

Mental Health BME Communities

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Commissioning

Two papers previously submitted to Southwark Health, Adult Social Care, Communities and Citizenship Scrutiny Sub Committee

- **Psychosis in BME Communities (incidence and access) - Philippa Garety PhD (SLaM)**
- **Psychotic disorders in ethnic minority populations in Lambeth & Southwark – An introduction – L&S Public Health Team September 2013**

Key findings support that:

- **There is an expected increase in the number of people presenting with Psychosis in Lambeth and Southwark linked to the population growth in some BME groups**
- **There are clear differences in health outcomes for people with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) who experience poorer health than average and are at increased risk of premature death due to higher rates of Diabetes, Coronary Heart Disease and Hypertension**

Access to health services

- There are legitimate concerns about ensuring the BME communities obtain access to primary care as the evidence suggests that people who have good access to health care have better health outcomes
- SLaM data shows that often black people come into contact with SLaM services in crisis and at later stage in the illness and need coercive measures to manage their care
- Early detection and access to treatment and care can reduce the impact of illness, duration and length of stay in hospital
- Public health is working with both Lambeth and Southwark Councils and CCGs to improve access to information and to build the case for appropriate interventions to prevent mental illness and promote wellbeing. A Programme Manager has been appointed to help mobilise practices to collect ethnicity data, extract a baseline for Southwark and to ensure patient participation in feedback.

Black Majority Churches (BMCs) - Pilot

- Paper – Working with BMCs to improve the mental health & wellbeing of Southwark People
- Southwark has around 240 BMCs in the borough with an estimated 20,000 people gathering to worship in Southwark each week. Southwark has the largest number of African and Caribbean residents of all the London boroughs
- Based on research by University of Roehampton (Being Built Together – A Story of New Black Minority Churches in the London Borough of Southwark June 2013)
- National community events about mental illness within the Sikh, Muslim and BMC faith organisations & Church of England 'Time to Change' commitment to tackle mental health stigma
- SLaM's Charitable Trust 'Faith and Mental Health Pilot' with BME churches in 4 London Boroughs including Southwark is training faith leaders to promote mental health awareness

Added value of BMC's Pilot

- **The role of faith groups in reducing stigma and discrimination – using community faith groups as a resource**
- **Support faith communities to understand more about mental illness and our services / how to keep well / seek help earlier to prevent crisis presentation Prevention and promotion of mental wellbeing with young people, especially young black men**
- **Faith leaders to become mental health champions cascading their learning**

Helping to Build Capacity and Engagement

- **Tackle stigma and discrimination – leads to social exclusion**
- **Must not make assumptions about what people know and understand**
- **Promote good knowledge and provide accessible information about health and social services**

Joint Mental Health Strategy for Southwark

- **Review of Partnership Arrangements in place for delivering mental health services in the borough – endorsed lead commissioner role of the CCG**
- **Paper - Development of a strategy that sets out the vision, outcomes and key actions to be taken across partners to deliver better mental health for the population of Southwark –Backdrop - significant reforms to the strategy and policy landscape for public services, impetus for integration and impact of economic climate in the context of growing demand**
- **Transformation - promoting independence and wellbeing through an emphasis on prevention, early intervention, outcomes based practice, care nearer home and personalisation**
- **Equality and Fairness in service provision at the heart of the MH strategy**

Discussion

- **Questions welcome**