

*Student comments about the Postgraduate Certificate course by Distance Learning*

**STUDENT 1:**

*“Just thought I would provide some feedback on how the PG Cert has impacted my own practice and hope has contributed to the development of services in G.....*

*Shortly after completing the course, I took up a position as Home Manager, in a community group home for 6 individuals with SLD/PLD/PMLD presenting a diverse range of significant and complex needs. I had previously worked (as a deputy) in the home for 6 years, I had requested a transfer to work with a more able service user group, as I felt professionally I had dried up. I knew that significant changes needed to be made, however at that time it was difficult to see the way forward.*

*The course has given me the confidence, commitment and motivation to start addressing fundamental issues within that setting. I am fortunate to have had the support of our service management team, with respect to time commitment to undertake the course, and more importantly to support improvement initiatives.*

*I am very much involved with adolescence who have complex needs and it is only now that I can really understand what I have studied in Module 1 Challenging Behaviour. I have been going back to the module pack and lots of journals and I have been reading and reading with pride and satisfaction. Now that I am more involved with mental health issues I am able to understand so much better what I read. I am in a position where I can understand better the behaviour that is challenging to the residential home.”*

**STUDENT 2**

*“I must admit that I used to think that we have come a long way with equal rights and disability issues (and mind you we have) but since I have been doing the course I realised how far behind we are from other countries! Presently the Adult Day Centres are undergoing reforms. Emphasis is put on building, space, human resources. I wonder whether Care Standards will be published for people with disabilities who will be attending these centres, their families and the public in general.*

*By the way, this module, like all the rest, is very useful and provides good insight. It brings into focus topics like service user choice. (for example not taking medicine) and the assessment assignment (9.4) really brings home some real truth to working with people like XXXX. These are real and important issues.”*