

Engaging persons with lived experience worksheet: Assessing readiness to engage persons with lived experience in a change initiative

To be effective, members of the change team must be ready to engage persons with lived experience in the change initiative. Sometimes, there is strong support and receptivity, but in other cases, there can be challenges. It is important to understand and acknowledge that persons with lived experience are active and valued participants in change initiatives.

Instructions: Have each member of the change team answer the following questions on engaging persons with lived experience in change initiatives. These questions can be especially helpful for team members who are new to working on a change initiative with persons with lived experience. Discuss responses as a team.

If a lack of readiness is determined, consider consulting with another change team who has successfully engaged persons with lived experience for additional recommendations and guidance.

No.	Guiding principles	Yes	No	Rationale/comments
<i>1. I believe that persons with lived experience...</i>				
a.	bring unique perspectives that will strengthen the change initiative.			
b.	have valuable knowledge as a result of their lived experience.			
c.	are able to look beyond their own experience and inform a practice change for all persons and families.			
d.	believe their perspectives and opinions on planning and decision-making for practice change are as valid as those of professionally-trained members of the change team.			
<i>2. As a member of the change team, I have...</i>				
a.	Experience working with persons with lived			

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	experience as members of a change team.			
b.	An understanding of the role and expectations of persons with lived experience and how these may differ from other members of the change team.			
c.	Experience and feel comfortable delegating responsibilities to persons with lived experience in relation to the change initiative.			
d.	An understanding that persons with lived experience may be unable to continue engaging in the change initiative due to their own health or care responsibilities to another family member.			

SOURCE: Adapted from Patient Voices Network, 2021. [Readiness-Checklist-Feb-2021-Final.pdf \(patientvoicesbc.ca\)](#)