

ORAL HISTORY RECORDING SUMMARY

'Fighting for our Rights' project

Surname	Sands
Given name	Brenda
Date of birth	1944
Place of birth	Carshalton, London
Date of interview	1 June 2017
Length of interview	01:05:45
Number of tracks	1
Name of interviewer	Jen Kavanagh

Track 1 of 1 [01:05:45]

Brenda Sands (BS) was born in 1944 in Carshalton, London to parents George and Ellen. Father worked for Sainsbury's, mother a housewife. Attended The Willows School in Morden. Left school at 16, started work in banking. Explains various other jobs. In 1980 started worked for Newham House as domestic support. Explains joining social work team at Kingston, gained qualification of Diploma in Social Work. Talks about shift to home care services for younger people [00:05:35]. Talks about placement at hospital and patients BS met. Learned a lot about physical and mental disabilities [00:09:45]. Mentions KADP consultation to better understand home care requirements, more flexible service. Talks about development of new team, based at Crescent Resource Centre. Majority of clients had MS and cerebral palsy. Explains support offered to young peoples' parents and carers. Mentions client with Huntington's disease [00:15:50]. Talks about younger clients including men, so male staff employed. Explains how service worked for users. Challenge of some people accepting help [00:22:15]. Talks about not charging at the start, trial service for some users. Mentions criticism. Talks about Independent Living Scheme, Ann Macfarlane. Explains transition from YPD (Young People with Disabilities) team to independent living for some users [00:27:10]. Talks about type of support offered to people. Explains size of team, up to 20 staff. Talks through some documentation including original proposal for the specialist team. Explains some challenges including manual handling [00:34:15]. Talks further about client with Huntington's, social activities including going to football. Clients knew each other from Crescent Resource Centre. Explains building up care packages for some clients. Talks about some internal resistance at start, particularly to young men being employed [00:41:10]. Mentions Jenny Webb. Mentions positive feedback from clients. Explains change in service around 1992, BS left. Moved to working with older people with disabilities [00:46:00]. Talks about natural break-up of the service, move to more flexible care. BS moved on to manage large teams through Primary Care Trust. Talks about personal achievements of gaining qualifications. Talks about changes in disability services and personal budgets [00:51:05]. Talks about client who found disability very challenging, anti-social behaviour as a result. Anger with the system [00:55:00]. Reflects on progress but also existing challenges with services. Ends with talking about clients and colleagues.

End of recording [01:05:45]