

Unlocking the Power of Person-Centred Planning: A Path to Inclusion and Purpose

This insightful document explores the transformative potential of person-centred planning in creating meaningful lives for individuals with disabilities. While widely adopted in some regions, such as England, the approach has shown positive but limited outcomes, particularly in fostering employment opportunities and inclusive social networks. The author, John O'Brien, dives into the challenges posed by systemic constraints, such as inflexible policies, service limitations, and societal prejudices, which often hinder progress toward true inclusion.

The text emphasizes the importance of moving beyond the “low-hanging fruit” of improving choice and community activities to tackle deeper issues like social exclusion and access to valued roles. It advocates for bold, creative action and systematic changes in service systems to empower individuals with disabilities to take on roles as workers, friends, and contributing citizens.

Using the U-Process framework, the document highlights the need for deeper understanding, courageous action, and collaboration to generate new possibilities. It encourages planners to embrace the “dignity of risk,” challenge societal norms, and create tailored supports that align with individuals’ gifts, dreams, and values.

This resource is a call to action for advocates, planners, and communities to reimagine person-centred planning as a tool for social innovation. It offers practical insights and strategies to inspire meaningful change, making it a must-read for anyone passionate about inclusion and empowerment. Dive in to explore how we can create a world where everyone thrives in valued roles and relationships!