

We Are The People about the organisation sheet



We Are The People

Who are we?

We are a small research team at Bath Spa University who are disabled academics and/or engaged in disability research and disability activism. We have been awarded a five-year, £1million grant from the Wellcome Trust to develop a disability research network in south-west England. Our network is currently called 'We Are The People'.

What do we want to do?

We want to create social change through research. Our research network conducts projects that are most important to disabled people in the region, and we aim to develop effective ways of sharing our findings and providing a strong voice for disabled people.

We 'co-produced' our projects and events with disabled people and disabled people's organisations. This means that our research aims, topics, methods, and how we share our findings are shaped by disabled people.

We want to make organisations more aware of research and activism taking place across the entire south-west, enabling the sharing of strategies and encouraging collaboration with people from the disabled community.

Why do we want to do it?

- Disabled people face significant challenges, so we want to conduct research that has the power to influence change.
- Researchers have not always been allies of disabled people and some groups have been disadvantaged within disability research. We wish to change this by creating opportunities for disabled people to engage with research, and by developing new understandings that will shape disability research in years to come.

How can we achieve this?

We have a range of activities planned, including:

1. Creating local research 'hubs', so that voices of disabled people in the south-west can be heard.
2. Creating an advisory panel to join disabled and non-disabled people in the region to direct the network. Representation from each research hub will be encouraged in the advisory panel.
3. Employing research fellows, who will lead research that addresses disabled people's issues.
4. Getting involved with public engagement sessions, such as conferences, exhibitions, and shows that demonstrate disabled people's research.
5. Creating a new innovative research training course led by disabled people as agents for change.

How can you get involved?

If you have any questions, thoughts or suggestions about the Disability Research Collective, we would love to hear from you! You can email any of the project team.

Email address: wearethepeople@bathspa.ac.uk

Here is a link to our website: [We Are the People – Bath Spa University](#)