

## Report from Locality Planning Groups to Northern Area Outcomes Group

Month Feb 21- April 21

<p><b>Current Issues being Discussed at LPG:</b> Including: Gaps in services/Emerging needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Difficulties with on-line stressors and home schooling/ disruption to education</li><li>• On-line safety awareness/ Some families unwilling to engage on-line. Fed up with zoom.</li><li>• Lack of counselling, particularly for CYP aged 4-11 years</li><li>• Poverty- food, uniform, digital (Antrim/Ballymena, Larne, Carrick, Newtownabbey, Mid Ulster</li><li>• Poverty – Specifically mentioned working poor/hidden poverty. Can only access food banks a limited time. FSH also highlighted increase in need for financial assistance with essentials – food, heating, electric</li><li>• Increase in anti-social behaviour. Youth centres/youth diversion programmes shut</li><li>• Gap in services highlighted in Newtownabbey area to support those who reside outside of the Thrive Project’ boundary</li><li>• Gaps existing for support for CYP especially between tier 2 and tier 3 CAMHS level</li><li>• Practical help and support for parents coping with young people behavioural and mental health issues</li><li>• Ethnic minorities- unable to access some services due to language barriers. Sometimes not digitally aware. Translators can be expensive. Like to see more leaflets in other languages</li><li>• Mentoring and befriending for young people a huge gap</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth service highlighted highlighted a gap in linking with Parents, they are trying to address this.</li> <li>• Moe ASD and ADHD support required for young people- prior to and after assessment</li> <li>• Not enough Ed Psychology support in schools</li> <li>• Access to benefit advice. Challenges previously experienced with moving to Universal Credit, this has been further impacted by COVID restrictions</li> <li>• Poverty –gap in white goods and household furniture</li> <li>• Lockdown babies- increase in help with Emotional health and wellbeing of parents (surestart)</li> <li>• Isolation, lack of motivation</li> <li>• Lack of support and opportunities for those aged 16+ in finding employment/accessing courses to build skills</li> <li>• Rise in number of teenage pregnancies</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recent Achievements by the Locality Planning Group.</b>  How much did we do?  How well did we do it?  Is anyone better off?  (can be included as a report card)</p>	<p>PANTS Campaign completed. PANTS resources sourced, bought and disseminated to interest member organisations. Press release completed and shared. Workshop with Surestart Ballymena carried out with 17 attendees. Network Personnel supported to carry out parents PANTS presentation. Evaluation being completed.</p> <p>Worked in partnership with H&amp;W Sexual health lead to co-ordinate and promote LGBT Training- 70 attendees over three workshops. Evaluation being completed.</p> <p>On back of survey, secured funding for a range of Community Sports Network programmes, Relax and Regulate package and other EHWP programmes through AWARE, Fresh Minds and AMH March-June</p> <p>NHSCT Secured funding to enable extension of Save the Children emergency response programme. Partnership initially set up with StC and FSH and more recently with Antrim/N’abbey borough Council Community Advice Centres. The funding assists with offering practical financial support for vulnerable families within all LPG areas through FSH, this included early learning packs and household items.</p>

	<p>During period Feb-March 21, 99 families and 198 children living within families experiencing hardship were supported through the FSH partnership. In aligning StC with Community Advice centres in Antrim/Netwonabbey council, a further 70 families were referred and 135 children reached.</p> <p>Whole staff training in Trauma and Mental Health-Informed Schools and Communities organised and promoted 144 people attended the training. Slides shared with 256 people (252 registered and whose unable to attend). Evaluation being completed.</p> <p>Parenting in a Pandemic training co-ordinated and promoted. 31 people attended.</p> <p>60 Pre-school play equipment (Healthy Movers kits) provided to Surestart organisations to encourage physical activity in pre-school children.</p> <p>Worked in partnership with MEA council to fund outdoor toy box in park to promote outdoor play especially to socially deprived children.</p> <p>Action Planning carried out.</p> <p>Worked in partnership with MEA Council TO PROVIDE THE Little Free Library in Curran Park with the aim of highlighting the importance of reading and getting outdoors in nature. Children and their families are encouraged to take or leave a book. Awaiting photos and artwork to be completed on this.</p>
<p><b>Engagement with Children and Young People, Parents/Carers:</b> including numbers</p>	<p>See above</p> <p>Larne and Carrickfergus LPG identified mental health and emotional wellbeing as one of the group's priorities. As the transition from Primary to Secondary school can be a challenging time, P7 classes in the Larne and Carrick area were offered the opportunity to avail of some positive wellbeing activities through a programme called 'Growing a Healthy Positive Me'</p> <p>Participating schools took part in an online session delivered by Action Mental Health. This</p>

	<p>30 minute session talked to the children and their teachers about the 5 ways to wellbeing. Ten sessions for nine schools were completed reaching almost 200 pupils. As a follow on From the webinar, the schools were asked to create a Tree of Strength, either individually or as a part of a group, to help reinforce the positive messages from the webinar and to allow the children to reflect on their strengths and to draw on positive ways that they can try to cope with challenges. Three schools completed their Trees of Strength allowing them each to gain Health and Wellbeing resources for their schools.</p> <p>The 'Growing a Healthy Positive Me' programme evaluated positively with all respondents rating it as 'very good'. One pupil commented 'I loved taking time to think about all of the things I can do and the people I can talk to, to help me feel positive about myself and reduce anxiety'. One teacher also commented, 'The webinar was interactive and very well and very well thought out. Children really loved discussing and drawing the Tree od Strength. It is so relevant during these difficult times of lockdown'. Barnardos Young Carers from the Causeway area participated in a 5 week Teens Wellness programme delivered by the Sunshine Project.</p>
<p><b>Meetings Held:</b> Break down of number of meetings held: How many attended:</p>	<p>Antrim/Ballymena area LPG- 23/03/21 17 attended Larne/Carrickfergus LPG – 05/03/21 16 attended Newtownabbey LPG – 16/02/21 28 attended Newtownabbey LPG- 23/03/21 26 attended Mid Ulster LPG- 12/03/21 21 attended Causeway LPG- 09/03/21 19 attended</p>
<p><b>Upcoming Events:</b></p>	<p>Community Sports Network Programmes detailed above to run through spring</p> <p>EW/MH programmes detailed above to run to through spring.</p> <p>Planning to give Looking After Me P7 transition journals to P7 children to support</p>

	transitioning to post-primary  Co-ordinating and promoting Demystifying Disability Hate crime webinar planned for May Mid Ulster LPG – Action planning meeting scheduled for 30 April 202
<b>Additional Information:</b>	

***\*\*LPG Planner can include photos from events, report cards, press releases etc. with captions on an additional page***

