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27th March 2026

Dear Member and Supporter,

I hope you are well. I am writing to share some important news with you about MhIST.

We are pleased to announce that during the last few weeks, MhIST and Family Action colleagues have been exploring ways we can work together to strengthen the sustainability of high-quality mental health support in Bolton.

Following discussion at both organisations' board meetings, Trustees on both sides have given approval to proceed with due diligence exploration of a full merger of MhIST into Family Action. Subject to the successful completion of due diligence, both organisations hope to complete this merger on 1st May 2026. Our commitment to deliver high quality services remains our top priority, and we expect a seamless transition, ensuring continuity and stability.

There is currently no impact on service delivery, staff roles, or volunteer involvement — MhIST continues to operate as usual while discussions progress.

This merger offers a significant opportunity to safeguard everything MhIST does well, strengthen our overall impact, and continue providing safe, friendly, and life-changing support across Bolton. Both organisations share deeply aligned values, particularly around person-centred support, empowerment, and improving outcomes for individuals and communities, making this partnership a natural and positive fit. We are excited to work alongside colleagues at Family Action, it will enable us to bring together our collective expertise, broaden our reach within mental health services, and offer more comprehensive support to the people we serve.

For our partners, it means a stronger, more resilient organisation with greater capacity and an amplified voice to champion your needs. Your continued support and engagement are vital, as we pursue our shared ambition towards positive mental wellbeing within our communities.

If you have questions or queries about the potential merger, please do get in touch. We are hosting an Extraordinary General Meeting on Friday 24th April @ 2pm where questions can be raised or you can contact me directly on 07300 372348 or caroline.savage@mhist.co.uk

We look forward to embarking on this exciting new chapter together and we appreciate your continued support.

Best wishes,
Caroline