

Carer Engagement Events Programme 2024

Welcome to the first of the 2024 Carers Engagement Events Programme for January to March. The events are set out per month and relate to the needs of the people you are caring for.

At all these events there will be an opportunity for you to learn about a topic and to share the issues you face with our team of **Engagement Workers**.

The workers can then work with you to ensure that the various **Health and Social Care services** in Hertfordshire are aware of these issues and how we can all **work together** to improve services. They are also an opportunity to meet new carers and share your knowledge and experiences with each other.

To book a place on an event please click the links attached to the events below or email

contact@carersinherts.org.uk

or call **01992 58 69 69**

January

For all Carers

[Carer Representation Group](#)

Come and join the **Carers Representation Group** so that we can discuss the issues that you want referred to the Carers Co-production Board in February.

The Co-production Board meets quarterly and is chaired by **Chris Badger**, Director of Adult Care Services and **Tinu Adewoye**, an unpaid family carer. Members include carers and officers from social care, health, and the voluntary sector.

The Board receives reports about the delivery of the **Carers Strategy** and service developments of interest to carers. It is also somewhere we can take issues – particularly when they have been raised by a number of carers and represent a wide experience.

This group is led by our Head of Policy and Engagement **Roma Mills**.

ONLINE

Date: Tuesday 9th January 2024

Time: 7pm to 8.30pm

As the weather is likely to be cold and miserable in January, we will meet online via Zoom.

To book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject "Carer Representation Group" or call 01992 59 69 69 or online by [CLICKING HERE](#).

For all Male Carers

[Men's Carer Support Group](#)

We would like to invite you to join our Men's Carer Support Group where you can meet with other carers, share information, support each other and chat over a cuppa. This also an opportunity to share issues you face as a carer and consider how we can work together to raise awareness of these issues.

This group is supported by our Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Team Leader **Umaar Khan**.

ONLINE

Date: Tuesday 16th January 2024

Time: 10.30am to 11.30am

Where: Online via Zoom

To book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject "Men's Carer Support Group" or call 01992 59 69 69 or online by [CLICKING HERE](#).

We look forward to welcoming you to the group.

For all carers in East and North Herts

[Share your experience of hospitals in East and North Herts NHS Trust](#)

The Clinical Excellence Nurse for East and North Herts NHS Trust would like to hear about carers experiences of the services the trust provides at its hospitals to understand any issues and improve services. The trust operates the following hospitals:

Lister
Hertford County Hospital
New QEII Hospital
Mount Vernon Cancer Centre

More information about the trust can be found here <https://www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk/hospitals/>

ONLINE

Date: Monday 22nd January 2024

Time: 7pm to 8.30pm

To book your place, [CLICK HERE](#)

and

Face to Face

Date: Wednesday 24th January 2024

Time: 10.30am to 12.30pm

Venue: Coffee Lounge, Lister Hospital

To book your place, [CLICK HERE](#).

For this event free parking vouchers can be provided on a first come first served basis and refreshments and sandwiches will also be provided. Please inform us of any dietary requirements when booking your place.

For carers of someone with Mental Health and/or Drug and Alcohol support needs

[Listening to Carers and Planning for Meetings in 2024](#)

Join us to tell us the issues you face as a carer caring for someone with mental health or drug and alcohol support needs. This will also be an opportunity to tell us the subject you would like to learn more about speakers you would like to hear from.

This is informal and lunch will be provided and will be led by our Engagement Workers, **Ian Pearce, Ruth Speller, and Sarah Williams**.

Face to Face

Date: Thursday 25th January 2024

Time: 12pm noon to 2.30pm

Venue: Birchwood Leisure Centre, Longmead, Hatfield, AL10 0AN

To book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject "Listening to Carers and Planning for Meetings in 2024" or call 01992 59 69 69 or online by [CLICKING HERE](#). Please inform us of any dietary requirements when booking your place.

Hertfordshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (HPFT) Digital Strategy – a refresh

HPFT would like to hear carers views to guide the refresh of their **Digital & Data Strategy**, ready for the next 5 years (2024-2029). Your feedback will influence the priorities and implementation plan of the strategy by identifying key gaps and examples of good digital practice that you may have experienced from other health and social care providers.

We would like to invite you to join a one-hour face to face focus group where **Paul Bradley** (Chief Clinical Information Officer) and **David Maruta** (Deputy Chief Information Officer) will run through some of the background work and then ask for your feedback on priorities areas and key issues.

You will be able to provide a wider range of views to ensure the strategy and annual plans that follow are well rounded, as HPFT are keen to see what carers would want to see and what they may be more worried about or want the Trust to avoid.

