

***** Special Announcement *****

The Future of Stepping Stones!!!



From April 2011:

- The majority of Stepping Stones Courses will no longer be available at low cost and/or free. This is partly because the grant we receive is likely to be substantially reduced.
- It is also because the majority of other grants we receive run out in March 2011.

Will there be any Stepping Stones Courses from April 2011?

- Yes, but we will have to charge the full cost for most of the courses. This is because the courses will no longer be fully subsidised. We will be putting together a price list for all courses in Spring 2011.
- A course will go ahead only if enough people wish to join it.

What can I do if I can't afford to pay for a Stepping Stones Course?

- **FIND OUT IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO GET A PERSONAL BUDGET!!** – People who have been assessed by the Community Mental Health Team as having either 'substantial or critical' mental health needs could be eligible.
- **WHAT IS A PERSONAL BUDGET?**
 - **FOR INFORMATION ON PERSONAL BUDGETS: SEE NEXT PAGE**

Personal Budgets

WHAT IS A PERSONAL BUDGET?

- This is where the services provided to you by community mental health services are replaced by actual money giving you a **Personal Budget**.
- You can use this personal budget to better your social care needs how you think is best.
- You can choose to spend your Personal Budget on joining a Stepping Stones Course

How do I find out if I can get a PERSONAL BUDGET?

- Do not delay! Ask your Social Worker or Care Co-ordinator
- If you do not have a Social Worker or Care Co-ordinator come and speak to us and we can advise you what to do next.

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