EXAMPLE 2: McPin - Putting perspectives from lived experience into primary care research

This is one of a series of examples of '4PI in Action'. In each one we aim to show how we have worked with different individuals, groups and organisations to implement the 4PI standards in order to promote and enable the involvement of service users and carers.

The McPin Foundation exists to transform mental health research by putting the lived experience of people affected by mental health problems at the heart of the research agenda and the methods that researchers use. They do this by:

- conducting user-focused research;
- building the capacity of others to conduct user-focused mental health research;
- seeking to influence and improve methods, practices, and decision making in mental health research to ensure these maximise benefits for people using services.

PARTNERS2 Research: the aim of the research is to develop and pilot a trial of primary care-based collaborative care for people with severe mental health problems, funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). It is a partnership between the University of Birmingham, University of Exeter, Plymouth University, University of Manchester, University of Warwick, Lancaster University and the McPin Foundation.

Patient and Public Involvement: McPin is providing the PPI (Public and Patient Involvement) expertise to the project in a number of ways:

- A paid PPI coordinator working across the 3 study sites to ensure that lived experience benefits the whole study;
- Embedding PPI in every work stream of the project through advisory panels and PPI researcher roles;
- Assessing the impact of PPI to know, and to show, how using insights from lived experience makes a difference to the research outcomes, and why it makes a difference.

4PI: McPin has used the 4PI framework to assess their plans for PPI in the design and development of the programme. They also plan to use the 4PI framework to evaluate the impact of their PPI approach and strategies on the research project, ensuring that they assess principles, purpose, presence and process to measure the impact.

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