

## **Locality Planning Groups**

### **Issues arising across the region through Locality Planning Groups in Northern, Southern and Western Areas**

- Financial support/increasing living costs/poverty/decreased donations for Christmas appeals
- Staffing pressures on all sectors including recruitment
- Lack of Counselling/Emotional Behaviour Support/Play Therapy
- Internet Safety and impact on social media on MH
- Lack of activities/social isolation leading to ASB
- Autism support awareness/autism support for girls/support for CYP on ASD waiting list
- Issues registering BAME at schools/with GPs
- Trauma awareness training for schools
- Short funding cycles leading to difficulty in strategic planning
- Difficulties engaging service users via online platforms
- Lack of funding for bereavement services for CYP
- Lack of physical activities for YP due to Covid
- Lack of volunteers in Family Support Services/volunteer burnout
- Children struggling to transition back to school
- Emotional regulation and aggression at home and school
- Social Isolation of young children/issues with communication/language pre-school age
- Lack of support for Children with Disabilities
- Increasing YP substance misuse/YP arriving at services/youth programmes under influence of substance
- Increasing anxiety/school refusal/waiting lists for CAMHS
- Increases in Maternal Mental Ill-Health
- Parental substance misuse
- Difficulty attracting LPG Chairs in some areas

## **Achievements**

### **Northern LPGs**

- One Childminders, one Staff working with ethnic minorities and two Teachers PANTS workshops carried out
- CYPSP weekly Useful news email circulated to all members from one central source. Members state they find this very helpful as it is a two way process of sharing and learning.
- Worked in partnership with NHSCT Arts Lead and local arts organisations to support Children's mental health and emotional wellbeing by co-ordinating the disseminating 1000 Christmas Take 5 art booklets to families with children in emotional need through Northern LPG member organisations.
- Worked in partnership with NHSCT ASD Improvement Lead and Autism NI to co-ordinate Autism NI Level 1 Fundamentals of Autism training to 23 LPG members
- The Parenting Programmes Survey completed
- Parents Plus/Solihull/Incredible years training places offered to member organisations
- Autism themed meeting held – another one planned
- Members booklet produced for Newtownabbey
- Small grants in MU – funding EHWP and bereavement programmes
- Partnership with NHSCT and Antrim Surestart to deliver physical activity programme
- Uniform Exchange scheme developed
- Useful News weekly email for members

### **Southern LPGs**

- Action Plans Completed and currently being signed off by LPG's
- School Uniform Recycling Toolkit: Survey Monkey completed by 20 schools in the Mid Ulster area. 13 schools interested in carrying out a scheme in their school as they currently do not.
- Screening of Resilience Documentary online to Mentors at South West College, Dungannon. Included discussion session afterwards and resources shared.
- FYI: Sent to 3000 contacts in total and downloaded 1085 times by contacts through the CYPSP website.

### **Western LPGs**

- In-Year Funding from WOAG for food and fuel support delivered via LPGs
- Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Training identified as a need – training delivered to members in Northern Sector
- GamCare training delivered to LPG regionally
- Action Plans completed in Derry and Waterside LPGs
- Progress update from UNICEF Child Friendly City and Community Work
- ACE included in FODC corporate and community plans
- Consortium of CBT, Play and Art Therapist developed to bid for MACE funding
- SBNI level 1 and 2 trauma training rolled out
- Work with Pathfinder to improve communications for CYP
- Work underway to roll out MH training for teachers and for Digital-Safeguarding day
- Funding accessed to provide water bottles with information of mental health services to young people

LPG coordinator in South-Eastern Area currently off on sick leave and LPG coordinator in Belfast Area currently vacant therefore no update from either area.