



# All Together Better 2 Leadership course

**Thank you for asking for more information about All Together Better 2**

**In this application pack, you will find the following information:**

- Practical information - where and when the course will be held
- More detail of what the course is about
- Who can apply for a place on 'All Together Better 2'
- What you need to do to apply for a on the course

**We look forward to hearing from you!**

## **Practical Information**

### **What is Altogether Better 2 about?**

All Together Better 2 is the second national course, it will identify, train, support and sustain a national network of champions. The course is designed for family carers and people who support them through work in social care, health services, education and leisure. All Together Better 2 is about building new alliances, which will become powerful and make real differences to the future of vulnerable people.

For many years people have been working to increase social inclusion and to develop citizen leadership. Their aim has been to enable disabled people, those who use mental health services and older people (alongside their families and the people who provide services) to make informed decisions so they can get the best life possible. Altogether Better 2 builds on this work and is about creating new alliances.

The course design is based on existing leadership development courses that have a successful track record, such as Partners in Policymaking™, Sharing the Challenge and Kindred Spirits.

The first Altogether Better course held in 2009/10 was a tailor-made programme. It incorporated all the key elements of the above leadership courses. All Together Better 2 will provide information and build participants' skills so that they gain the knowledge and confidence needed to campaign and advocate for a better future for vulnerable people in our society. A strong values base of inclusion and equality underpins the programme. Participants will be listening, learning, planning and creating together.

## Who is Altogether Better 2 for?

There will be 50 participants from all over England

We want people to apply for a place on the course who have first-hand experience of issues that affect disabled people.

### You can apply if you:

- are a parent or relative of someone who needs extra support because of disability (including people with learning difficulties, sensory or physical impairments and people who use mental health services), or
- work for social care, health, education, leisure, local government or third sector organisations and support older people, people with long-term illnesses

### You must also:

- think that life for people who need extra support could be better
- want to improve the way things are now (but you don't always know where to start)
- be passionate about everyone's right to be included
- be committed to action!
- want to work with others to make life better for people who need extra support
- be committed to coming to every session.

The course will include people who are representative of all major ethnic, cultural and religious groups in the country.

# The Programme

Altogether Better 2 will provide a safe place where people can learn, share, contribute, question, gather information and plan together. The course will be as inclusive and accessible as possible.

Each of the six two-day sessions will cover a topic and issues that are important to family carers, the people that they support and people who provide services.

## Topics will include:

- exploring why things are how they are now
- understanding and relating to the system
- what is available and what is possible
- getting the right support
- making change happen locally and nationally.

## 'Listening, Learning, Planning and Creating Together'

On completion of the course you will have a greater understanding about;

- Why things are the way they are.
- What is the latest leading edge thinking
- What is available and what is possible.
- How to work in partnership
- How to be part of shaping the future
- How government works and policies are
  - made
- How to get your point over to people

You will have the chance to meet other people who are leaders, become a national champion. You will be connected with the strong network of families and people who provide support working together across the country.

You will hear from speakers who have expertise and passion on issues that are relevant to family carers and the people who support them.

## Where is it?

The Course will be held at;  
Loughborough University  
Leicestershire  
LE11 3TU

## Course Dates

**1st Session, 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011** - History and perception of disabled people, the parents movement, self advocacy movement. - why things are the way they are.

**2nd Session, 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> April 2011**- Person Centred Planning -the various approaches and tools

**3rd Session, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> May 2011** - What's available now and what's possible- policymaking at regional level

**4th Session, 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> May 2011**- Health and communication - Work and getting support whole life planning

**5th Session, 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> June 2011**- Policymaking at national level

**6th Session, 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> July 2011**- Making connections and graduation

## What will it cost?

The course is Free

- You will not have to pay anything
- to come to "All Together Better 2"
- We may be able to help with some travel expenses.
- This will be arranged on an individual basis.

'All Together Better 2' will be a safe place where people can learn, share, contribute, question, gather information and plan together.

