

Person Centred Planning

Person Centred Thinking

At the heart of person centred planning must be the values that underpin person centred thinking. Using the person centred tools in this toolkit does not necessarily make you a person-centred practitioner.

It is essential that these tools are only used to compliment person centred thinking and when they are appropriate to the individual you are supporting. The tools can be used as you see them or can be adapted to suit individual needs.

There are many ways to complete the tools with a young person and it is dependent on the individual. Please see 'What is Person Centred Planning' in the PCP section of our toolkit for more information.

You will find templates and examples that have been used throughout the Real Opportunities Project in this document. The examples given have either been developed by staff based on experiences with young people or have had name changes, photo's removed and details amended to keep them confidential.

Person Centred Planning

Tool

PATH (Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope)

What is it?

PATH is a tool that you can use when the young person has a specific goal or dream for the future, to work out the actions that need to be taken in order to make that happen.

When using PATH, a group of people chosen by the young person get together and use the PATH template and graphic facilitation to develop an achievable and realistic goal for the future based on 'the dream' and implements backwards planning to create a step by step path to achieving that goal.

It has a very clear structure and commits people to tasks in a given timescale

How to use it:

Using a very large sheet of paper with the PATH drawn on it, the group are guided by the facilitator through the process and record the plan in words and pictures.

1. They look first at the person's dreams. No limits or constraints are placed on the dreams or the ideal future that they illuminate, so that a person can indicate what matters most to him or her. Then, on the basis of the person's dreams and ideal future, specific goals that are both positive and possible are identified.
2. The group then imagine possible and positive achievements/goals that could be made over the next 1-2 years
3. This is then compared to how their life is 'now'
4. The group then identify people that they can enrol to help the person get to their goals and what they need to do to stay 'strong' and motivated.
5. The group identifies ways to build strength to accomplish the goals (for example, what skills need to be developed or what relationships maintained).
6. They then plan the steps needed to achieve the goals. First they identify long term steps (3-6 months).
7. Then identify shorter term steps (1-3 months)
8. Lastly, the first steps are identified.

(See template on the next page)

A key to this planning process is identifying who will be responsible to do what to help achieve a person's goals. This is a way in which the person him or herself, family members, other community members, and service agencies can make specific commitments to take action. Usually, opportunities to review the pathfinders' goals and update actions are provided.

PATH Template

Now (3)	People to help me (4)	Stay strong (5)	1st Steps (8)	Next one month (7)	Next three months (6)	Goal (2)	Dream (1)
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Example



