMONIAL

“I was enormously impressed by Daybreak’s family group conferencing. The training provided was comprehensive and expertly delivered and made the course extremely challenging for all those that took part; but it was also relaxed, engaging and informative which allowed the trainers to get the very best out of the group.

It gave our service the understanding of FGC we needed and will be used for service and individual development.

If you’re looking for high quality FGC training Daybreak are definitely the people I would recommend.”

CEO, Commission Agency

WHAT WE DO

Looking for innovative and cost effective solutions to:

Child welfare and safeguarding?

Adult welfare and safeguarding?

Protection against domestic violence and abuse?

Anti social behaviour?

Any other family or community issue needing a plan?

We believe that families and communities make the best decisions for themselves but to do this they need:

- Good preparation to meet, discuss and plan
- High quality information
- The widest involved group of family and friends
- Private time on their own

We know from research and our own experience that Family Group Conferences (FGC's) and Restorative Conferences achieve excellent outcomes in this respect. And we are proud to be pioneers in this field.





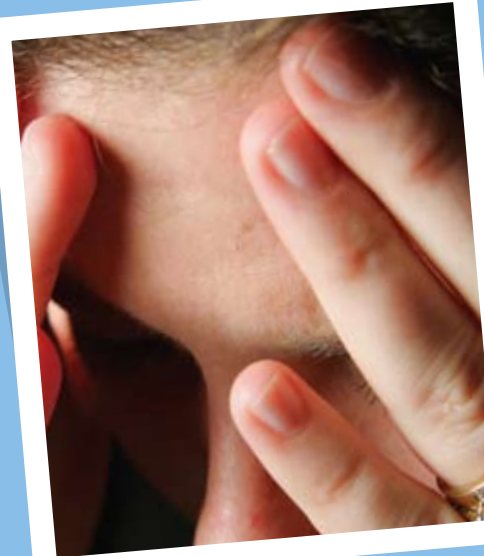
Vulnerable Adults...

may have problems with

- Abuse
- Mental health issues
- Domestic violence
- Drug or alcohol dependency
- Needing the right support for independence
- Child protection

So if you are working with them, we are here to help you.

Please ask for a copy of our business case paper with Hampshire County Council which provides evidence of good outcomes and cost savings.



Domestic Abuse

FGC's can help to address violence and domestic abuse in the widest interpretation - physical, emotional/psychological, financial, and sexual.

They are valuable where couples need to make plans for a safer future, or for separated parents who want to ensure safe contact with their children.

It is also proven to be effective where a young person is acting out learnt violent behaviour.



Child Welfare

FGC's are successfully used to address issues of:

- Child protection and safeguarding
- Re-unification of looked after children within their extended families
- Diverting children from care
- Preventing families entering the court system
- Contact



Restorative Practices...

are an effective resource for dealing with situations where someone, or a number of people, has been harmed.

eg: where anti social behaviour is impacting on the wellbeing of an individual or a community.

By engaging with those affected to help acknowledge harm, this makes reparation and so restores wellbeing.

This fair process often leads to a fair outcome.

