

**Collaborative Working Pilot Project Between
Supporting Families & Affinity Services**

Background

Affinity Services and Supporting Families (SF) both provide mental health support services in the same geographical area. Affinity has a large number of clients and a strong commitment to support families. SF has specialist skills in working with families and whanau. This pilot represents a logical alliance of skills and resources to meet the needs of people affected by mental illness.

Project Aims

We aim to reduce inter-agency barriers; to improve support for families and whanau; to strengthen service user and family /whanau relationships in order to sustain and improve mental health recovery

Timeframe

The pilot collaboration will run for a period of 6 months, January 08 – July 08. This timeframe may be revised if necessary by agreement between Affinity and SF.

Evaluation

All clients and their families/whanau involved in this pilot will be asked to complete a short questionnaire at the start of their engagement with both services, and again after 6 months or when exiting either service, if earlier. Completed questionnaires will be collated by SF, who will undertake the final evaluation. The results and report of the pilot will be considered the property of both agencies.

Informing The Sector

Relevant mental health service providers and funders, and people who access the services of either agency, will be informed of this pilot project.

Shared Principles

Recovery Focused


We believe that each client and family/whanau continues to recover via a unique journey. We can enhance this process by appropriate support, information and relationship strengthening.

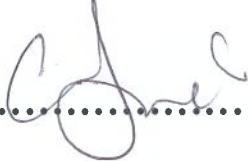
Collaborative Planning

We are committed to open and comprehensive communication between staff and we will respect issues of confidentiality, and sensitivity pertaining to service users and their families. Where possible, we will support and develop collaborative recovery plans.

Capacity and Capability Building

Our goal is to help clients and their families and whanau to achieve greater independence from mental health services by reconnecting with their communities, families and personal networks to sustain recovery. Together we can increase their skills, knowledge and confidence to help realise this.

Signed On behalf of Affinity Services:.....Date: 8/2/08

Signed On behalf of Supporting Families:..........Date: 08.02.08