

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING  
MINUTES OF BALLYMONEY LOCALITY GROUP**

**FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 10.00AM  
BALLYMONEY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE**

<b>Attending:</b>	Iain McAfee	<i>Parent/Comm Rep (Chair)</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP (Minute Taker)</i>
	Clair McElhone	<i>BCRC</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Sandra Anderson	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Jude Maclahan	<i>CFSP</i>
	Tanya McVicker	<i>NEELB</i>
	Karen Millar	<i>Home-start Causeway</i>
	Veronica Kelly	<i>NHSCT School Nurse</i>
	Jonny Donaghy	<i>Ballymoney Borough Council</i>
	Amanda McAuley	<i>CRUN</i>
	Gerry McDonald	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Karen Miller	<i>Homestart</i>
	Lyn Moffett	<i>BCRC</i>
	Tommy Linton	<i>CHEERS</i>
	Sharon Kirk	<i>Dalriada Rural Surestart</i>
 <b>Apologies:</b>	 Kirsty Bartlett	 <i>North Coast Mums</i>
	Clare McKay	<i>NICMA</i>
	Stephanie McFadden	<i>MASTS</i>
	Veronica McKinley	<i>NICHI Project</i>
	Kaye Cormack	<i>Phoenix ADHD</i>
	Gerry McVeigh	<i>Start360</i>
	Pat Purvis	<i>PHA</i>
	Sharon Lyons	<i>Early Years</i>

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Iain welcomed the group and apologies were noted. A round of introductions took place from all members present.

## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2014 were reviewed with one change.

NEELB – Residential in the summer did not take place.

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate recording of the previous meeting.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

### Health & Wellbeing

Selena met with Clare McKeown who has been gathering information in partnership with School Nurses in relation to obesity figures. 14% of year 8's in Ballymoney are considered obese with the regional average being 7%. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the Northern Trust area. Progress is being made on how to tackle this issue. A discussion took place regarding these figures and a point was raised to target other places outside of school to tackle this issue of obesity.

### Wayne Denner

Iain agreed to circulate information when a flyer has been drafted for Wayne Denner who will be delivering a talk in Ballymoney during October 2014. It was noted Wayne will also be speaking at Ballysally Primary School on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September from 12.30-1.30pm if anyone is interested in attending. Contact Iain for further details.

### Letter – Play Park

Changes have been made to the letter regarding the play parks and consultation with young people. This was distributed to everyone present for a final review. One change was noted in relation to the parks now being opened.

## **PRESENTATION – JUDE MACLAGAN**

Jude provided background information to the Community Family Support Programme. This is a programme offering families and young people support, information and confidence to tackle difficulties they may face in their daily life. It is aimed at families who have a young person aged between 11-24 years or young parents in this age category.

The programme runs for 26 weeks but it was noted this may change as it is a small period to make a difference.

Community Family Support has an initial meeting with families to identify their needs as each family will be different. Target families are families with multiple health issues and families with a young person over 16 and not in employment.

Jude explained the initial assessment form and how it forms the basis of an action plan. This is a working document and changes throughout the period of the programme depending on the needs of each family. This determines the focus of services and information offered for the duration of the programme. The programme assists in dealing with problems such as challenging behaviour, alcohol/drug misuse, financial difficulties, low confidence, health, housing worries, problems in accessing public or community services, concerns in school, college or help to source training and employment.

Jude noted that HESSIE McMULLAN is the newly appointed CFS Coordinator for the Northern and Southern Health Trust area. Statistics have shown 106 families have been helped in NI to date through the Community Family Support programme.

Referral forms were given to the group. Anyone wishing to make a referral can do so by completing the referral form and returning to the address provided. People can also make referrals by phoning and emailing the details given.

Contact HESSIE McMULLAN on 075 8561 0097 / 078 7283 8681 if you know of anyone who would be interested in taking part.

Discussions took place regarding this programme. It was noted there are no barriers to anyone coming onto the programme. There are a few spaces open to new families but referrals must be in by 29<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

## **PRESENTATION – GERRY MCDONALD**

Gerry McDonald is the Impact of Alcohol Portfolio Manager covering the Northern Trust area. This is a Big Lottery funded programme with the aim to reduce the harm to individuals, families and communities directly affected by alcohol misuse. It was noted NI has a serious problem with alcohol. 72% of people in NI drink alcohol.

Gerry distributed a leaflet 'Think Drink'. The leaflet has a self-assessment questionnaire and if answered correctly will identify what at risk category the person completing scores.

Gerry also distributed a copy of a presentation to the group. The presentation highlighted that the Northern Trust wants to leave a legacy after the portfolio has ended of empowered communities who will deliver the vision:

- "That individuals, families and communities throughout its area will confidently take the initiative to reduce the impact of alcohol misuse".

Statistics were noted in the presentation with one given: it is estimated that alcohol misuse in Northern Ireland costs 900 million every year to areas such as healthcare, policing, prison and social services.

Gerry explained the 4 projects which form the Impact of Alcohol Portfolio.

- Believe in Youth  
Peer education and specialised alcohol intervention programmes delivered directly when and where young people congregate and socialise.
- Relationships and Alcohol Misuse  
Supporting and improving family relationships through counselling and reducing financial, work pressures and poverty: through advice and advocacy for families most affected by these issues.
- Healthy Body, Healthy Mind  
Recognise, understand and support individuals and families affected by both mental health and alcohol problems through mentoring, education and targeted support interventions.
- Older Focus  
Increasing recognition, understanding and skills around the hidden problem among care providers and families and providing specialist intervention support for older people.

