

4b5

Subsidy

Do

Offer a reward to people who act as community hosts.

Story

Jim has an illness which means he frequently has to take time off. Despite this, he acquired subsidised employment at a local factory. The employer pays Jim a full wage, but the Government's Workstep scheme reimburses the employer for a percentage of the wage,

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Hints & Hazards

The placement may collapse at the end of the funding period. Leach (2002, p22) says that it rarely leads to unsupported participation. How does the subsidy make the service user feel? It may have the effect of separating the person from other participants.

A subsidised place might be the least valued place – a poor job, the worst seat in the theatre. Will it actually provide a stepping stone into further participation or does it turn out to be a dead end? How do other participants view the person in this subsidised situation?

Would additional information about the subsidy help? Sometimes the people on subsidies end up congregated together in a devalued group.

See *Popperwell 006* for a discussion of these issues.