

## The role of disability liaison officers in the French health service:

### An emerging profession

Focus day – 23 September 2014, EHESP, Rennes, France

#### Background:

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A new profession - disability liaison officer (DLO) - is emerging within France's public sector. Under arrangements governing contracts with the public sector disability fund, the FIPHFP, contracting bodies and agencies are now required to appoint DLOs. In addition to overseeing applications to the FIPHFP, DLOs may be called on to help shape policy on disability management within their organisations, raise awareness among staff of disability issues, and provide guidance to employees with disability. They may perform other related duties as required. This model is now being taken up by a number of government bodies and agencies operating outside the FIPHFP framework in order to improve how they manage disability at the workplace and in particular to apply for the various types of funding available. Against this backdrop, we are organising a focus day around the role of DLOs, an emerging role which is making inroads into the country's health service.

#### Objective:

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Formalise the emerging role and duties of DLOs in French health service organisations.

#### Agenda:

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<b>9am – 9.30</b>	<b>Welcome</b> <b>Introduction</b>
9.30 – 9.45	<i>Marie-Renée Guével, Researcher, Department of human and social sciences, EHESP</i> <i>Claire Le Boucher, Employee assistance coordinator – DLO, Centre hospitalier Guillaume Régnier</i>
9.45 – 12pm	<b>Disability liaison officer: a role, a profession, knowledge, a function- discussion for laying the foundations of a profession</b> <i>Régine Bercot, Lecturer, Sociology department, Université Paris 8</i>
<b>12pm – 1.30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
1.30 – 3.15	<b>Workshops – suggested topics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Activities and legitimacy of the role of DLO</li><li>- Knowledge applied in the role of DLO</li><li>- DLOs' internal and external partners</li></ul> <i>Marie-Renée Guével, researcher, Department of human and social sciences, EHESP</i>
<b>3.15 – 3.30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
3.30 – 4.15	<b>Round-up of the workshops</b> <i>Marie-Renée Guével, Researcher, Department of human and social sciences, EHESP</i> <i>Régine Bercot, Lecturer, Sociology department, Université Paris 8</i>
4.15 – 4.30	<b>Outlook and closing remarks</b> <i>Marie-Renée Guével, Researcher, Department of human and social sciences, EHESP</i>