



If you use these materials in your work, please credit to Christine Thornton @ www.thorntonconsulting.org

SETTING THE GROUP UP TO BE FUNCTIONAL FROM THE START – THE COACH’S ROLE IN THE FIRST MEETING OF THE GROUP

- Your core objective as facilitator is to ensure that everyone wants to come back next time
- Welcoming
- Explaining the group’s objective and the process
- Acknowledging –significance and feelings, esp anxiety – not your own, but ‘everyone’s’
- Modelling – showing interest in others
- Reinforcing members’ positive behaviours
- Making sure everyone hears their own voice in the group
- Being observant of individuals
- Keeping boundaries firm – use of agreed protocols
- Taking seriously what is said
- Keeping boundaries firm -- start and end on time.