

Medway & Swale Advocacy Partnerships

We cover the whole of the Medway and Swale area.

====

Appointments can be made at locations convenient to our clients.

Medway & Swale
Advocacy Partnerships.
Lingley House,
Commissioners Road,
Frindsbury,
Kent.
ME2 4EE

Telephone: 01634 713739

E-mail: advocacy@msap.org.uk

Internet: www.msap.org.uk

ACCESS TO LINGLEY HOUSE:

By foot: The private road owned by Castacrete is not ideal for pedestrians

Please contact a member of staff at the office to discuss visiting arrangements.

October 2009

Minority ethnic communities.

MSAP has an advocate to help people from minority ethnic communities.

We run a 'Saathi' Forum (Saathi means companion) which meets once a month. This group, male and female, communicates in a range of languages such as Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi and English.

This was especially set up to help people from minority ethnic communities with mental health problems who often feel socially excluded.

Leaflets about our services are available in the above languages as well as Polish.

Advocacy for prisoners.

Advocacy for prisoners in HMP Elmley & Stanford Hill is available until mid 2011.

All advocates at MSAP whether voluntary or paid, use training provided by the organization and their life experiences to help others.

Registered charity no: 1048536



Our service is free

Have you been affected by mental distress?

- Do you need someone to speak up for you?
 - Or need help accessing community care services?
 - Perhaps you need someone to help you with the benefits system?
 - Or someone to go with you to meetings? * *See below*
 - You may have housing problems
 - Or employment issues
- *Please note:*
• *Depends upon availability of volunteers.*

These are just some of the

things we can help with.

You are in control.

We provide advocacy to help you – mostly on a one to one basis

Advocacy can help the needs of the whole person.
We provide a confidential service and would not do anything unless you ask us to.
We offer advocacy not advice.

====

Medway and Swale Advocacy Partnerships (MSAP) is committed to multi-agency work and can help you by accessing specialist services.
We are an independent organization.

We are not part of Health or Social Services

====

Volunteering Opportunities:
Phone, write or e-mail today for an application form.
References & CRB check required, (we pay for the CRB check)

I.M.H.A.

Worried?

Stressed?

Anxious?

IMHA stands for:

Independent Mental Health Advocate.

From April 2009, the amendments to the Mental Health Act 2007 come into force. These amendments require the provision of Independent Mental Health Advocates (IMHA's)

IMHA services provide an additional safeguard for patients who are subject to the Mental Health Act, and are specialist advocates who are trained to work within the framework of the Act.

These services will not replace other advocacy services currently available to patients, but are intended to operate in conjunction with them.

IMHA's are not:

- Part of the multi-disciplinary team
- Legal advisers
- Medical experts
- The same as family, carers of friends

Which patients are eligible for IMHA? (qualifying patients)

- Patients detained under the Act (even if on leave of absence from the hospital)
- Conditionally discharged restricted patients
- Patients subject to guardianship or
- Supervised community treatment patients

An IMHA will not tell you what he or she thinks is right for you, but help you decide what you want to do. He or she will act only on your instructions, and will support you for as long as it takes for your questions to be answered and your concerns heard.

As an independent advocate your IMHA's first loyalty is to you.