



Getting work and being included



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- **What can help disabled people get into work?**
- **Are there different types of work that might be useful – such as being self-employed or working as a social enterprise – instead of working for someone else?**
- **What can help make jobs more flexible, so more people have the opportunity to work?**

About this project

Outside the Box will be working with people in Borders who have learning disabilities and people with mental health problems, to look at what helps people get into work.

For some people, it might be easier to be self-employed, or maybe work with some other people in a team. So we will also be looking at ways disabled people can take on different types of work as well as being employed.

The project will let people with learning disabilities and people with mental health problems find out whether they face the same difficulties getting into work.

The project is in partnership with Borders Voluntary Community Care Forum, and is funded by Communities Scotland.

It starts in November 2005 and run to early 2007.

What is going to happen

Finding what the problem is and what might help

The first stage is the project is looking at what helps people get into work and what the problems are.

We will also find out about different types of work.

We will find out what opportunities there are for people to take on contracts – for example, for the Council.

We will also find out whether people have tried this in other places.

We will write a report and send it people in Borders who might give jobs to people with disabilities. We will also send it to groups of people with mental health problem, people with learning disabilities and other people with disabilities.



Trying out some new ideas

We are going to try out some ideas which we think might help people with mental health problems or people with learning disabilities take on work.

This might be people learning to deliver mental health awareness training, or taking on gardening or catering contracts – the people in the project will decide what they want to try out.

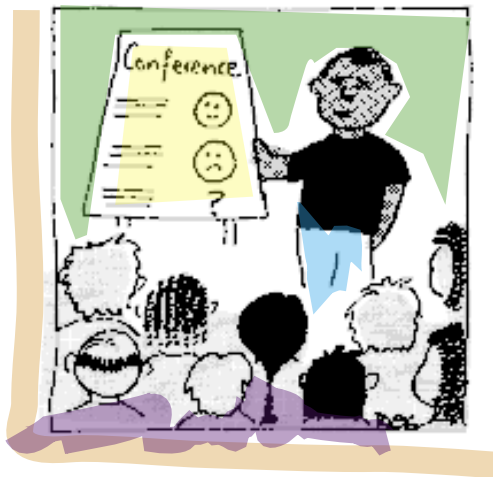
People will tell the rest of us how they got on and what advice they would have for other people.

We will write another report and circulate it to a lot of other people.

Bringing together everything we have learned

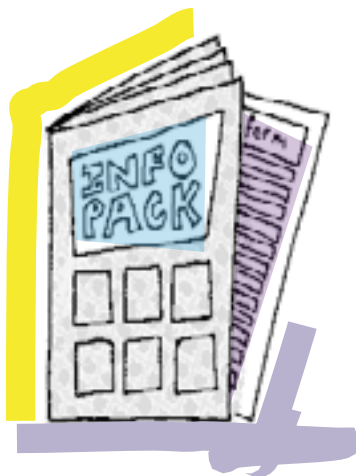
We will put together a resource pack for people who want to check out different types of working.

We will also write a pack for employers and for people who arrange the contracts for services that the Council and other big organisations need. The pack will help them make these arrangements accessible for people who have disabilities or are new to this sort of activity.



We hope to have a conference at the end of the project, so people who were part of the project can tell what they have learned.

We want to make more organisations aware of what people with mental health problems and people with learning disabilities – and other disabled people – can achieve. We also want to help them realise what they can do to give people opportunities.



How to get involved

People in Borders

Outside the Box is working alongside organisations in Borders which offer employment support and other advice and support to people with mental health problems or learning disabilities.

- Ways 2 Work
Scottish Borders Council
Council HQ
Newtown St Boswells TD6 0SA
Tel: 01835 825080
- Borders Development Centre
Scottish Association for Mental Health
50-52 Island Street
Galashiels TD1 1NU
Tel: 01896 759746

You can also get information from Anne Connor at Outside the Box

Illustrations from **CHANGE** picturebank



People everywhere

We want your help.

- Do you know of any project or places where disabled people are working for themselves?
- Do you know of other groups of people who have found it difficult to get into work, but have found things that help them get more experience and confidence?
- Do you know of employers or businesses which have encouraged people who have not much experience?

If so, please let us know.

The main contact for this project is:

Anne Connor
Outside the Box Development Support
The Old Toll
Harestanes
West Linton EH46 7AH

Tel: 01721 752752 or email: anne@otbds.org

We will have updates from the project on the website: **www.otbds.org**