## What some people had to say about the courses we run...

*Partners in Policy Making' are leaders and innovators in ensuring people who use services and their carers move towards an equal relationship with service providers and commissioners.*

*I believe they have developed an approach, which can teach us much as we design the new National Expert Carers Programme. For years, we have struggled to genuinely empower people. 'Partners' have transformed rhetoric into reality.*

*Their work is an inspiration to policy makers and professionals who are committed to changing the balance of power as we create modern Health and Social Care systems.*

*Ivan Lewis, Minister for Social Care 2008*

*Margaret from Cornwall said:*

*" Partners gives me a sense of purpose, a reason. It sets my values straight and gives me value. It is gives an opportunity to share knowledge, experiences, stories, hopes, dreams and fears in a place of*

*mutual support and understanding. It is a safe place to release and come to terms with emotions. It nurtures, gives confidence, empowerment, vision and skill. For me it is a journey of discovery and delight as I seek and gain knowledge, from people who have travelled or still travel on my road. I am both proud and humbled by the whole experience. I truly feel that Partners in Policymaking is the greatest investment I can make towards achieving a positive future for my daughter, myself and hopefully many others."*

*Hi Lynne. You are the one who brought Partners to us & I would like to thank you!*

*Before I became a 'Partner' I didn't even know I was a carer; I thought I was just a lone mum!*

*I now work full time in something I am passionate about.*

*Ben had never received any support from the county council. He is now the first recipient of an Individual Budget from LD in Essex! He has a Personal Assistant independence, choice and SELF ESTEEM!*

*Our lives have been transformed by Partners.*

*Thank you Lynne. Charlotte PIP Eastern Region  
Charlotte Morse, Essex Carers Network*

*Kindred Spirits has prepared me with ideas and inspiration as well as practical solutions to some of the problems faced. It has been an excellent way to meet like minded people from all different agencies, parents, speakers and share ideas and expertise. It has been uplifting!  
(SENCO)*

*We now have a bank of information /resources to be tapped into. People on the course were so keen to work together to make inclusion work.*

*I came philosophically in agreement with inclusion, but concerned about how we could put it into practice. I now feel that we need to think creatively, not just think about the barriers. It was great to speak informally to parents about the issues raised.*

*I had no idea about the difficulties in accessing medical facilities etc.*

*By the last session, it was refreshing and in a way surprising to find that so many people had changed, to be fully committed to inclusion. Listening to all the suggestions put forward for how to achieve this was brilliant!*

*I dreamed these dreams five years ago, but didn't believe they would every come to fruition. Thank you Kindred Spirits!!*

*A most enjoyable course, I can honestly say that I have not been bored with it at any time, it has been good (and an achievement) to have people from health, social services and education together, I am sure that it will have an impact on services and improve things for all children.*

*Positive outlook for people with learning difficulties, it has been a long time since I have been on such a positive professional course.*

## **How we will make a decision about who gets a place?**

You need to send us your application to apply for a place on the course by:

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2011**

The 'All Together Better 2' team will meet and look at all the applications.

We will choose 50 people from ... who will represent parents and relatives who are family carers and people who work social care, health, education and leisure from across England.

We will let everyone know if they have a place by the 11<sup>th</sup> February 11.

## **How to apply for a place on 'All Together Better 2'**

If you want to apply for a place on the course please answer the following questions. You can do this in whatever way is easiest for you:

**Fill in the application form provided**

**Send it to us by post or email to;**

**Gaynor Cockayne**

**In Control Partnerships**

**Chapel Lane**

**Wythall**

**West Midlands**

**B47 6JX**

**Email [gaynor.cockayne@in-control.org.uk](mailto:gaynor.cockayne@in-control.org.uk)**



# 'All Together Better 2' Application Form

Please tell us how we can get in touch with you

Your Name:

Your Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Tell us about something you have done that you are really proud of.

Why do you think that you should get a place on the course

What do you hope to get out of attending  
'All Together Better 2'

Tell us a bit about yourself and your family

What would other people say were your 3 best qualities and why?

Do you have any dietary or support needs that we need to know about?

Please return this form to:

**Send it to us by post or email to;**

**Gaynor Cockayne**

**In Control Partnerships**

**Carillon House**

**Chapel Lane**

**Wythall**

**West Midlands**

**B47 6JX**

**Email [gaynor.cockayne@in-control.org.uk](mailto:gaynor.cockayne@in-control.org.uk)**