

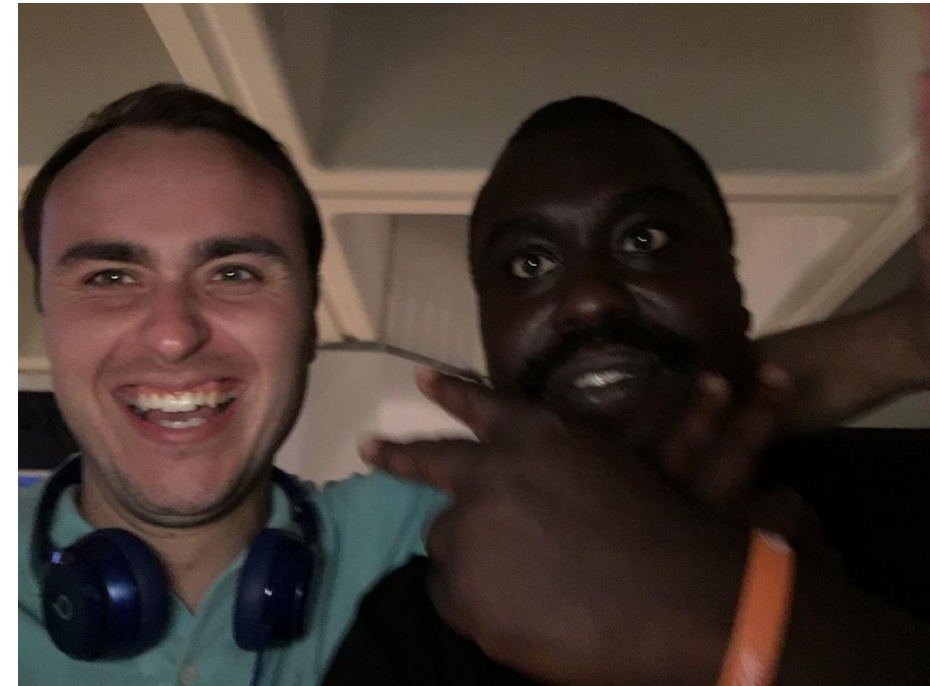
Why it is important to campaign for the right to love and relationships?



By Harry Roche and Ruth Owens



Me and my friends



Why are Friendships and Relationships important to Mencap and people with intellectual disabilities in the UK?



What's the need - Friendships?

- Research suggests that people with a learning disability are vulnerable to loneliness. Indeed, up to 50% of people with intellectual disability experience chronic loneliness
- Research carried out by Mencap last year has revealed how almost 1 in 3 young people with a learning disability spend less than 1 hour a day outside their homes on a typical Saturday, and much of this fear comes from public attitudes and lack of support.



What's the need - Relationships?

- In the UK 3% or 1 in every 30 people with an intellectual disability live with their partner in comparison with 70% of the adult population.



Our approach:

- Over the past two years Mencap have focused on shifting these inequalities in two way:



Attitude Change campaign

#HereIAm



It's #NotOkCupid

'Would the world be a better place if people with low IQs were not allowed to reproduce?'



Tell @OkCupid that discrimination is NOT Ok
#NotOkCupid



Sign this petition

297 supporters

203 needed to reach 500

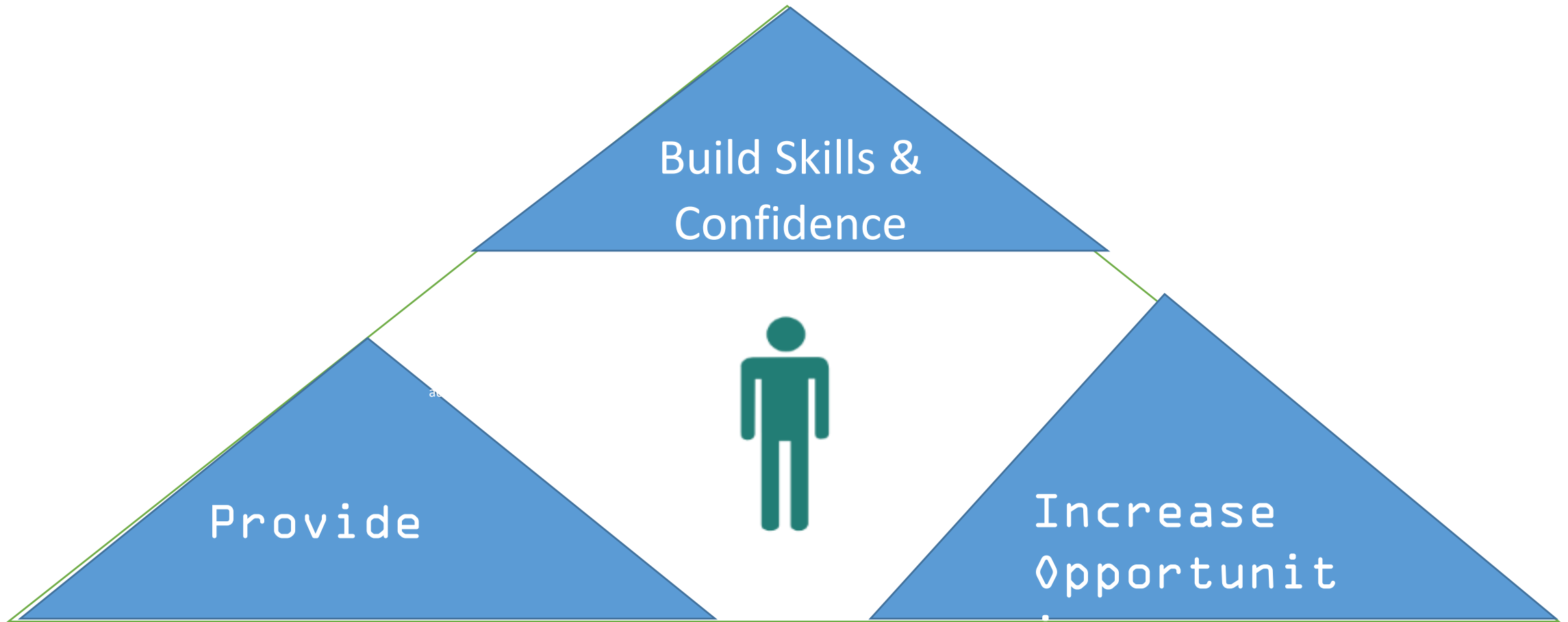
United Kingdom ▼

Valentines Day

- Play the valentines day video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B7h2ge0F500>

Delivery - Our approach



History of supporting people to develop friendships



- In the UK Mencap is lucky to have over 300 social clubs, that reach over 20,000 people with intellectual disabilities to
- Last year we celebrated the 50 year anniversary of these Gateway Clubs to thank volunteers and members, and have a birthday party.



Partnership

We also don't do any of this work in isolation we believe the key to success and being able to work well is doing this with other organisations to integrate people into society.



talking sense about sex



A Case Study: Goodgym



A look at our project around sex and relationships



talking sense about sex



The project will reach:

- people with intellectual disabilities
- Their parents and carers
- Professionals



How will be grow this?



- Our fundraising team are looking for more money to be able to grow this in another areas?
- We are looking to work with a University to measure the impact and difference that this project has made to peoples lives.
- Membership of the Sex Education forum to influence future policy. We might campaign more about this issue in the future.



International Friendship day video

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKDoVRTf7zA>



Harry's suggestion



- How would EPSA feed into this work?

Does anyone have any
questionns?



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