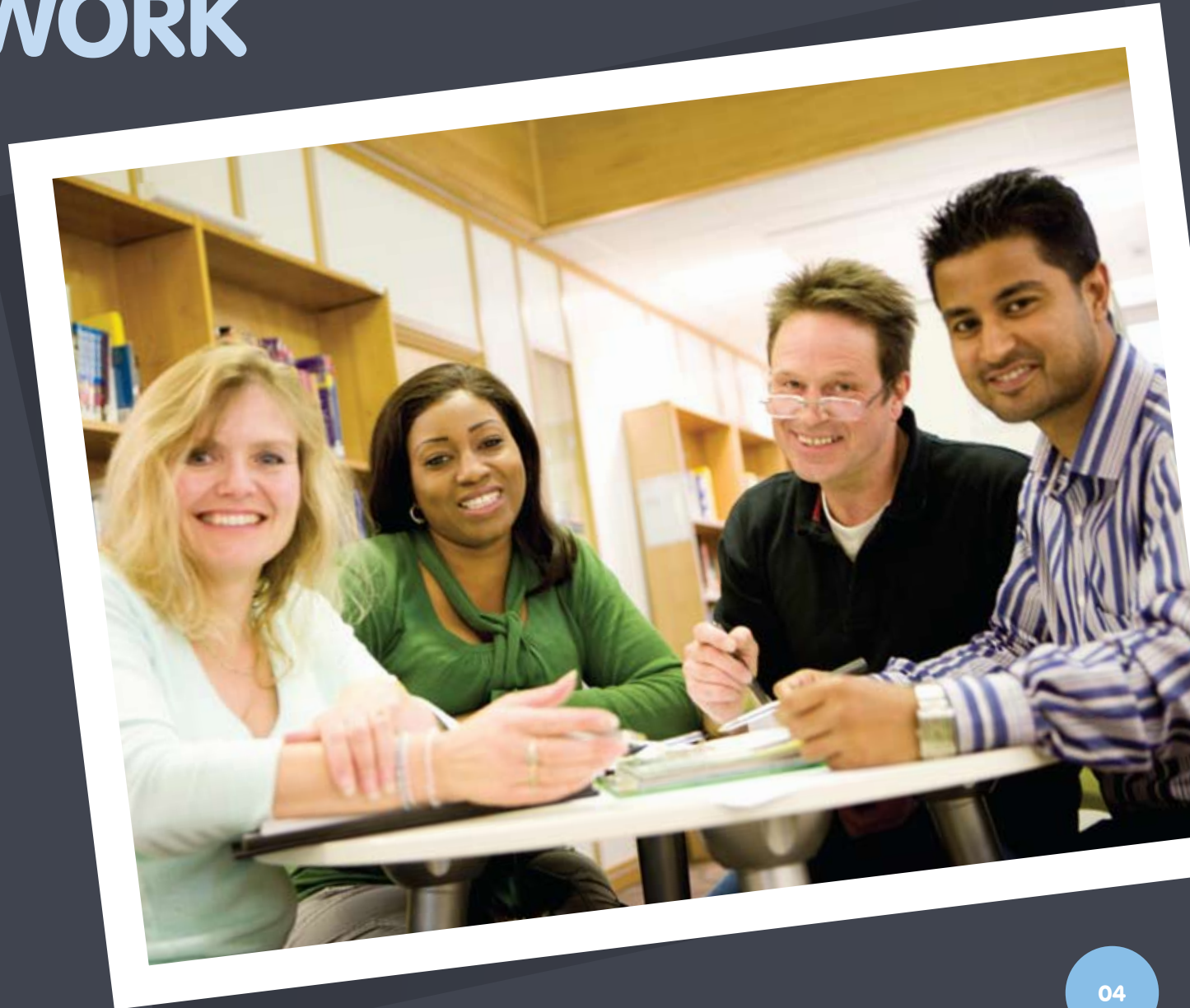
WHERE WE WORK

Our programmes are typically commissioned by Local Authorities who want to reduce their costs and still achieve the best outcomes to problems such as:

- diverting children and young people from care whilst ensuring their welfare and safety
- ensuring families are consulted before court proceedings
- promoting the safety of vulnerable adults
- tackling anti social behaviour

We are able to provide support in terms of either a full and ongoing provision of a family group conference or community conference programmes; or the purchase of an individual FGC. Our specialised team of experts also delivers high quality and accredited training for FGC coordinators, and highly valued training for referrers, and managers.

We additionally provide experienced and practiced based consultation for managers and commissioners.



HIGHLIGHTS

During the past year:

- 95% of children who were at risk of becoming Looked After were deflected from this following a Daybreak FGC meeting
- 86% of children already accommodated had a plan made by their family to return to live within their extended family network
- Daybreak piloted a successful programme for Community Conferences to address anti-social behaviour
- We were awarded Investors in People status
- Daybreak hosted the 2010 FGC European Network Meeting
- We were recognised by the Open College Network as a Learning Centre to deliver accredited training on a national basis
- We hosted a national conference to share our pioneering work with vulnerable adults



TESTIMONIAL FROM FAMILY

"My daughter should have talked to us when she found herself pregnant, but I now think she done the right thing talking to you.

Until the day I die I be grateful to you for how much you helped to make our children such fantastic parents themselves. They adore their baby, we have been blessed by god and I thank you with all my heart."

TESTIMONIAL FROM YOT FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER

"Thank you for all the hard work and support you have given myself and my manager as well as the family. This has been a great success and I believe that things would have been very different if the FGC did not go ahead."



