Where can I get some help with doing service evaluation?

I need to find a supervisor for my dissertation on health needs of homeless people.

I need some service-user input on my module.

My university is interested in learning about your experiences of outreach work.

Who can I talk to about getting experience through working in the community?

Two examples of Cupp helpdesk work

1. The Director of Amaze, a local parenting charity, contacts the Helpdesk. The enquiry is filtered to an appropriate academic. After doing a joint service evaluation, a long-term partnership ensues. Together, Amaze and the university gain national funding to design and evaluate a training course for parents of children with special needs. Amaze commits to working with the university and other partners, embedding ideas from resilience research into practice. Materials (including a book and a film) are co-produced. Funded through further successful joint bids and contributions in kind from the university and partners, the materials and practice improve the work with disadvantaged children.

2. A Local Authority Housing Policy Officer contacts the helpdesk regarding a consultation exercise involving Black and Ethnic Communities, and the helpdesk manager helps her identify ways in which Cupp can help. Through contact with the Senior Researchers’ Group and helpdesk facilitation, a consultation meeting is set up, attracting participants from relevant organisations and communities, as well as academic staff and students. Participants of BME-focused activities at the university are currently in a knowledge exchange project on BME needs.

Who's asking the question?

- community
- university / academic
- students
- visitors

What is the Cupp Helpdesk?

- A user-friendly point of entry within the university for all initial enquiries about possible partnership links between the community, the voluntary sector, the statutory sector and the university
- An organisational base for services which are offered to those making enquiries and building partnerships
- An organisational base for academics across the university to meet together and develop community-university partnership activities via the Senior Researchers’ Group

For further information

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Recently published book about Cupp's work:
Community-university partnerships in practice
A. Hart, E. Maddison, D. Wolff (eds)
Leicester: Niace 2007

What is Cupp?

- University of Brighton’s Community-University Partnership Programme
- Cupp’s activities address social disadvantage
- Cupp focuses on socially engaged research and teaching
- Mutual benefit to the university and the community is our guiding principle

The Cupp Helpdesk

There to assist with university-community partnership engagement

reducing inequalities  ~  sharing knowledge  ~  building communities of practice

The Cupp Helpdesk engages with:

- university academics
- students
- visitors
- the community

Two examples of Cupp helpdesk work