Academic Libraries NORTH

Mental Health and Well-being Advocacy Resource: Template

NORTH	
Name of the initiative Give a brief descriptive name for the activity or initiative you were involved in organising related to mental health and well-being	Mental Health First Aid Scheme
Target group Was it aimed at all students or staff or a particular group?	Particularly aimed at staff but students are also welcome to get in touch
Description Give a short description of what was involved in organizing the activity or initiative.	Over 65 colleagues underwent MHFA training, and are now equipped to provide mental health support. Although not trained therapists or counsellors, they are an understanding ear available for confidential conversations, and can also signpost to sources of help and support both within the university and externally.
Partners Was this solely run by the library or were other stakeholders involved, and if so how? Were students involved in planning the session, if so, how?	This was run by the institution, specifically by a contact in HR, and involves colleagues from across all schools and professional services. The training and certification was provided by MHFA England.
Strategy How, if at all, was the activity linked into wider library or institutional strategy?	This was linked to the institutions 'People Plan', specifically the strand: Wellbeing is at the heart of all we do.
Evaluation How, if at all, was the activity evaluated?	This is a new scheme, and MHFAs are only just promoting themselves and the service
What worked Colleagues are looking for tips to help them run their events more effectively, what tips would you share to someone wanting to repeat what you have done? If applicable, please include how many people attended (if an event) or engaged (e.g. website clicks) or another appropriate measure for your initiative. Did this match expected engagement?	The initial call for volunteers was very popular, and the training was conducted really efficiently despite needing to adhere to Covid protocols. We have a wide variety of colleagues with varying experience and backgrounds, who are all now ready and available to speak to anybody in the institution who needs help with a mental health crisis.
What did not work What you would change if you were doing it again? Sharing what did not work can be as useful to help others as what did work.	Promoting the service is a little difficult, as it's not entirely clear how best to get people to get in touch with MHFAs (individuals or through some kind of request system etc.)
Photo <i>Are there any photos you can share that give us a feel for the initiative?</i>	N/A
Resources Is there a URL related to the initiative?	Training website: <u>https://mhfaengland.org/mhfa-</u> centre/about/

	Unable to share institution page as it's on
	Sharepoint.

Your name, institution and contact details. Dean Brown, University of Salford, d.a.brown2@salford.ac.uk

Are you willing to share your contact details to other ALN staff so if they want to find out more they can contact you directly? YES