



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

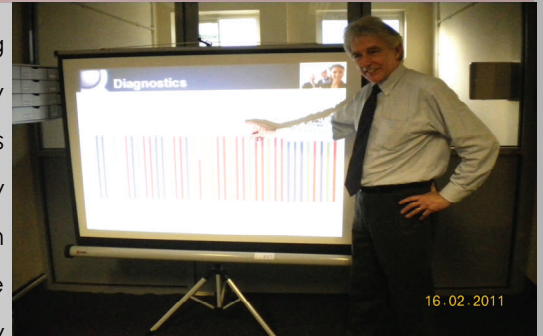
APASENTH SECURES INVESTORS IN PEOPLE STATUS

March 2011, Issue— 12

EXCITING

- **Changes that affect your day to day life**
- **Residential Trip**
- **Autism Awareness**
- **New premises in Croydon**

After successfully awarded and maintaining quality assurance of CQC (Care Quality Commission) and Quality Mark, APASENTH has now achieved a new triumph. It has recently been awarded the prestigious "Investors In People" recognition . We went through the planning meeting with assessor on 18 January 2011 and assessment visits were completed on 15 and 16 February 2011.



Investors In People (I.I.P.) is a business improvement tool designed to improve performance competitiveness and employee management. To achieve improvements people need the right knowledge, skills and attitude and the Investors in People Standard gives organisations a framework to ensure this happens.

People have been selected at random by the assessor from a cross section of the organisation: from top-management and throughout the organisation. Some focussed selection where people are chosen because of their specific work-role that supports the standard being met, or situation: e.g., new to a role.

The Investors in People standard is broken down into ten clearly defined indicators. The key to success with I.I.P. is to meet the criteria across the ten indicators and associated evidence requirements. Management board, senior management team and staff co-operate their best to achieve this quality assurance by meeting all standard.

PERSONALISATION AWARENESS MEETING

In 2007 The Government published "Putting People First" vision and commitment to finding new ways to improve social care in England. This paper outlined the Government's vision of enabling individuals to live independently and have complete choice and control in their lives. Personalisation, often referred to as the complete transformation of adult social care, also means making universal services such as transport, housing and education accessible to all citizens. Personalisation is about putting individuals firmly in the driving seat of building a system of care and support that is designed with their full involvement and tailored to meet their own unique needs.

To aware parents and carers, Opportunity Zone arranged an awareness meeting on 26 January 2011. 43 parents / carers attended and received information about personalisation and how Tower Hamlets taking steps towards it's implementation. Parents and Carers shared their ideas and discussed different issues among themselves.



Director Mahmud Hasan MBE had attended along with other staff to support and co-operate with parents / carers. "Group discussion and question and answer session was truly effective" one of the parents present observed.

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YOUR RIGHTS AT WORK - A SHORT FILM MADE BY PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

Our learners took part in a 10 week Training on Challenging Disability Discrimination at work successfully and contributed well in making a film on the issue while even performed in it as well. They were awarded certificate of achievement in the Learners Forum meeting on 4th of March 2011. A copy of the film (in DVD format) was also handed over to them. The meeting was chaired by Shuly Begum and Opportunity Zone manager Habibur Kabir awarded the certificates to them .

Those who did not take part in the above mentioned training were very much cheerful for the achievements their friends had attained. The total performance by the trainees genuinely inspired others to be engaged in future trainings of this kind.

Habibur Kabir and his team congratulated the jubilant learners. Very well done every one!



OPPORTUNITY ZONE

Social care roadshows

The 'Adult Social Care is Changing' roadshows were held across the borough (from January 17-22) to raise awareness about the personalisation of social care.



Personalisation is a new approach that gives adults with long-term care needs the flexibility and freedom to choose and buy support that is personalised for them.

The roadshows provided free information and advice for adults and unpaid carers about the help and support available in the community, including support for older people, disabled people and vulnerable adults. Currently more than 6,000 residents receive support from the council and its partners to be independent and stay safe.

Two of learners Juber Choudhury and S Shadi have taken part actively in the road show as they were responsible for recording events.

Both Juber and Shadi hugely encouraged and enjoyed sessions. Shadi said "I love to participate in events like this more and more and I had been valued by residents and professionals."

Reception desk

It is a great news that Opportunity Zone has established a reception desk for the project which had brought an opportunity for learners to develop their administrative skills. Learners take part in rotate to manage duties of the receptionist. Learners, parents, staff, professionals and external visitors get information and guide about opportunity zone from the reception. Learners found it a challenging task for them and are keen to involve them in this opportunity. Learner Sheuly said "it is really an opportunity to take responsibility of a receptionist and I always wait when my turn will come."



RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO ALNWICK

We are delighted to inform you that APASENTH's Short Break Carer's Residential Trip 2011 to; Breamish Valley Cottages, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 4LW was held on 18th March-22nd March. The centre and accommodation is fully furnished with disability access on a full board basis which includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

The planned course of activities was proven to be worthwhile and an enjoyable experience for everyone just as it has been in the previous years.

The Residential trip is for the parents/carers of adult(s) with disabilities. It is for those parents/carers who are in need of a break from caring of their disabled ones. The maximum number of participants from each household is not more than 3; this should consist of 1 registered carer of disabled adult and up to 1 or 2 family members.

This year, a total number of 39 Parents/Carers attended this exiting trip to enjoy an unforgettable experience.



