

Calderdale Framework Founders in Christchurch

The UK founders of the Calderdale Framework skill sharing and skill delegation tool for the workforce, visited Christchurch in November to train practitioners ('train the trainers') and enable South Island self-sufficiency in the training of future facilitators. The founders, Jayne Duffy and Rachael Smith, also oversaw the training of a new group of 17 facilitators from all over the South Island during the workshops. As part of the training, facilitators complete a skill sharing or skill delegation project in their allied health work environment, over a 12-month period.

The evidence-based Calderdale Framework has a patient safety focus, providing a systematic, objective method of reviewing skill, role and service design, to ensure safe, effective and productive patient-centred care. Developed as a tool out of clinical need 10 years ago in the NHS (UK), physiotherapists Jayne and Rachael originally created the methodology when they were working in an early orthopaedic discharge service. "The service was brand new so there was a lot of pressure for it to be delivered safely and effectively for patients," says Rachael. "We had to make sure our support staff were delivering care to the required standard. So, we began developing the Calderdale Framework to ensure support staff were trained to the right standard and that we had adequate governance around those roles."

Anne Buckley, Allied Health Facilitator and Project Manager of the South Island Workforce Development Hub (SIWDH), says eight Calderdale Framework facilitators completed training in April 2016 and this November was the first time Calderdale Framework practitioners have been trained in New Zealand. "Up until now, we've had to rely on trainers from Queensland and the UK, so this will ensure we have a sustainable group of facilitators who are able to work within their specific allied health services, throughout the South Island."

One of the two new Calderdale Framework practitioners, Hilary Exton (Nelson Marlborough DHB), says working with the founders was a brilliant opportunity to ask questions and gain clarification in preparation for leading the facilitator training. "Jayne and Rachael have a wealth of experience in developing new roles and ways of working. They shared many positive examples, as well as the challenges they have addressed along the way in developing and using the tool to improve patient care."