



Rose Road – Southampton, West Berkshire and Portsmouth IASS: Turning online training into webinars

The challenge

As part of their IASP funded work in 2021-22 Rose Road wanted to build on the success they have had in the previous year, with a live parent training programme. In 2020-21 15 live training sessions (using Zoom) were delivered covering 8 topics. Some topics were delivered twice across the year and Rose Road tried to vary days of the week and times as much as possible (including an evening session). Feedback received was overwhelmingly positive and sessions were well attended, usually between 20-40 people at each session. However, many parents fed back that they would like to attend but the time wasn't convenient, or they had booked to attend but something on the day prevented them from being able to make it.

The solution

In order to meet the needs of those parents who couldn't attend the fixed time sessions, Rose Road decided to create a series of webinars (based on the original topics from the live sessions and some new ones) to publish on their website so that they could be accessed any time and reach more people.

The process

Firstly, how to make the webinars needed to be considered, paid software was available but in order to save costs, Rose Road found that recording audio over a Powerpoint presentation was a free option. As Powerpoints had been created for most of the live training sessions this seemed like the most time and cost-effective method.

A plan was created to assign each webinar topic to a member of the team to ensure the work would be evenly spread and minimise impact on casework. The team were asked in April to set aside some time to create their webinars by the end of July and provided them with instructions on the technical aspects- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y5dgwwa5XRA.

Some staff needed assistance to create Powerpoints that weren't already created (some new topics were added and not all the live training used a Powerpoint). They experienced some technical issues as work laptops would not allow recording to Powerpoint without IT making some changes which caused a delay. A further delay was encountered due to one of the Local Authorities asking to co-produce and deliver some of the webinars. Although this delayed the initial timeframe it was a really excellent opportunity to work together and it also led to some discussions around the law regarding Annual Reviews which has been really helpful.

By the end of July (our initial timeframe) 5 of the 12 webinars were completed and there is now a revised timeframe to have them all finished and available on the IAS Services websites by September.

What we learnt

On reflection, the technical aspects were harder to grasp, and took longer to resolve than had been anticipated. Because of this it took much more of the staff's time, than initially thought. This has caused some of the staff stress and made their casework a little harder to manage in

some weeks. But overall, it has been really worthwhile process, with the team being pleased with the quality of the webinars produced and they are now seen as a valuable resource for parents, and professionals too. Some staff really enjoyed doing it and are happy to do more, and we have all learnt a new skill!

An example of the webinars can be found here: https://portsmouthsendiass.info/home/for-young-people/ (second video on the page)

Contact details

Credit to Katherine Vowles and her team for this work. For more information, the joint service manager for this area is now Ashley Raynor (ashleyraynor@roseroad.org.uk)