
VOLUNTEER

Could you be an advocate or a befriender?

Webcas is always looking for volunteers to join the many who are already involved.

Webcas welcomes people from all walks of life who have a little time to spare. No formal qualifications are required. Short training sessions and ongoing support are available from the Webcas staff team.

WEBCAS

provides an independent voice for adults with a learning disability so that their wishes can be heard and their rights protected

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WEBCAS
ADVOCACY

An
Independent Voice
for People with
Learning Disabilities



Please spare a moment to read this leaflet

Background

WEBCAS (West Berkshire Citizen Advocacy Service) is a well established charity, operating from two offices in Wokingham and Thatcham.

It was originally founded in 1993 to assist people with a learning disability who had moved from long stay hospitals in the West of Berkshire to residential care homes in the local community. Volunteer Citizen Advocates were recruited by the charity to visit, befriend and provide an independent voice for these former patients and also to others with a learning disability who were living in similar settings.

The charity has now expanded its work in Berkshire and Oxfordshire to provide a wide variety of advocacy for people with learning disabilities.

WEBCAS has a dedicated team of staff, volunteers and an enthusiastic Board of Trustees. It provides advocacy and supports self advocacy groups for over 250 people.

Our Services

As well as the original citizen advocacy service we provide:

PROFESSIONAL & CRISIS ADVOCACY

Many issues surrounding our clients may be urgent and complex and this is carried out by our trained staff team.

BME PROJECT

Webcas are working with Reading Borough Council on an exciting project in which we are providing an advocacy service to black and mixed ethnic residents in Reading.

SELF ADVOCACY GROUPS

The It's My Life Group in Newbury is part of Webcas and supports it's members to express their opinions on issues that may concern them.

Webcas is funded by the Learning Disability Development Fund to support two self advocacy groups in Wokingham, CLASP and Take Notice. They both campaign to improve the quality of life for people with learning disabilities.

PERSON CENTRED PLANNING

Webcas employs a Person Centred Planning Co-ordinator. PCP enables people with learning disabilities to have more choice and control over their own lives.

How We Can Help

Advocates will work to understand their partners needs and put their views forward

Advocates will ensure their partners understand the choices available and explain their decision to others

Advocates will support their partners at official meetings

Advocates will provide practical help in many ways. For example, accessing services, developing skills, coping with a crisis and moving home

Advocates will speak up on behalf of their partners when they are unable to do so themselves

Advocates will never impose their own ideas

Advocates will always be on their partners side

