

Nurture Development

Development - Redefined

Commissioning & Service Transformation: Through the lens of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD)

A Strategic Approach to Implementing Asset-Based Community Development

A course aimed at senior leaders/teams in organisations looking to commission ABCD at a strategic level or to transform their organisation to work through the lens of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD).


There is increasing recognition of the power of communities and of the potential within these communities and neighbourhoods of citizens themselves to identify what changes need doing, and to lead those changes. An approach and understanding that has been accelerated by the response to the Covid 19 pandemic.

At the heart of effectively nurturing that community response has been Asset-Based Community Development. However, shifting an entire system or organisation to work in an asset-based way can be challenging and needs effective service transformation or commissioning, backed with a strategic approach.

This new course from Nurture Development highlights how this can be achieved and gives participants the knowledge and skills to bring about the required changes at that organisational level.

This on-line (with live interactive facilitated sessions) based course is aimed at senior leaders/appropriate teams within statutory and/or third sector organisations who have responsibility for commissioning or for significant service delivery and transformation, or teams/organisations working together in partnership in this area. This includes Local Authorities, National Health Service Organisations and larger VCFS and NGO's.

Participants will gain a deep understanding of Assed-Based Community Development (ABCD) and asset-based approaches and how these can be used as an approach to community development that involves local people identifying and mobilising existing assets to make the social, environmental and economic changes that are important to them. Participants will examine emergent practice from the UK, Europe and world-wide and will explore methods to apply this through the use of commissioning or service transformation. This process of crucial inquiry will be used to inform their own practice and to create a platform for individual, organisational, community-led and system wide change. It will inform the organisation, and create a



baseline, for understanding the potential outcomes for the organisation, communities and partners, including social return on investment.

The course will be delivered by Cormac Russell, Managing Director of Nurture Development, a leading exponent on ABCD internationally, and Mick Ward who is now a Senior Associate, at Nurture Development, having recently retired from leading on ABCD and wider health and care commissioning in Leeds, (See pen pictures on site). They will be supported by contributions from senior and influential ABCD practitioners working in a broad range of settings.

Prior to the course, Nurture Development will work with assigned leads from the participating organisation(s) to establish organisational readiness and to ensure the course content directly supports their requirements.

The Course consists of 5 day-long modules, delivered through an effective on-line interactive system and direct engagement with Cormac Russell and Mick Ward

For participants there will be lifelong access to pre- and post-course materials to assist further learning and implementation and a debrief with Nurture Development to assist in action planning for the organisation.

There is also the potential of further mentoring/executive coaching on the delivery of ABCD from Nurture Development if organisations wish to take this up. If interested contact Mick Ward for further discussions

The training is both cutting edge and current, hence will deal directly with the issues and dilemmas of the day, which are faced by participants, currently for example, all our workshops take due cognisance of a) COVID-19, b) global economic downturn, c) structural racism, d) environmental crisis.

The course is recommended for between 12 and 25 participants.

The total cost to the organisation will be £10,000 – Including the pre work engagement, course delivery, post course access, and a debrief session with Nurture Development.

Contact Mick Ward for an initial discussion wardmick@rocketmail.com

