

Connect – the Communication Disability Network

£5422.31

Runs dynamic and innovative therapy events to improve the quality of life, confidence, coping and self-management skills of people who have a communication disability after stroke. They seek funds to run day long events for both people who have had a stroke and their friends and relatives.

Funding from TFN enabled Connect to run 3 days at their London Centre and one day in Bristol. The days were attended by a diverse group of people with aphasia and their relatives. They ran a day on 'Accessing Computers and the Internet', a day on 'Work and Play after Stroke and Aphasia', a day on 'Learning how to have Better Conversations' and a day on 'Communicating Creatively' (using art, poetry, music) when talking is difficult. In total 96 people with aphasia and their families came along to the events. The TFN grant not just helped to run the days but to develop the infrastructure to run more of the days with well-honed materials and a trained team of experts with aphasia.

"A patient of mine went on a Connect for a Day about a year ago. When John talks about his recovery now he talks about before the Connect for a Day and after - it was a major turning point for him." (Speech and Language Therapist)