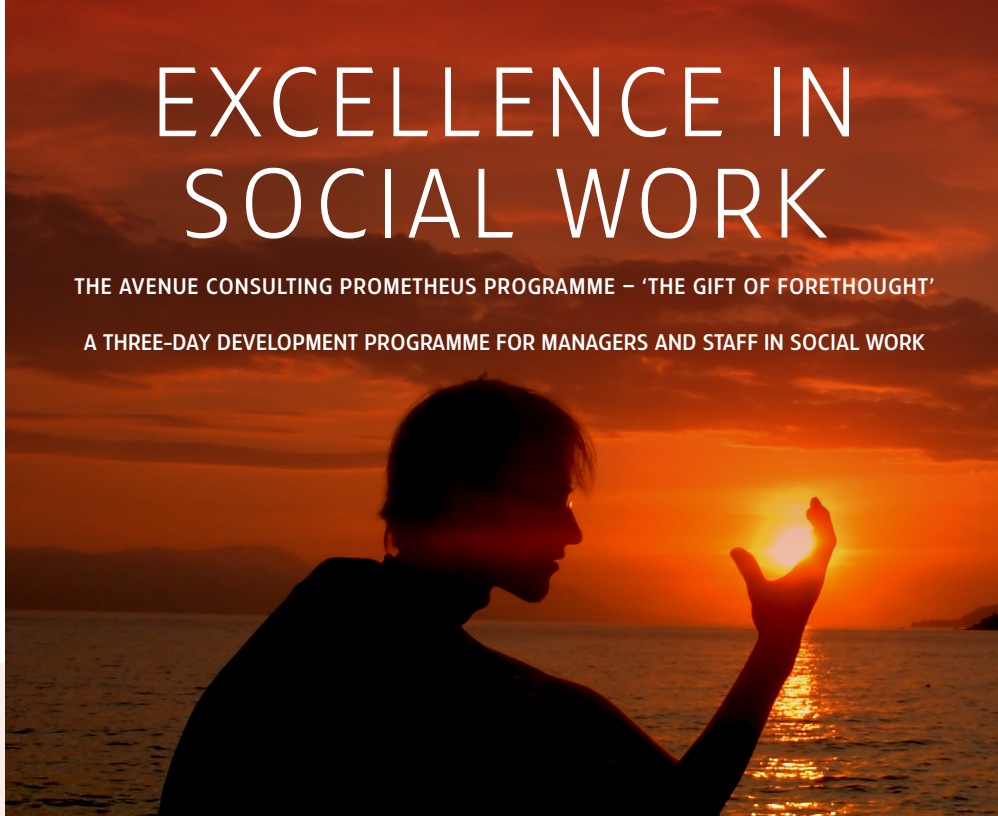




EXCELLENCE IN SOCIAL WORK

THE AVENUE CONSULTING PROMETHEUS PROGRAMME – ‘THE GIFT OF FORETHOUGHT’

A THREE-DAY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR MANAGERS AND STAFF IN SOCIAL WORK



Prometheus means ‘forethought’. In Greek legend Prometheus was renowned for stealing fire from the gods and making a gift of it to ordinary people

Social work as a professional enterprise has been prone to criticisms from various quarters – sometimes justified, but often not.

This course seeks to identify what is best practice in social work and how we can achieve it. It helps us to answer the vitally important question: how can we move towards excellence?

An ideal opportunity to explore the factors that hold social work back and develop strategies for developing the potential for individual and collective excellence.

- Maximising potential
- Promoting best practice
- Boosting confidence
- Tackling obstacles to progress
- Investing in professionalism
- Improving quality

What does the course offer?

This course will help participants to maximise their potential for excellence by:

- Clarifying what constitutes best practice in social work
- Identifying obstacles to achieving excellence
- Developing strategies for responding to such obstacles: removing them, bypassing them or minimising their impact
- Establishing why we should take pride in what social work can offer

Who should attend?

- Experienced social workers keen to build on their strengths
- Less experienced social workers who wish to make the most of the learning opportunities available to them
- Managers and educators interested in supporting the development of excellence in social work

Why aim for excellence?

As social workers we work with some of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable members of our communities – we cannot afford to settle for just ‘good enough’.

Although often devalued, high-quality social work practice can make a significant positive difference to people’s lives – we should make the most of that.

Nothing succeeds like success – excellent practice breeds excellent practice.

Social work involves many challenges – achieving excellence is the ultimate challenge for us.

Social work matters! Excellence matters!



Prometheus

PROGRAMME

DAY ONE

- 9.30 Introductions/expectations
Beyond Good Practice: Achieving Excellence
- 10.50 Break
- 11.10 Theory and Practice: Informed Practice
- 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 Obstacles to Excellence
- 2.40 Break
- 3.00 Tackling the Obstacles
- 4.00 End of Day One

DAY TWO

- 9.30 Recap on Day One
Self-management I
- 10.50 Break
- 11.10 Self-management II
- 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 Managing Expectations I
- 2.40 Break
- 3.00 Managing Expectations II
- 4.00 End of Day Two

DAY THREE

- 9.30 Recap on Day Two
Making Values Count
- 10.50 Break
- 11.10 Challenges and Dilemmas
- 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 Striving for Excellence
- 2.40 Break
- 3.00 Action Planning / Summary / Conclusion / Evaluation
- 4.00 End of Course

The maximum number of participants is normally 16 to allow for in-depth learning and full participation.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To examine what is involved in establishing social work excellence
- To identify barriers to developing excellence
- To develop strategies for tackling barriers to excellence
- To lay the foundations for promoting excellence in social work

THE COURSE LEADER

Dr Neil Thompson was formerly Professor of Applied Social Studies at Staffordshire University. He is now the managing director of Avenue Consulting Ltd. He has over 100 publications to his name, including several best-selling books. He has been a speaker at seminars and conferences in the UK, Ireland, Spain, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada and the United States. He is a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. He was the founding editor of the *British Journal of Occupational Learning*.

Neil is a highly experienced training facilitator with a wealth of knowledge and the skills needed to bring the subject matter to life. His website is at www.neilthompson.info.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information or to discuss your requirements please contact us at the address below.