



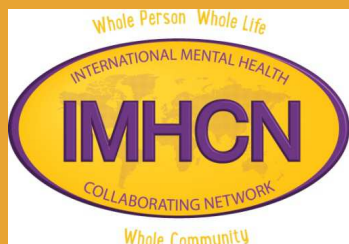
***Meeting the whole life needs of a person through  
a community whole systems approach***

# THE CHALLENGE OF CO-PRODUCTION

How equal partnerships between professionals, service users and the public are crucial to improving services



Co-production means delivering mental health services in an equal and reciprocal relationship between professionals, people using services, their families and their neighbours.



Co-production makes the system more efficient, more effective and more responsive to community needs.



Service users become, not the passive recipients of interventions and support services, but the active agents of their own life.

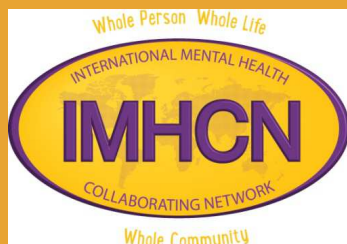
They are trusted to make the right choices for themselves. They become doers, not the done-for. It goes well beyond the idea of 'citizen engagement' or 'service user involvement' to foster the principle of equal partnership.



It offers to transform the dynamic between the public and public service workers, putting an end to 'them' and 'us' and pools different types of knowledge and skills, based on lived experience and professional learning.



Where activities are co-produced in this way, both services and neighbourhoods become far more effective agents of change.





More importantly, it makes mental health services altogether more humane, more trustworthy, more valued

– and -

altogether more transforming for those who use it.

