

## ***Refocus on Recovery 2017***

The fourth international *Refocus on Recovery* conference took place on 18-20 September 2017 in Nottingham, England. The event comprised five expert workshops, a two-day scientific conference, and a Let's Go Mad event. A demonstration day in Nottingham services was held on 21 September. *Refocus on Recovery 2017* was organised by the Institute of Mental Health, School of Health Sciences (University of Nottingham), ImROC (Implementing Recovery through Organisational Change), Making Waves, Mental Health Foundation and Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (NottsHC).

The expert workshops covered national transformation, co-development of digital projects, coaching for recovery, decolonising recovery and cultures of peer support. They were attended by 104 participants from 11 countries. Feedback indicated 92% overall satisfaction and 100% satisfaction with the expertise of the facilitators.

The scientific conference had four themes: Recovery for different groups; Re-situating recovery; Prevention of mental ill-health; and Allocating resources. Nine keynote speakers and 98 parallel session speakers gave talks. The conference also included a performance from The People's Choir, a Story Shop led by NottsHC Involvement Team, a Mad Space throughout the conference, and a boomwhacker wellbeing event. The conference attracted 382 people from 26 countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, UK and USA. 52 (14%) participants self-identified as having lived experience. Feedback indicated 91% satisfaction with the conference, with the main reasons for attending being personal growth and development (57%), scientific content (50%) and networking opportunities (44%). The conference was described as 'inspiring' and 'thought-provoking', with diversity in speakers and a wide range of international perspectives.

The conference archive can be accessed here:

<https://www.researchintorecovery.com/networks/refocus-on-recovery/>