HOW YOUR MONEY IS SPENT

Our direct service includes:

- Training, supporting and managing independent coordinators
- Facilitating and managing FGC referrals
- Providing FGC training for social workers and other service providers
- Management time and expertise
- Linking closely with the commissioning agency
- Continued practice development of our staff to ensure you receive the highest service
- Seeking feed-back from service users inc children
- Developing new work
- Providing Quarterly and Annual Reports

LOOKING FORWARD

This year we are looking forward to:

Launching our national programme for the purchase of Family Group Conferences

Developing our Coordinator Training accredited by the Open College Network

Growing all our training and consultancy across the UK

Continuing to achieve the best results for children, vulnerable adults and their families, and for commissioners of services

OUR PEOPLE

You can see more details about who is who in Daybreak by visiting our website on: www.daybreakfgc.org.uk. This will tell you more about our trustees, staff, Daybreak co-ordinators, and our volunteers

We remain motivated and excited about what we do because:

- Our work achieves excellent results for children, vulnerable adults and their families
- We are committed to delivering the highest quality training and consultation
- Our work is growing and developing as we work together to continuously enhance what we do and how we do it
- We enjoy our work with families, and with the commissioners of our services
- We are committed to promoting the values of Daybreak – see our Value Statement below

VALUE STATEMENT

A belief that families have the **ability** to make decisions about members of their own families

A commitment to the **empowerment** of families to make those decisions

The demonstration and promotion of **mutual respect**

The wish to promote the active **participation** of all involved in the process

A recognition and valuing of the roles and responsibilities of **agencies**

The recognition and valuing of **difference**



CASE STUDIES

VULNERABLE ADULTS IN TERMS OF THE ELDERLY

Mr A is in his nineties and has suffered many years of physical domestic abuse.

As a result of the Family Group Conference Mr A has been enabled to fulfil his wish to stay at home. The situation has improved significantly to the extent that a care package is no longer required as his family are now providing all the care required and family relationships have been sustained.

The risks to the client are substantially decreased and the intensive care management role in this case has been reduced and is now one of review.

The case was closed to safeguarding and referred to Occupational Therapy. Without the F&C the client would have moved to a residential home with the associated costs to Adult Services.

CHILD WELFARE IN TERMS OF A FRAGMENTED FAMILY

Born in South Africa (SA) to a prostitute, A was handed over to a family friend with whom she stayed when her mother left for the UK.

Married and with a second child the mother returned to SA and brought the child back. But things did not go well with extensive debt and pending eviction and the girl not being well cared for. A care order was imminent.

With an F&C referral, Daybreak contacted the family friend in SA who put herself and her family forward as carers. With the Mother in agreement, social services checked out the SA family and the friend was flown to the UK for a family group conference.

The child has returned to SA to live with her new family and keep in contact with the wider family. The local authority has saved thousands.

DOMESTIC ABUSE IN TERMS OF LEARNT VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR

15 year old J often physically assaulted her mother and was verbally and mentally abusive. She had previously witnessed domestic violence in two of her Mother's relationships and although J's 3 adult brothers now needed to be aware of the problem, J felt that they would not be supportive.

Having talked to the coordinator, J agreed that her entire family could be at the F&C and they were asked to consider the safety and vulnerability of BOTH J and her mother.

After triggers and issues had been discussed the family came up with a good acceptable plan. 8 weeks later with no major incidents, J said 'I feel I have support from the whole family' her mother felt the meeting had helped because 'J felt there was someone on her side.'

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES IN TERMS OF FAMILY INTERVENTION

With boys aged 18 and 15 and a girl aged 5, Mrs D drank excessively and had regular arguments with her children that spilled into the communal areas of her flats. The 18 year old held loud, intrusive parties, and he and the guests would verbally abuse and threaten neighbours when asked to turn down the music. A noise abatement order had now been served.

Residents felt intimidated and frustrated about the family's apparent lack of regard and its effect on their mental wellbeing.

A structured restorative meeting helped all involved to gain a greater understanding of the others position and the difficulties the behaviour was creating. They were able to come up with a mutual agreement and plan. Said (a previously sceptical) housing officer 'that was great, a really good outcome.'

HELPING



We can help you by:

- Meeting for a no obligation exploratory discussion about how we might enhance the well being of children and vulnerable adults
- Explaining how we can reduce your costs
- Assisting you with the Court's requirements for family consultation
- Training and supporting your team to deliver high quality FGC's

You can help us by:

- Telling others if you like what we do
- Telling us if you think we could do things better!

TRAINING TESTIMONIALS

“I was very impressed with the training. I thought it was effective and enjoyable, with a good balance between information giving and role playing. It was clear that the trainers had a great deal of experience at the sharp end, which was well communicated. The handout (given out on the last day) was also good. And they had a good sense of humour!”

