

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING  
MINUTES OF BALLYCLARE & RURAL NEWTOWNABBEY**

**THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016 AT 2.00PM  
BALLYCLARE COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

<b>Attending:</b>	Adelyn Carr	<i>Ballyclare Family Focus</i>
	Anne Thompson	<i>SACN</i>
	Gemma Lutton	<i>CYPSP (Minute Taker)</i>
	Janine Gaston	<i>SACN</i>
	Kathy Wolff	<i>CR Forum</i>
	Ricky Mehaffy	<i>GBYFC</i>
	Selena Ramsey	<i>CYPSP</i>
	Valerie McKenzie	<i>EANI Youth Service</i>
	Wendy Burgees	<i>Start360 Connections Service</i>
<b>Apologies:</b>	Liz Brown	<i>NICMA</i>
	Pamela Davis	<i>NHSCT</i>
	Sandra Anderson	<i>CYPSP</i>

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Adelyn welcomed everyone to the meeting today and apologies were noted.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes were agreed as being a true and accurate recording of the previous meeting held on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015**.

**MATTERS ARISING**

Autism Programme

This programme is still continuing with feedback received to date very positive. Selena noted the Northern Outcomes Group are recognising this as a good model.

## **FEEDBACK – PARENTS MORNINGS / NEXT STEPS**

Selena provided information on a previous parent morning delivered to group of mums with children of 0-8's in Ballyclare Community Concerns. This session focused on Paediatric First Aid and parents found the training very beneficial taking away useful information and new skills.

The next steps are to look at new courses covering mental health. Selena thought it would be a good idea to ask parents what they would like information on. Once this is completed and the appropriate facilitators booked etc. Gemma will draft flyer and circulate to group for advertising to all parents. Janine noted she would be keen in delivering a session to the group.

**ACTION: Gemma**

There will also be 2 Cook It's running with one starting in September and funding has been secured for this. Pamela Davies agreed to deliver this.

## **ACTION PLANNING – DROP IN**

At the previous action planning meeting members agreed they would like to have a drop in for young people and parents in the Ballycalre area.

Junior and Senior nights were running in the School but organisations can no longer get access to Ballyclare High School. Discussions took place on possible drop in's in the area. Ricky expressed he has a drop in facility and members had a discussion on linking groups together to utilise this space.

## **MEMBERS UPDATES**

### Janine Gaston – SACN

The Promoting Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Small Grants are currently open for applications. A lot of applications have been submitted to date and packs are continuing to be distributed. The closing date for applications is 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 12 noon. Janine noted SACN also want to engage with new groups.

Information was given on an Arts and Film Festival organised for 19<sup>th</sup> May in the Baron Hall, Glengormley. The purpose of this is to reduce the stigma of mental illness and suicide through the power of film. There will be an opportunity for discussion following 3 short films. Internet Safety training will also take place on 14<sup>th</sup> June with no venue confirmed as yet. It is hoped to deliver an hour session for young people and ½ hour session for parents/teachers.

### Wendy Burgees – Start360

Wendy provided information on her role for the Connections Service Start360 which is PHA funded. Part of her role is to work with multi-agency partnerships and networks in all localities in order to identify local key issues and feed up to Drugs & Alcohol Teams. Wendy will be holding networking events for organisations in order

for everyone to find out what about services covering particular areas. Another part of Wendy's role is signposting and Wendy is continuously keeping up to date on all the services available. A directory of services will be compiled which will give an insight on all services and this can be shared as a resource. 2 hour Drugs & Alcohol Awareness Sessions can be delivered and tailored to the needs of each group. For further information Wendy can be contacted at [wendy.burgess@start360.org](mailto:wendy.burgess@start360.org)

### Kathy Wolff – CRF

New Autism group will be starting in Glengormley. This will be for those on the children on the spectrum. This will be on a 3 tier basis for parents, siblings and children. Information was also provided on the May Fair taking place in Ballyclare.

### Ricky Mehaffy – Greater Ballyclare Youth for Christ

Ricky provides a drop in on Monday evenings for 7-11 year olds. Tuesday evening is a drop in for 11-16 year olds. Monday and Tuesday afternoon is for young people and they look at topical issues such as sexual health, drugs and alcohol. There is an afterschools club operating on Wednesdays and 2 breakfast clubs on Monday and Wednesday morning.

Ricky is trying to look at education and identify what else they could provide. He expressed he would like to offer a drop in environment. Ricky also noted the Church host a counselling service for the community on a Wednesday afternoon and evening.

### Adelyn Carr – Ballyclare Family Focus

Adelyn have 3 groups currently running within Ballyclare Family Focus.

- Parent and Toddler Group
- Men's Outreach – up to 14 Men between 20-35 years are dropping in on a Monday night. Adelyn is trying to secure more funding for this.
- Active Listening Counselling Service – trained counsellors who come to complete their counselling hours offer a free counselling service. Links are made with Action for Children Family Support Hubs to get referrals. A lot of need for children's counselling and it is difficult to find counsellors for children.

### Valerie McKenzie – EA NI

New structure within Education Authority NI with 5 Directors now all in post. Director Clare Mangan is responsible for Children and Young People's Services. Valerie will be covering Newtownabbey, Carrickfergus and Larne within her role.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### Recent Achievement

It was noted Kathy's granddaughter won overall child for achievement in NI.

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

A date for the next meeting has yet to be set. It was agreed to work on developing the actions in the interim and Selena will circulate a future meeting date.

The group agreed to meet September/ October 2016.

**ACTION: Selena**