# Advocacy





## Do you find getting the right support confusing and frustrating?

#### You may need advocacy because you feel:

- No-one's listening to you
- You have important decisions to make
- You can't get the help you need
- You don't agree with decisions that are being made about you

#### What is Advocacy?

Advocacy can support you to have a strong voice when you need to make an important decision or are facing issues you need help with.

Our advocacy service is **free**, **confidential and independent**. Advocates work in partnership with you, which means we listen to what you want and act on your behalf at all times.

#### **Advocacy is:**

- making sure your voice is heard
- helping you have more choice
- speaking out on your behalf

#### Advocacy is not:

- crisis support
- counselling
- emotional support
- befriending
- giving advice



#### How an advocate can help

- Helping you decide what to do
- Finding out information and who to contact
- Telling you about your rights
- Helping you to access health and social care services
- Going to meetings and appointments with you
- Helping you write letters and fill in forms

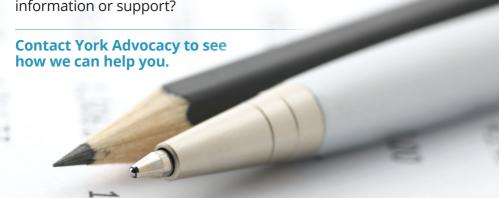
- Challenge decisions that you do not agree with
- Making sure your righs are being respected
- Helping you make a complaint
- Support you to feedback your experiences of using services

### York Advocacy delivers a range of specialist advocacy services

**NHS Advocacy** - Do you have a complaint or concern about the care and treatment you have received from an NHS organisation or service? Our NHS advocacy service can support you to feedback your experiences or make a complaint.

**General Advocacy -** Are you aged between 18-65, have a disability, mental ill-health or are a vulnerable person with an issue you need support with?

**Self Advocacy** - Do you want to self-advocate and speak up about issues that affect you? Are you a group of people who want to form your own self advocacy group and need some information or support?



#### **About us**



### York Advocacy provides advocacy support to people resident in the City of York.

York Mind has delivered a successful advocacy service since 1997. From April 1st 2013 we launched our new service called York Advocacy, which will provide a range of specialist advocacy services including, General Advocacy, NHS Advocacy and Self-Advocacy.

We aim to provide a positive experience for people who use our services. We welcome your feedback and comments.

#### Get in touch...

- ▼ Tang Hall Community Centre Fifth Avenue York YO31 0UG
- **2** 01904 414357
- www.yorkadvocacy.org.uk

Please contact us for more information or if you would like to make a referral









### If you need this information in a different format please contact us