**COPOTDS**

**Community of Practice for Occupational Therapists in Diverse Settings**

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| Your job title and email contact if happy to share: |
| Stephen Sellers, Principal, Stephen@farmbuddies.org.uk |
| The type of organisation you work for (eg: social enterprise, charity, NHS, Private company, Local government etc) |
| Social Enterprise |
| Your area of practice (eg: mental health, learning disabilities, social engagement young offenders, supporting the unemployed etc) |
| All sectors |
| Examples of assessments that you use? |
| Soft outcomes recorded |
| Do you find a model(s) of practice useful - if so can you provide examples? |
| The standard FarmBuddies model is based around one day a week for a minmimum of 12 weeks doing meaningful work according to age, choice & ability. |
| Please provide some examples of the type of interventions you carry out: |
| All farm activities |
| Do you use specific outcome measures? Please provide examples |
| If the Commissioners require it (eg Local Authorities) |
| Have you found relevant research to underpin your practice? Are there areas of research you feel are necessary? |
| A wealth of published research in the UK & Europe backs the efficacy of Social Farming (aka Care Farming). Central Government announced in Jan 2018 that it will support ‘trebling the number of places to 1.3m per year for children & adults in England’ by 2022. |
| Is there particular legislation, policy, guidelines that underpin your practice? |
| Care Farming UK publish training guidelines and encourage service providers to meet a Code of Practice. |
| Which other professionals do you work with? How do you feel occupational therapy has benefited your team? |
| Educational Professionals. The service is also very close to OT goals. |
| Anything else that you would like to add: |
| We have the largest and most comprehensive Social Farm register across the South East region & believe there is a large area of untapped potential to work more with OTs. We have in-depth knowledge of farms so we can suggest not just the nearest farm but also the most suited to the individual client. |