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New National Training Programme Launched **Supporting the Children and Families Workforce**

Supporting Children, Young People and Families (SCYPF) has launched a national training initiative to equip professionals in health, education, and social care with the skills and confidence to improve outcomes for children and families.

The evidence-based programme gives all professionals a strong foundation in working with children and families, developing key mental health understanding and skills, before advancing to specialised modules on working therapeutically with children and families affected by abuse and trauma, and/or in mental health crisis.

With a career spanning NHS CAMHS, local authority, and voluntary sector Children's Services, Liam Laughton has seen firsthand the challenges faced by professionals. **"We often hear about the struggles in children's mental health services, but not enough about solutions,"** he says. "This training provides a real way to empower staff and improve service quality."

With **one in three child psychiatry posts vacant** ([The Guardian 2024](#)) and **waiting times as long as two years** ([Children's Commissioner for England, 2024](#)), many services lack the capacity to train and retain staff effectively. SCYPF's training helps bridge this gap, ensuring professionals feel supported and prepared to deliver high-quality care. "Better-trained staff provide better services," Liam adds. "They're also more likely to stay in their roles, boosting team morale and help with staff retention."

Liam also lends his experience in Children's Mental Health service management and commissioning, where he has achieved tangible improvements in outcomes, **leading two services to reduce average waiting times from over 9 months, to less than 3**, as he provides bespoke guidance for system leaders seeking strategic improvements in children's mental health services.

For more information or to book a training session, visit www.scypf.co.uk, contact bookings@scypf.co.uk or scan the QR code.



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