

Sandra Marshall, Social Worker

Sandra (Sandy) Marshall qualified in 1998 with a Diploma in Social Work from Stockport College, part of Manchester University.

Sandy has been working in the social care arena for 32 years with a variety of different service user groups.

Sandy has spent the last 12 years working in both the voluntary and public sector supporting disabled people to access publicly funded support packages through a variety of different funding streams including, direct payments, independent living funds, and access to work. For much of this time Sandy has been involved in direct work with the Disabled People's movement and their organisations, involved in challenging discriminating attitudes, policies and procedures and breaking down the barriers that disabled people often experience, enabling them to achieve full meaningful lives.

Sandy has experience in working with some of the large national social care organisations such as The Social Care Institute for Excellence, involved in contributing to the development of research documents *Service User Driven Culture Change(1)*, Skills For Care, contributing to focus group, forums, and research, and The General Social Care

Council in relation to the social work profession.

Sandy worked for four years for the British Council of Disabled People now re-organised as the United Kingdom Disabled People's Council, and The National Centre for Independent Living (NCIL). Sandy managed a nationwide project funded by the Commission for Social Care Inspection (now The Care Quality Commission) between 2004 and 2008. This involved recruiting, training and supporting disabled people to provide CSCI Inspector's with a report based on the views from people using particular home care agencies and residential care. It also included supporting people and co-ordinating the Expert's by Experience participation in the inspection of Adult Care Departments and support from local authority adult care departments.

Sandy's most recent position has been as a Project Manager within the Derbyshire's "Making Care Personal – My Choice – My Life" project. This project steered through the social care transformation of Derbyshire's Adult Care Services through to Self Directed Support. Sandy's key task was to support the workforce in their knowledge of Direct Payments, ensuring that people had all the



right information about how to use their funding, what they could spend their funding on, how to employ Personal Assistants appropriately and safely, providing an awareness of employer's responsibilities and employee's rights in a social care setting.

As a disabled person, Sandy is passionate about the options available to disabled people to live independent lives, ensuring that disabled people can have equality of opportunity whether this is in education, housing, employment, leisure, relationships or otherwise. Sandy uses person centred approaches which empower individuals, and works within the framework of the social model of disability.

Sandy joined Bush & Company in 2011 undertaking Case Management work and supporting individuals with severe and catastrophic injuries, organising the support and rehabilitation packages which best suit their needs and maximise their independence.



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