Campaign Planning Session Notes

Topic: Independent Living and Deinstitutionalisation

What our top asks on this topic?

* Inclusive education – ending segregated educational provision
* Accessible housing – both new builds and retrofitting
* Right to independent living enshrined in domestic law
* End the detention of people living with mental distress - replace with network of local crisis houses and mental health services.
* Campaign against the additional draft protocol of the Oviedo Convention to stop people being detained against their will.
* Lobby for a planned and resourced deinstitutionalisation process coproduced and led by DDPOs.
* Must consider the needs of Disabled people who have experienced/are experiencing domestic abuse when thinking about independent living.
* Scrap the Mental Capacity Bill and replace with something UNCRPD compliant.
* National Independent Living Service.
* Stop social care being integrated with NHS.
* Better pay and working conditions for PAs and care workers – including hazard pay during Covid-19.
* Better support and training for Disabled people who employ their own PAs.
* No immigration laws that class PAs/Care Staff as “unskilled labour”.
* Resisting the distorted usage and co-option of “independent living” and clarify what we mean by independent living in a way non-Disabled people can understand. Campaign for better understanding of the social model at all levels and all spheres of society.

**How can these be developed regionally?**

* The Covid bill gave a lot of "prioritisation" powers to local authorities, and we may be able to target local authorities for at least the next 6 months to 2 years.
* Infiltrate regional ADASS meetings.
* Organise sets of regional briefings for decision makers and ask them to sign up to a co-production pledge.
* Comms campaign to improve the understanding of what Independent Living is – e.g. current ROFA video campaign on independent living
* Sharing best practice from other regions to the rest of ROFA – e.g. GMCDP on how they managed to achieve a good working relationship with their LA.

How can all of us make sure that these asks and regional development happen?

* Reach out to other human rights and equalities organisations on the basis of solidarity between different groups of people.
* GMCDP to put together webinar
* Send independent living videos to ROFA for the comms campaign