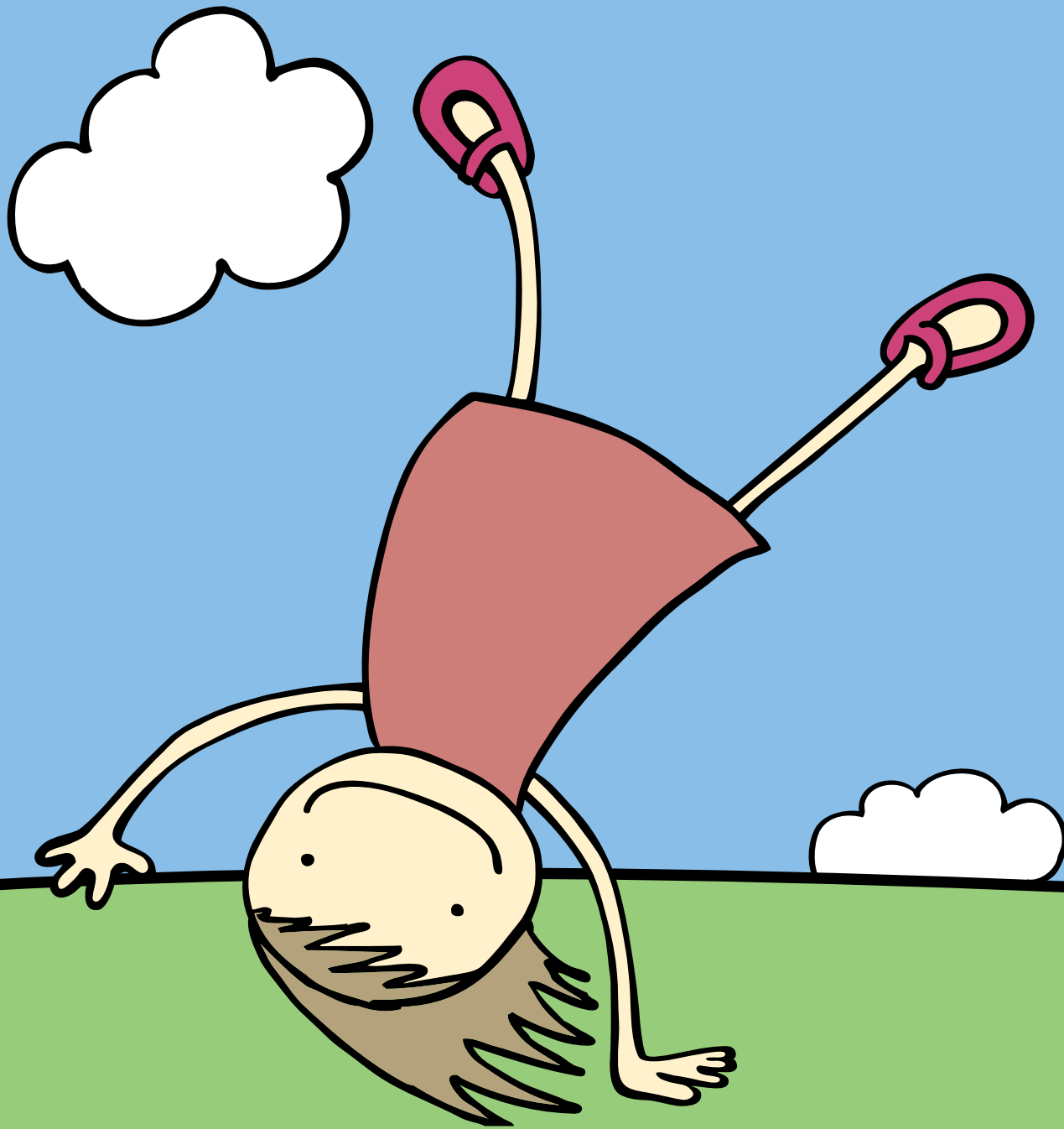
Mediator and Restorative Practitioner

“First class training provision delivered by experienced practitioners and expert trainers. Quality mix between information, discussion and role play that provided all our mediators and restorative practitioners with effective grounding in FGC.”

Training and Development Manager

“The training that Daybreak offers is realistic and consistent. I was made to feel as though I was part of an FGC through role play and therefore experienced the genuine angst that is likely to be experienced during a real Family Group Conference.”

Assessment Officer



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Charity Number 1077607



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

