

A challenge Siraaj Nadat



Quality of Life Review of Supported Living





Quality of Life review - 61 people living independently in their own homes.



We looked at how people are part of their local community. And if they have friends.

We worked with 61 people in Sandwell





Changing Our Lives





Stayed in assessment and treatment unit in the last 3 years

What we found lots of people were isolated with little connections in their communities

People did lots of 'activity' but had no personal connections. Changing Our Lives



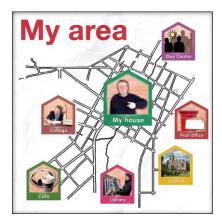


One way to help with this challenge



Community mapping







- We plan with individuals, creating a community map. This tells us where the person has links in the community and where the gaps are.
- We work in local areas, finding accessible opportunities for people. This is often about finding the right person in a local area who can open doors for disabled people e.g. Joan owns the local café and is happy to employ someone with a learning disability to help wait on tables.





Person in the community who can unlock an opportunity

- Disabled woman writes, visits local writing group and makes friends. This young woman found it difficult to meet friends without disabilities before she went to the writing group.
- Young man on the autistic spectrum, with an interest in machines and flying goes to an air cadets group and tries the flight simulator. He likes the marching and atmosphere of the meeting and gradually gets to know people.