21.03.2011



HOME AND COMMUNITY SERVICES (HCS)

Skills for Care – Common Induction Slandered (refresher – NEW)

Home and Community Services have started to deliver the new SfC – CIS with last batch of Care Worker recruited (20) and they completed their Skills for Care – Common Induction Training Programme and all mandatory training for care field and started their work upon receiving CRB and two References.



Qualifications & Credit Framework

NVQ Level 2 in HSC

HCS have enrolled two batches (10 & 13) for NVQ Level 2 in Health and Social Care in December 2010. These will be our last NVQ batches as this qualification being discontinued by the Ofqual and NQF. As a result the qualification will now be awarded under Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF) and it is divided into three levels: **1) Certificate, 2) Award and 3) Diploma**, which have begun from January 2011.

Electronic Monitoring System (Ezi Tracker)

APASENTH is practicing the Ezi Tracker with all of our Adult team. It has been informed by LBTH that they will start paying according to the Ezi Tracker time very soon. We are strictly monitoring the use of Ezi Tracker by all Care Worker.



CHANGES THAT AFFECT YOUR DAY TO DAY LIFE

Increases in NHS prescription and dental treatment charges



New regulations have been issued increasing the charges payable for NHS prescriptions and dental treatment. In force from 1 April 2011, the National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Amendment Regulations 2011 (SI.No.518/2011) increase the single NHS prescription charge from £7.20 to £7.40. In addition, in force from 1 April 2011, the National Health Service (Dental Charges) Amendment Regulations 2011 (SI.No.519/2011) increase the charges payable for Band 1, Band 2 and Band 3 courses of dental treatment increase by 3% respectively.

Government announces new restrictions on crisis loans from April 2011

The government has announced new restrictions on crisis loans. The changes, which the government says are designed to protect the social fund budget that might otherwise 'run out before Christmas', are, from April 2011 -

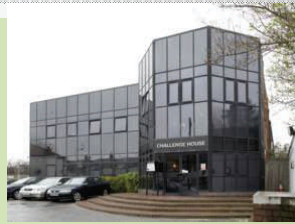
- crisis loans won't be available for items such as cookers and beds, although some help will be available for people following a disaster such as flooding;
- the rate paid for living expenses will be cut from 75 per cent down to 60 per cent of benefit rate; and
- A cap of three crisis loan awards for general living expenses in a rolling 12 month period will be introduced.

Thoughts

We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom. We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.



NEW PREMISES IN CROYDON



Please note that Croydon Opportunity Zone has moved to a new purpose built premises. Address and contact details are as follows —

CROYDON OPPORTUNITY ZONE

CHALLENGE HOUSE

UNIT— 2, 4 & 6 616 MITCHAM ROAD

CROYDON SURREY CR0 3AA

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We are celebrating

AUTISM AWARENESS WEEK

Monday 28th March 11am

What Is **AUTISM?**

ASPERGERS' SYNDROME?

What Do You Really Know?

Think. Act. Transform lives!

Who Do You Know With

AUTISM or ASPERGERS'?

Can/Do You SUPPORT

AN AUTISTIC PERSON OR CHILD

AT WORK, AT PLAY OR

OUT & ABOUT

IN YOUR COMMUNITY?



AUTISM AWARENESS WEEK

Monday 28th March 11am -2pm

Sunday 27th March - Saturday 2nd April

Launch Programme Brady Arts Centre E1

When	What's On	Timings
11.00am	Tea & Coffee available (all day)	15mins
11.15	Introduction – Mai Gilliam/Stewart Harris	10mins
11.30	Speaker: Peter Martin - Community Learning Disability Service	20mins
12.00	A Parent & Spouse Speaks: Barbara & Delyth - Living with Autism	20mins
12.20	Sharing Information and Break	10mins
12.30	Speaker: Dean Beadle - Living with Asperger's	40mins
1.10	Autism Ambassadors Chat	5mins
1.15	A Befriender Speaks: Svetlana - Supporting an Autistic Child in the Community	10mins
1.45	Information Sharing	10mins
2.00pm	Thanks & Wrap-up	

SUPPORTERS:

Families with Autism, APASENTH, Contact a Family, Idea Stores & Libraries, MAP Squad, Tower Project, (PACSEN) Parents Advice Centre, Phoenix School, National Autistic Society, Child Development Team, Community Learning Disability Service, Metropolitan Police and the V & A Museum of Childhood



When	What's On	Time	Where
Sun 27 th	Adam (12a), Screen 3 Free screening	1.00pm	Rich Mix Cinema, E1
Mon 28 th	Launch Event:- Speakers; Information & Support	11am – 2pm	Brady Arts Centre Whitechapel E1
Tues 29 th	Information & Support Stalls; & Entertainment	11am – 2pm	Idea Store Chrisp St E14
Wed 30 th	EarlyBird Get-together all parents invited!	11am – 1pm	Phoenix Sch. Bow E3
Thurs 31 st	Information & Support Stalls; & Entertainment	11am – 2pm	Idea Store Whitechapel E1
Sat 2 nd April	Family Day Celebrations: 'SAME BUT DIFFERENT' Schools' Flag Display, MAKING SENSE Launch, Entertainment, Film Clips, Information Stalls, and Family Activities	11am – 4pm	V & A Museum of Childhood Bethnal Green E2



APASENTH

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Turning challenges into opportunities



APASENTH is one of the leading BAME organisations, working for people with learning & multiple disabilities, their carers and parents, in Tower Hamlets and Greater London since 1984.

www.apasenth.org.uk