

Brent Mencap -What we are proud of achieving in 2023-2024

- **Building Confidence:** Helping patients, carers, and users feel more confident and skilled. *We're proud of supporting more Brent people in a person-centred way and highlighting their talents and achievements.* 😊
- **Better Support Services:** Growing our social prescribing and health coaching services. *We've improved management support for these teams and consolidated their work.* 😊
- **Fun Activities:** Running wellbeing, exercise, and gardening sessions – even after a big funding knockback. 😞
We delivered these activities with three small grants and dipped into reserves to keep them going.
- **Self-Advocacy:** Helping people stand up for themselves – but no funds to welcome new members.
- **Getting Involved Locally:** Encouraging people with long-term conditions to join local activities. 😊
We highlight their experiences and help them share their views with service providers.
- **Speaking Out on Hate Crime:** Raising awareness about hate crime and sharing info with staff, users, and partners, even without extra funding. 😊
We ran free sessions on Easy Read info and the Accessible Information Standard.
- **Health Info for Communities:** Continuing to give health advice to local areas like Willesden and Neasden. 😊
- **Supporting Staff:** Helping our team with training, well-being, and the cost of living. 😊
We maintained our London Living Wage Employer commitment.
- *We're proud of supporting users to persist and challenge barriers they face.*
- **Chasing Big Bids:** Working on funding to help people with learning disabilities live their best lives, but no luck this time. 😞
- **Sharing History:** Planning a heritage project with photos and stories but couldn't find the time. 😞
- **Using Reserves:** Keeping projects going by dipping into savings while managing finances carefully. 😊
We made a surplus for the 4th time and grew our savings.
- **Big Plans in Action:** Working with managers to roll out our development plan. 😊
- **Keeping Data Safe:** Checking how we handle data so it's secure and follows GDPR rules. *We're proud of adapting our data collection for different funders and meeting tight deadlines.* 😊
- **Church End Projects:** Staying involved, though no new partnerships planned yet. 😞
- **Updating Policies:** Developing new policies and improving existing ones. 😊
- **Planning Ahead:** Recruiting new senior staff is a priority for 2024-26. 😞
- **Improving Feedback:** Better data and user experience tracking to learn what works. 😊
- **Going Green:** Making our building and services more eco-friendly with LED bulbs, energy-efficient fridges, and a new recycling contract. 😊
- **Good Relationships:** Staying on good terms with people who rent or hire our spaces. 😊
We're proud of keeping our building safe, secure, and smart, including a new pink gate!
- **Better Marketing:** Working on sharing our work more widely – a key goal for next year. 😞

Extra Achievements:

- *Supported our poets to publish a book of their work..*
- *Provided face-to-face and phone support to people with learning disabilities, referring many to other services.*
- *Strengthened links with local and London-wide partners.*
- *Maintained the number of volunteers and their hours*

Brent Mencap Easy-Read Plans for 2024-25

1. **Keep Current Projects Going:** Continue and improve our support projects like Social Prescribing, Health Coaching and creative, wellbeing, and self-advocacy services.
2. **Disability Rights Group:** Set up a new user led advisory group with self-advocates and trustees to focus on disability rights issues and services.
3. **Expand Services:** Explore ways to help people with autism and their carers and extend support for young people aged 14-25.
4. **Go for Big Bids:** Apply for longer-term funding to secure and grow our activities.
5. **Raise the Bar:** Achieve new quality assurance accreditation to show we're doing things right.
6. **Focus on Values:** Review our values and make sure everyone – staff, trustees, and partners – understands and supports them.
7. **Plan for the Future:** Create a stronger strategic plan with clear goals for fundraising, data, reporting, and marketing.
8. **Leadership Continuity:** Put our management succession plan into action and have a smooth handover.
9. **Use Data Smarter:** Highlight unmet needs and inequalities to push for better services and solutions.
10. **Better Marketing:** Improve our website, social media, and overall marketing to reach more people.

Other Key Goals:

- Support staff with training, development, and cost-of-living challenges.
- Get more people with long-term conditions involved in local activities.
- Raise awareness about hate crime and accessibility with new funding
- Use technology to improve services, accessibility, and reporting.
- Prepare for future opportunities by creating service templates.
- Work on a Heritage Lottery bid to share the history and experiences of Brent Mencap.
- Keep our building and finances in good shape, ensuring a surplus.