



PROMISE INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE

Vision: Establish a global alliance that repeatedly redefines the frontiers of humane care in Mental Health.

Ambition: Propagate globally the practice of establishing a culture of positive and proactive care across the patient journey and eliminate reliance on force in Mental Health. On reaching critical mass the cross pollination between partners with free flowing knowledge, resources and experience will provide the innovations that are needed to repeatedly redefine the frontiers of care. A vision that is shared worldwide will provide the launching pad for new standards in collective expectation and action. Together we will be bigger than the sum of our parts.

Redefining Together Frontiers of Humane Mental Health Care

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Working together towards common goals is one of the fundamental pillars of the recovery movement, whether it be a recovery journey for an individual in which a professional and a patient map the road ahead together or it be one for societal change. With a goal in mind when we organize ourselves with our allies we can achieve the unachievable. From eradicating small pox to decoding the human genome, from the international space station to mapping the universe, our collective history is full of examples of how effective we are working together. We hope our alliance of like-minded organizations will set new standards in Mental Health Care. So much so that positive and proactive care will become the norm and we will eradicate any reliance on force in our services.

How it would work?

Organisations allied to mental health would be encouraged to join the alliance and demonstrate their commitment to creating humane services. For example those involved in training and education could show their commitment by using the PROMISE training modules while training future doctors and nurses. Those currently providing health and social care could show commitment by investing in proactive care initiatives that have successfully reduced reliance on force. There will be an expectation to share success and failings so that all can benefit from individual organizational journeys. The alliance hopes to grow organically through personal networks and connections with the expectation that each partner will recruit a further two organizations. Effectively in due course we will be able to establish continental and national chapters of PROMISE with regular net meetings of partner organizations to share progress.

Clearly there are a number of benefits. Reducing the use of force would have a positive impact on staff and patients. Direct or indirect involvement in restraint can cause physical and/or psychological harm to both groups.

Working Together



The network would offer unique opportunities to members who aspire to make meaningful changes to the way mental health services are delivered. Organisations would have a chance to share knowledge, best practice and tap into a pool of innovation. Over time a bank of wide ranging, evidence based proactive care tools and resources, relevant to different settings, would be established.

Members would be able to access the Promise toolkit/training package. The toolkit provides a deeper understanding of how staff can be taken on an organisational journey, the barriers they might face and ideas for overcoming these challenges. Those who have joined the alliance would also be able to share the learning from their own improvement journeys and support each other to make changes. Signing the alliance would be a way for organisations to demonstrate their commitment to reducing the use of force and coercive practices and show they are striving to make improvements. In time it will create a movement for social change.

The groundswell of initiatives that have come bottom up has been the most heartening part of the project.

www.ThinkPromise.com hopes to collate and celebrate the kind compassionate care and the innovation that our frontline have displayed. Onwards and upwards.