Terms of Reference for @AbleOTUK Working Group

Aim

To provide a voice and safe space for Occupational Therapy Practitioners, Students, Researchers, Educators, and those in receipt of, or carers to those in receipt of Occupational Therapy, who have lived experience of disability or long term health conditions.

Objectives - To maintain a Twitter Account and Website that:

➔ Challenges the culture of ableism within services and organisations.

➔ Shares stories and lived experiences of Occupational Therapists with disabilities.

➔ Advocates for those with lived experience of disability both in the Occupational Therapy community and the general public.

➜ Bridges the gap in current culture and encourages values driven practice.

➜ Promotes the lived experiences of disability as an asset to the profession, including unique perspectives, skills, knowledge and experiences.

➜ Provides resources for occupational therapists with lived experiences of disability to seek support and advice on topics such as:
  - Disclosure
  - Reasonable Adjustments
  - Poor Experience Support
  - Occupational Justice
  - Occupational Alienation
  - Occupational Deprivation

Membership

A core group of Occupational Therapists and a patient advocate are running and maintaining @AbleOTUK twitter account and website. All are Volunteers. We want to be inclusive; all are welcome to follow and engage with the twitter account and use the website resources.

Plans

We aim to work in partnership with the other UK Affinity Groups (BAMEOTUK and LGBTQIA+OTUK), The Royal College of Occupational Therapists, unions and other stakeholders.

Campaign for a more inclusive and supportive culture that welcomes those with lived experience of disability or chronic ill health. Facilitate, supportive and closed group opportunities; CPD events, and open discussions that help tackle the status quo. Aim for inclusivity and we will endeavour to provide what is needed to help those that want to engage. Use the twitter account and website to share stories and provide resources.