

Introduction to Welfare Benefits and Reforms.

OUTLINE:

A course designed to give a basic insight into most common welfare benefits and where service users can access, to identify where a benefit may be applied and signpost into the appropriate service for help.

- *'Around £19.18 billion in welfare benefits and tax credits goes unclaimed'* (www.turn2us.org.uk)
- *'13.5 million people in the UK are living in poverty, 3.8 million are children'* (www.turn2us.org.uk)

COURSE AIMS:

The course aims to equip learners to identify where service users may be eligible to WB entitlements, where to get a WB check, make an application, access help with appeal process and impact of Welfare Reforms & Universal Credit.

TARGET LEARNERS:

The course is aimed at non-welfare benefits specialists, those new to the world of benefits, those needing a refresher or those who just need a basic awareness in order to carry out their main work duties e.g. community volunteers, housing staff, information officers, board members, tenant support etc.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENTS:

No prior knowledge is required or assumed.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- To understand how the benefits system works, and who deals with what
- To be able to name the main benefits by circumstances
- To understand the difference between means & non-means tested benefits
- To know the qualifying criteria and be able to aid a benefits check for users
- To have an awareness of the application process and where to access help
- Knowledge of main changes & impact now of welfare reforms

Know where to get service users into specialist welfare rights help for certain applications, appeals and tribunal support

TOPICS COVERED:

- Overview of WB system
- Main types of benefit by circumstance
- means & non-means tested benefits
- Main qualifying criteria, where to get a benefits check
- Applications process and who can help
- **Welfare Reforms to date and Universal Credit**
- **Where to access free specialist help in the locality**

DATES, VENUES & PRICING:

Available for 'in-house' delivery and occasionally as an 'open course' – please check our web site www.pennysmart.org.uk for pricing, T's and C's and availability.

CONTACT:

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