This event will be supported by our Carer Engagement Manager **Steve Probyn**.

Face to Face

Date: Wednesday 31st January 2024

Time: 10am to 11am

Venue: Wellfield Trust Room, Birchwood Leisure Centre, Longmead, Hatfield, AL10 0AN

To book your place, please either email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject "*HPFT Digital Strategy Consultation*", call our office on 01992 58 69 69, or online by [CLICKING HERE](#).

February

For carers of someone with Mental Health and/or Drug and Alcohol support needs

Support Group for Parents and Carers supporting Children and Young People under 18

- Is your young person struggling with poor mental health?
- Would you like to speak to people who understand?
- Would you like to learn more about strategies to help your child towards recovery?

If you would like support for yourself then please come along to our next **Parent and Carer Online Support Group** led by our Engagement Worker **Sarah Williams**.

We always welcome new parents and carers.

ONLINE

Date: Tuesday 6th February 2024

Time: 7pm to 9pm

To book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject "CYPMHS Parent and Carer Online Support Group", or call 01992 59 69 69 or online by [CLICKING HERE](#)

For carers of adults with a Physical Disability and/or Learning Disability, and carers of an Autistic adult

Direct Payments - RESCHEDULED

Have you ever wondered if there was a different way to receive support and services from Hertfordshire County Council?

Have you heard of **Direct Payments**?

Carers in Hertfordshire are organising some talks (one in person and one evening zoom event) delivered by **Hertfordshire County Council Direct Payment Manager** who will introduce you to the Direct Payments scheme. Our Engagement Workers **Kailee Tyler** and **Srigarbha** will be leading this event.

Face to Face

Time: 10.30am to 1pm

Venue: Great Ashby Community Centre, Whitehorse Lane, Stevenage SG1 6NH

Rescheduled details can be found [HERE](#).

and

ONLINE

Time: 7pm to 8pm

Rescheduled details can be found [HERE](#).

To book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject “*Direct Payments Online*” or “*Direct Payments Stevenage*” or call 01992 59 69 69 or online via the links above.

For all Carers

[Improving Hospital Discharge – Carers Consultation Group](#)

The local NHS and Herts County Council (HCC) are working together to improve peoples’ experience of hospital discharge.

This includes situations where someone:

- returns home without the need for a care package,
- returns home with an existing or new care package,
- has a period of residential rehabilitation,
- returns to or enters residential care.

We want to make sure that unpaid carers have the chance to influence this work, so we are setting up a **Carers Discharge Group** to comment on any proposals and to raise issues.

This group is led by our Head of Policy and Engagement **Roma Mills**.

Details for the first meeting are as follows:

Date: Friday 16th February 2024

Time: 10.30am to 12pm noon (followed by a sandwich lunch)

Venue: Robertson House, 6 Six Hills Way, Stevenage SG1 2FQ (free parking on site)

We would like to involve any carers who are interested in joining the group, but it would be helpful if you have had experience of hospital discharge within the past 12 months.

To book your place please email contact@carersinhert.org.uk with the subject “*Improving Hospital Discharge*” or online by [CLICKING HERE](#), and let us have a note of any dietary requirements before **Thursday 12th February**.

For Male Carers

[Men's Carer Support Group](#)

We would like to invite you to join our Men's Carer Support Group where you can meet with other carers, share information, support each other and chat over a cuppa. This also an opportunity to share issues you face as a carer and consider how we can work together to raise awareness of these issues.

This group is supported by our Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Team Leader **Umaar Khan**.

ONLINE

Date: Tuesday 20th February 2024

Time: 10.30am to 11.30am

Where: Online via Zoom

To book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject “*Men's Carer Support Group*” or call 01992 59 69 69 or online by [CLICKING HERE](#).

We look forward to welcoming you to the group.

For carers for an adult with a Learning Disability

[Workshop on Deputyship and Powers of Attorney](#)

We are working with **Hertfordshire Law School** to deliver a workshop for carers of adults with Learning Disabilities around the use of **Deputyship** and **Powers of Attorney**.

A legal expert from the school will give a talk regarding these two issues and our Engagement Workers **Kailee Tyler** and **Srigarbha** will be leading this event.

Face to Face

Date: Monday 26th February 2024

Time: 11am to 1pm

Venue: University of Hertfordshire de Havilland Campus Room 319, Mosquito Way, Hatfield AL10 9EU

To book your place please email contact@carersinhert.org.uk with the subject "Deputyship and Powers of Attorney" or online by [CLICKING HERE](#).

