

## **Report from LPGs to CYPSP**

**January to May 2022**

**Emerging Issues and Gaps:** the following list highlights issues and gaps reported consistently through LPGs across the region.

- Poverty food/fuel/electricity/impact of cost of living on families/working poor
- Access to social housing/affordable private rental/concerns about increase risk of homelessness
- Increase in anxiety in all age-groups to include school related anxiety
- Emotional wellbeing/mental health/trauma
- Need for parental support re: resilience and boundaries
- Lack of mentoring services and emotional support for young people who do not meet CAMHS thresholds
- Increase in school refusal – Primary and post-primary
- Autism diagnosis waiting lists/autism awareness
- Increasing demand for support/social outlets for children with challenging behaviours
- Increase need for behavioural support including sleep
- gap of translation/cultural awareness/newcomer and traveller families registration in school and with GPs
- Increasing concerns re: online safety/consent/sexting/grooming/exploitation
- Emotional behavioural support for pre-school and primary school age children
- Record number of referrals to FSHs
- Concerns re: increase demand when Ukrainian displaced families arrive in NI
- Addiction (parent & child drugs & alcohol)
- Socialisation of babies born in lock down
- Both statutory, community and voluntary sector are facing major challenges in recruiting to posts. Management are having to backfill frontline work as well as their own.
- Increase in Domestic abuse

### **Achievements:**

- All LPG coordinator posts now filled
- All gaps in chairing in Southern Area now filled

- Action planning completed in most LPGs
- School Uniform Recycling Toolkit jointly developed in Mid-Ulster will be adaptable regionally
- Increase in LPG membership
- FYIs and weekly news getting great feedback from members
- Further rollout of PANTs campaign to include: campaign books to schools libraries to reduce/prevent sexual abuse of children including translations
- Partnership set up with StC and Community Advice Service (CAS) Centres and councils re: poverty support
- Fit for Fun Programme offered to 25 schools identified as areas of need
- Worked in partnership SureStart Antrim Ballymena to increase movement & daily physical activity of pre-school children in an area of deprivation by organising and delivering new outdoor equipment to SureStart Antrim Ballymena
- Worked in partnership to fund and co-ordinate 250 Grow Your Own Vegetable kits and recipe booklets to primary school aged children across the area to encourage CYP to be physically active outside, connect with nature, learn or develop a new skill, learn about where food comes from and improve nutrition
- Cross and Passion College – Take 5 School Project, Mae Murray Foundation – Inclusive Beach Project, Causeway Down Syndrome Support Group – Physical Activity Project, SOLAS – Young People's Resilience Project and Fresh Little Minds – Bereaved Children Project.
- Art workshops Rasharkin Primary School and St. Patricks P.S. Rasharkin for Primary 1,2 & 7 pupils with 'Maywe' as part of 'Sharkin Plan-It' Participatory Budgeting Project
- Funding through LPGs for Network Personnel 'Calm Kids Programme'; Fresh Minds Education (supporting parents and carers of bereaved children); Speedwell Trust ( Forest Project); Barnardo's Young Carers (Building resilience, GROW Project)
- slower cooker delivered online
- Autism themed meetings
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health workshops delivered in Glengormley High
- The ACE Agenda is captured in an action within F&O Community Plan and FODC Corporate Plan