

Advocacy Workshop

Garden Street Centre, 15 April 2005

Advocacy Referrals - Good Practice

When to make a referral

- If a client is having communication problems
- If you are having a problem communicating with the client
- If the client is getting upset but staff can't work out why or can't offer a solution
- When else...?

Things to bear in mind

- To work successfully advocacy takes time to build up a relationship
- Advocates don't work in people's 'best interests' - this is the job of Social Workers and other professionals
- An advocate's role is clearly distinct from a social worker's or another independent person's

What advocacy can offer

- Helps people to decide what they want
- Helps people to tell others clearly what they want
- Helps clear two-way communication
- Empowers people to stand up for themselves and be more independent

For more information see the leaflet *What is Independent Advocacy?*