



How will it benefit my community?

- Up to 400 people receiving care and support will have greater community connections driven by their own wishes and interests
- Up to 10 different care/support providers that deliver support to around 6,000 people will have learnt and applied new techniques and changed organisational practice to deliver inclusion
- Up to 10 time banks will be working with people living in formal care settings and around 200 community time bank members developed relationships with people in care settings
- National evidence on how community inclusion for people living in formal care settings is possible with this being in the public arena and influencing debate about delivering care and support for disabled and older people

For more information on the project and how to be involved

Please contact Madeline Cooper-Ueki
 call 01225 789135
 or email Madeline.cooper-ueki@ndti.org.uk
 or visit www.ndti.org.uk/time-to-connect

Why Time to Connect?

Research shows that disabled and older people are increasingly faced with social isolation when receiving care and support because of the low priority given to interaction with their 'community'.

It's time to change...It's time to connect.

A different way of working that leads to better lives...

This ground-breaking project will show how it is possible to improve the lives of older people and people with learning disabilities living in formal care settings by changing the working practices and 'mind-sets' of the organisations and staff who currently provide care and support.

The way we work enables people to sustain and develop new community connections and lead more fulfilling lives.

We use a range of specialist inclusion tools and ideas that we have developed and applied over several years and link this to local time banks, through a partnership with Timebanking UK (TBUK).

Learning from the project will be published and shared nationally to influence future policy and practice in formal care settings.

"Margaret has always been involved actively in the community and although she is 97 years old she is still enjoying being a part of it and being able to give something back"

Feedback from Margaret's family following the start of the programme



How does it work?

We work with providers of care and support to older people and people with learning disabilities in three different locations. Over a period of 15 months we work with organisations to:

- Identify staff members to be Community Champions who we train in using a range of tools and interventions that have been shown to promote greater community inclusion. These staff members then go on to mentor their colleagues
- Create learning environments where staff work directly with people they support to identify their interests, wishes, gifts and assets in order to help them choose community connections that are relevant to them
- Work with senior managers to identify what working practices, systems and cultures they will change so that staff are better able to help achieve community inclusion
- Work with local time banks to develop their ability to support people with significant support needs to contribute their own assets and gifts to the time bank and use this to instigate and maintain community connections

This cycle will be repeated for a second 15 months with more people, using either different time banks and/or care providers whilst building on prior learning. The work will be evaluated to provide 'live' learning throughout the project to show how and why change occurs whilst generating knowledge about how to replicate good outcomes in other locations.