

AUTISM CHAMPIONS & COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

Orenda Training & Consultancy adopts a unique approach to autism training

Orenda pride ourselves on co-producing courses with people with lived experience wherever possible

What is an Autism Champion?

Our Autism *Champions* Course has been developed for people who have attended Orenda's one-day "Autism - from the Inside Out" course.

An Autism *Champion* is a member of staff, family member or person with lived experience of Autism who becomes an expert and resource for others (individuals, workers or families). After the course *Champions* will be able to:

- Provide support to people with lived experience
- Share understanding, approaches to working with others, best practice and support strategies with others.
- Provide low level problem solving support to others.
- Offer links to a network of likeminded and similarly trained others who can share and explore learning together.
- Keep up to date with new and emerging practice developments & cascade those to others.

Our "Autism - from the Inside Out" course seeks to support people who do not have Autism to gain insight into the lived experience of people with a diagnosis and to design support strategies from that point of insight.

The Autism *Champions* Course builds on that experience providing participants with:

- A detailed insight into living with Autism and designing support strategies from that perspective.
- An opportunity to share experiences, explore and design support strategies alongside people with lived experience.
- Confidence in supporting and enabling people with Autism to lead the way in designing support strategies that make sense to them (including those whose chosen language is not words).
- Tools to train and support others in working sensitively from the outside in.
- Connections to support concrete, state of the art, best practice.

Get in contact

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Four day Champions Agenda

Each day is co-produced and trained by Judith North and one of our consultants with lived experience

Day 1: Review of Autism from the inside out, key learning points and train the trainer support.

- **Day 2:** Train the trainer practice, overview of approaches to supporting people with Autism and practice at matching people and approaches.
- Day 3: Train the trainer practice, national policy and practice advice & working in a local clinical context.
- **Day 4:** Working as an internal consultant, understanding and acknowledging your limitations, leading great practice, creating a plan for change, understanding how to use the network what it is & what you want and need.

Support for Champions

Each course cohort will be supported in three ways:

Champions Courses run with a maximum of 12 people one day per month for four months. Participants are encouraged to build mutually supportive learning based peer relationships throughout the four months and are supported to sustain those relationships beyond the course life-time.

An on-line forum has been developed to support *Champions* to work together, share knowledge, information, explore support strategies and problem solve with other *Champions* and people with lived experience.

Champions will be invited to twice yearly practice development seminars. Seminars will last a day and will combine:

- input from specialist Autism practitioners;
- opportunities to share and show case successful *Champion & experience* led approaches to supporting people well;
- opportunities to engage in joint problem solving and action learning.

Additionally, specific 1 to 1 support can be provided by Judith North or other specialist practitioners on a bespoke costed basis.

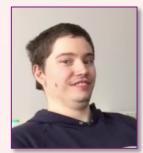


Judith North

Some of our presenters



Paschal Dooley



Adam Black



Tammie Flook

