Many factors can influence mental well being

People who experience emotional and mental distress can be stereotyped and discriminated against within society.

This can add to their distress and suffering and that of their families, friends and carers.

Research studies have shown that...

- 70% of people affected by mental illness have experienced discrimination
- People with mental illness are more likely than other people to be the victims of violence
- 33% of mental health service users felt reluctant to apply for jobs or volunteer, due to negative media stories about mental illness
- 24% of people with mental illness have been refused by insurance and finance companies
- 60% of employers would consider not employing someone with a history of mental health problems
- 44% of people with mental health problems felt they had experienced discrimination from their GPs, while 18% said they would not disclose their condition to a GP

Working together to make South of Tyne and Wear healthy for you

This information can also be made available in another format or language on request. If you require further copies of this leaflet please contact the Public Health Improvement Information Team Tel: 283 1124 Email: healthinfo@sotw.nhs.uk

Production date updated: July 2010 Code: 0710/247