



Brainbow Service

Case Study 2 - Maria's story

Maria (aged 15) had an introductory appointment with the multi-disciplinary Brainbow Service at the Child Development Centre on the Addenbrooke's site in November 2013. This initial assessment highlighted that the family were keen to address some new goals in rehabilitation.

Maria was known to community Physiotherapy and local Hospice Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy teams. A multi-disciplinary meeting with the family and local therapists was held and Brainbow's role within the local provision was agreed upon: Brainbow was to provide a block of intervention to address particular goals.

Multi-disciplinary baseline assessments were completed pre-treatment. An example is a feeding assessment incorporating Occupational Therapy for postural management and the physical act of feeding, Speech and Language Therapy for swallowing and oral motor assessment, and a Dietician for review of energy intake in light of upcoming increased expenditure of energy. Specific outcome measures were also used in targeted areas.

It was agreed that a Goals setting tool (COSA) would be completed by the Hospice Occupational Therapist with the child and goals then worded with the family within a Brainbow session. Goals focused on three areas: Writing, washing and mobility.

Katie (the Anna's Hope Occupational Therapist) and Dave (the Anna's Hope Physiotherapist) worked with the child on a weekly basis. In order to empower the family and work to a community model of care, activity ideas were provided and therapists incorporated therapeutic activity into daily routines. All activity ideas were copied to local therapists and joint sessions were held towards the end of the block of treatment to ensure a smooth transition back to community teams.

A joint report was compiled by all professionals involved from Brainbow in order to create a holistic understanding of the child's needs and how the goals were addressed.

A multi-disciplinary meeting was held with local and Hospice therapists to formally hand over, to create a plan for next steps in Maria's care and to create a smooth transition back to local therapists.

Outcomes for Child

- Maria has increased time at school (she is now there three mornings a week)
- She is able to transfer at home safely with Mum's help instead of being lifted.
- She is now walking with a frame and assistance at home.
- She is now washing at the sink independently instead of lying in bed and her mum washing her. She is also able to use the shower at home.

- She uses a pen to write cards.
- She feeds herself and takes all her food orally so there is a date for her PEG removal.
- Maria is trialling a power pack on a wheelchair to gain independence outside. (Wheelchair service assessment planned to look at this).
- She is managing three steps (stairs) with assistance.