

Errata

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Unit: CHCMHS001 Work with people with mental health issues

Resource: Learner guide

Update: Version 1.2 updated to Version 1.3

Affected pages: 9, 33, 34

Use the attached pages to update the affected document.

Commitment to meeting the needs and upholding the rights of persons

- ▶ Inform people about their rights at every stage of treatment and care.
- ▶ There are laws (for example, the state-based mental health Acts) to ensure that rights of the person are upheld. The National Standards for Mental Health Services provide guidelines for mental health service standards.

Encouragement of personal growth and development towards recovery and wellness

- ▶ Treat people as individuals who have strengths and lots to offer their community.
- ▶ Encourage the person to manage their illness by being empowered with knowledge and information rather than becoming isolated and withdrawn from society.

Principles and guidelines of mental health work

Principles are the main beliefs that help to determine shared goals. It is essential to identify and define the key principles of mental health work. This way, people can share the same understanding and work towards common outcomes.

Some important mental health principles and their application to mental health work are listed here.

Focus on the person

Address a person's disability but do not focus only on the disability.

Focus on the person's abilities and strengths and work with them to improve their quality of life.

Access and equity

Access refers to providing services to people based on their needs and goals. Equity relates to promoting fairness and being able to provide people with the services they need. It involves removing unfair and avoidable barriers to services so vulnerable groups are not disadvantaged.

Community delivery

Community-delivered service provision is when you treat persons in the least restrictive environment, such as their home. This means avoiding admission to hospital where possible.

Ensure there are enough community services to support this principle.

Citizenship

Citizenship is the principle that supports the social inclusion and participation in society of the person with a mental illness. This requires advocating on their behalf to help them achieve their hopes and aspirations for recovery, rather than just treating their illness. By providing support to them to engage or re-engage with the community, you can help them achieve wellness and meet their recovery goals.

Part B

Read the case study, then answer the questions that follow.

Case study

Marie, a support worker at a women’s health service, is facilitating a group for mothers affected by mental illness. She is meeting Fatima, a mother of three young children, for the first time. Fatima cannot speak very clear English but the social worker at the mental health service has suggested she come to the group. Fatima seems reluctant. She explains that her extended family and local community have not been told that she has a mental illness. She thinks they have probably guessed, but no one talks about it.

1. Provide an example of how Marie might respond to Fatima’s situation in a way that is respectful, provides hope and helps to build trust.

2. What is discrimination and how could it impact Fatima’s recovery?

3. Why is it important that Marie supports Fatima’s right to direct her own recovery?

4. What are Fatima’s rights to privacy and confidentiality? What role does the organisation have in maintaining these?

5. How can Marie find out more about Fatima’s cultural and social background if she continues to offer support to her?

6. Why should Marie support the principle of access and equity when working with Fatima? Give an example with your response.

7. How can Marie apply the mental health principle of citizenship in her work with Fatima? Give an example with your response.