For carers of someone with Dementia and carers of an Older Person

Drop in Information Events

These events are for carers supporting someone with dementia or an older person. Representatives from a variety of organisations will be available for you to talk to. The following organisations will be attending

- Admiral Nurses
- Age UK
- Alzheimer Society
- Occupational Therapist - Kate Granger
- HCC Money Advice Unit
- The Red Shed (Stevenage only)
- Hertfordshire Library Service
- Carrie Fitzgerald – Direct Payment Service Broker – Purple
- HILS (Hertfordshire Independent Living Service)
- Herts Care Line
- Richard Stenhouse – Adult Care Services, St Albans Older People Team (St Albans)

There will also be an opportunity to try **Craniosacral** Therapy (a non-invasive light touch alternative therapy) from Suzanne Edgington of **Holistic Edge**.

Our Engagement Workers **Diana Davis** and **Vicky Kelly** will be supporting these events.

Face to Face

Date: Tuesday 27th February 2024

Venue: St Joseph Church, Bedwell Crescent, Stevenage, SG1 1NJ

Time: 10.30am to 1pm

To book your place, [CLICK HERE](#).

Date: Thursday 29th February 2024

Venue: Marshalswick Community Centre, The Ridgeway, St Albans, AL4 9TU

Times: 10.30am to 1pm

To book your place, [CLICK HERE](#).

Or to book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject “Drop in Information Event Stevenage” or “Drop in Information Event St Albans” or call 01992 59 69 69

March

For carers of someone with Mental Health and/or Drug and Alcohol support needs

[Support Group for Parents and Carers supporting Children and Young People under 18](#)

- Is your young person struggling with poor mental health?
- Would you like to speak to people who understand?
- Would you like to learn more about strategies to help your child towards recovery?

If you would like support for yourself then please come along to our next **Parent and Carer Online Support Group** led by our Engagement Worker **Sarah Williams**.

We always welcome new parents and carers.

ONLINE

Date: Tuesday 5th March 2024

Time: 7pm to 9pm

To book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject “CYPMHS Parent and Carer Online Support Group”, or call 01992 59 69 69 or online by [CLICKING HERE](#)

For Parents/Carers of Children and Young People (aged 5-18 years) with Special Education Needs and Disability

Information Event

Carers often tell us how difficult it can be to find the information they need so we have decided to hold a **Parent Carer Information event**.

A variety of organisations will be attending, including representatives from Hertford County Council, NHS, local charities, and support groups. You will have the opportunity to talk the organisations about their services and have one to one chats and meet our Engagement Worker **Kailee Tyler**.

Face to Face

Date: Monday 11th March 2024

Time: 10am to 2.30pm

Venue: Roe Hill Hall, Briars Lane, Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL10

To book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject “*Parent Carer Information Event*”, or call 01992 59 69 69 or online by [CLICKING HERE](#)

For carers of someone with Dementia or carers of an older person

Tea, Cake, and Conversation

This meeting is aimed at those who have a **caring role for an older person, or a person diagnosed with Dementia** who either do not have an email or find it difficult to access our online information.

Many of our events are advertised on our website and carers are invited by email. As you are not currently receiving our emails, we would like to invite you for tea, cake, and conversation. This will be an opportunity for you to meet with other carers in a similar position and give us an opportunity to explain all the services Carers in Hertfordshire offer. We would also like to hear from you about the challenges you have in your caring role and if there are ways, we can support you.

Date: Tuesday 5th March 2024

Time: 2pm to 3pm

Venue: Hertford Methodist Church, Ware Road, Hertford, SG13 7DZ

Carers do not need to be registered with us to attend the meeting. Please pass on the details of our Tea, Cake, and Conversation to anyone who you think may benefit from our support or who simply would like to interact with other carers.

If you, or anyone you know who may be interested, are unable to come to this meeting but would like to talk to us, you can call our office on 01992 58 69 69 and ask to speak to our Engagement Worker **Diana Davis**.

To book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject "Tea, Cake, and Conversation", or call 01992 59 69 69 or online by [CLICKING HERE](#).

For all Male Carers

Men's Carer Support Group

We would like to invite you to join our Men's Carer Support Group where you can meet with other carers, share information, support each other and chat over a cuppa. This also an opportunity to share issues you face as a carer and consider how we can work together to raise awareness of these issues.

This group is supported by our Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Team Leader **Umaar Khan**.

ONLINE

Date: Tuesday 19th March 2024

Time: 10.30am to 11.30am

Where: Online via Zoom

To book a place please email contact@carersinherts.org.uk with the subject "Men's Carer Support Group" or call 01992 59 69 69 or online by [CLICKING HERE](#).

We look forward to welcoming you to the group.