It was noted if anyone registers with Drink Aware free credit is given for ordering alcohol related resources. Visit [www.drinkaware.co.uk](http://www.drinkaware.co.uk)

Discussions took place between Tommy and Gerry in relation to gaps in service provision in the Ballymoney area. Maurice will be contacting Tommy to discuss this.

For more information on this Initiative contact Gerry McDonald on 028 8672 3937 or 028 2563 6606. Email [gerry.mcdoanld@northerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:gerry.mcdoanld@northerntrust.hscni.net)

## **UPDATE 0-4 SUB GROUP**

Sandra provided background information on the sub group which was set up to plan engagement. Early Years, NICMA and Surestart were involved. Paper based questionnaires, online survey monkey and informal interviews were all carried out to gather information. This included 118 questionnaires and 10 informal interviews.

A report on the engagement with parents of children aged 0-4 years has been completed and was distributed to all members present. Sandra asked as a locality group to look at the recommendations and decide what to include in the Action Plan.

It was agreed Gemma will distribute a copy of the report to members not present at today's meeting. Members have been asked to review the report and send any comments to Sandra / Gemma.

**Action: Gemma**

## **FAMILY SUPPORT HUBS**

It was noted referrals are coming in fast and when a referral is brought, the organisation relevant to the particular referral takes it. The Family Support Hubs are continuing to meet on a regular basis and it is a good support network.

## **ACTION PLAN – REVIEW**

It was agreed for members to review the action plan and send Selena any amendments to be included in the Action Plan.

**Action: Members**

## **MEMBER UPDATES**

### Sharon Kirk – Dalriada Rural Surestart

Sharon informed the group Surestart will launch on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2014. An official launch of play morning will also take place and information has been texted to all parents who have registered. Sharon noted Baby Massage, Baby Yoga and Antenatal classes are well advertised and attended. The Nurturing Parent programme is full. Sharon noted more parents can take part in the Nurturing Parent programme but there is no space for any more children. Swimming has been highlighted as a need in Ballymoney and Surestart will be running swimming classes again with babies 2-3 years old. There will also be a parents swimming group.

Family visiting is on-going and there are no problems attracting parents and childcare in the area. Strengthening Families Programme will be delivered in

Surestart premises. CRUN are currently delivering the programme in Surestart in Bushmills and will be having alcohol sessions in November.

#### Gerry McDonald – NHSCT

Gerry noted the website for the initiative is not yet operational but will be up and running in the next few weeks. Information will be circulated when live. Information was given on the Alcohol and You website which has an online diary to record your intake of alcohol on a daily basis. This shows the impact alcohol plays on different parts of the body.

#### Lyn Moffett – BCRC

Created a number of art pieces which are going to be showcased at the Womad Festival this afternoon. Newly activated Facebook page is up and running and growing fast. If anyone would like information uploaded to the page if you send it in the correct format it will be uploaded immediately. Format accepted is jpeg.

Lyn noted an application is being prepared for the Supporting Families Big Lottery Funding. This will focus on disability and BME families. A lot of focus groups have already taken place to gather information and evidence of need and Clair has been involved in facilitating these. Keen to have other partners to join with the application so services are not being duplicated. If anyone is interesting in linking together please get in contact.

#### Tommy Linton – Cheers

Tommy informed the group it has been a busy summer working with various groups. Tommy is now focusing on the programmes that will be happening from September onwards.

#### Jonny Donaghy – Ballymoney Borough Council

Jonny informed the group he is now working as a Good Relations Officer and will be covering the Causeway area. Jonny noted the letter of offer has been received from OFMDFM. A programme is currently being established to train trainers and children in Limavady. Further information regarding this will be known in the next few months.

Jonny provided information on the Open Door Project which took place in Ballymoney at the bottom of the town. Anne Steele was the coordinator for this

project. Following on from this it is hoped to run a drop in centre covering a number of issues. Jonny suggested members linking in with this and contacting Anne for further information.

#### Amanda McAuley – CRUN

Causeway Youth Festival takes place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September in The Dunluce Centre from 1pm – 6pm. The event is organised by Causeway Association of Urban Sports and funded by Coleraine BC, DCAL, NICHI, CRUN and Portrush Community Enterprises. There will be a range of activities to enjoy including skating, demos, inflatables, segways and live music. This is for families and anyone of any age so everyone is welcome to attend.

Level 2 OCN Training will start on Tuesday night in Rasharkin. 12 young people will be attending this. Level 2 OCN Training will also take place in Bushmills on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

Amanda noted CRUN, TIPSAs and ACET have taken over the Community Support Service. They will be working together to support communities in each area where there are concerns regarding drugs and alcohol and signposting to existing drug and alcohol support agencies. Talks can also be provided to groups/individuals specifically tailored to their need. For more information contact Amanda on 028 7034 4934 or email: [amanda@crun.org](mailto:amanda@crun.org)

#### Iain McAfee – Parent/Community Rep

North Coast Mums are running an event on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November from 12pm – 4.00pm in Joey Dunlop Centre but this venue may change.

Iain highlighted to the group of September being Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. This is to raise awareness of the impact of childhood cancer and the work being done to support young cancer patients and their families. Iain informed the group Ballymoney Council have supported this. There are a number of ways to donate if anyone is wishing to.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Nothing noted.

## **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 10.00am in Ballymoney Resource Centre.**