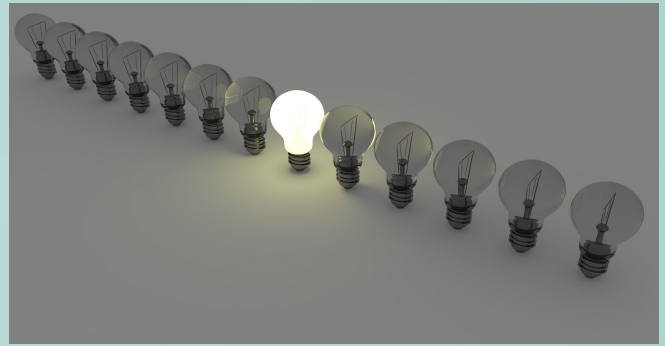




Welcome to our second newsletter telling you more about the new D/deaf mental health research network.

# We are holding an ideathon in May....

## What's an ideathon?



An ideathon is a brainstorming event where people put in their ideas. This will be an online event using zoom.

Many D/deaf people say their experiences in healthcare could be much better. We want to know what might help?



- Why do you think D/deaf people have good/bad healthcare experiences?
- How do you think we can improve health professionals understanding about Deafness
- What do health workers know about how to book BSL interpreters?
- What do you think about the ways that health information is provided?

This ideathon is a public engagement event for people to share their views and thoughts. It will form the early development of a research bid.

If you'd like to take part, we have a doodle poll running to pick the best time and date to suit - [click here](#)

There will be other ways to contribute ideas too, and we will let you know about these in early May.

## What is the aim of the D/deaf mental health research network?



Our aim is to increase research into D/deaf mental health issues in order to improve D/deaf people's mental health. We do this by applying for research project funding and by collaborating together.

# Introducing the SUPERSTAR project...



We are delighted to report that we heard in February 2021 we have had some success with research funding.

At two public engagement events (back in December 2019/January 2020) at the Swansea Centre for Deaf People, it was highlighted there is no clear pathway for deaf children. We know that 90% of deaf children are born to hearing families, who have little experience of deafness, and don't always get the support they need. The idea for the SUPERSTAR project was born. Carefully over many months ideas from parents, families, the National Deaf Children's Society, Teachers of the Deaf and people who work in Deaf charities came together with the idea for the SUPERSTAR project.

The funder are RCBC Wales (Research Capacity Building Collaboration), who have awarded a Postdoctoral Fellowship to Julia Terry to work on this project 2.5 days a week for two years, with funding for a steering group to meet, and a BSL film of the project findings.

We have a project steering group in place with nine members, including people who work in health, with D/deaf charities, with deaf children and young people, in education and members of the public. The project steering group will shape the research as it moves forward.

Later in the year we will be looking for hearing parents of deaf children and people who work with deaf children who would be interested in being interviewed. Let us know if you can help!



## GDPR

We hope you like our second newsletter. We have a privacy notice on the website, please check it out.

If you want to follow up on any topic in this newsletter please email: [j.terry@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:j.terry@swansea.ac.uk)

