

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING MINUTES OF MID ULSTER LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP

# FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022 AT 10.00AM VIA ZOOM

Attending: Ursula Marshall Chairperson / Disability Forum

Aileen McGoldrick Network Personnel

Annette McGahan PCSP
Anita Hurley CWSAN
Charlotte Turner BCM

Conor Rafferty Network Personnel

Denise Doherty CSWAN
Emma McElhone NHSCT
Grainne Scullion NICMA

Jessica Ritchie Action for Children

Joanne Dougan STEP

Josie McGuckin Empower / Sunflower Support

LeeAnn Wilson NHSCT

Leona Christie Early Years – Toybox Project

Mary Tennyson GOLD Surestart

Maxine McLean Network Personnel

Niamh Neeson NHSCT (Minutes)

Ryan McGee Education Authority

**Apologies:** Chris Lindsay Education Authority

Chris Magee PSNI

Colette Slevin Action Mental Health
Eileen Maguire Barnardo's Young Carers

Helen McCausland SUSE+

Rachel Lawrence Barnardos Young Carers

Rosie Sleator NHSCT
Tara Gilkinson SOFT

| ITEM | DISCUSSION   | ACTION<br>By Whom |
|------|--|-------------------|
| 1.   | Apologies  |                   |
|      | Ursula welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies noted. A round of introductions made.  |                   |
| 2.   | Minutes of last meeting  |                   |
|      | The previous minutes were agreed and accepted to be true.  |                   |
| 3.   | Matters arising  |                   |
|      | Activities Funding Update  |                   |
|      | Emma updated the group - In November they had £2000 funding split with small grants. 4 applications received. Some of those projects are due to finish at the end of March.  |                   |
|      | 1. Network Personnel   |                   |
|      | Maxine shared her screen and gave a short presentation on 'Calm Kids'.   |                   |
|      | They were delighted with their successful funding application, submitted under improving emotional and mental health for children with the Looked After Community Family Support programme in Mid Ulster. 80% of clients struggling to manage their child's behaviour, dealing with emotional or mental health issues. Some families had a child with ASD diagnosis who may need additional support with mental illness and emotional wellbeing. The team do not work with under 16s but can work with parents through access to facilitators - complimentary therapies. |                   |
|      | The funding went towards a sensory pack that went out to parents a few days before their online session to use with their child to help calm and reduce stress.  |                   |
|      | <ul> <li>Everyday Aromatherapy</li> <li>Mindfulness for kids/take 5</li> <li>Introduction to and demonstration of items provided in sensory pack</li> <li>Cocooning</li> <li>EFT - tapping points.</li> </ul>  |                   |

# 2. Fresh Minds Education

Emma gave an update on behalf of Fresh Minds
Education as unable to attend the meeting. Received
£400 from grant. Support parents and carers of bereaved
children. Employ an artist to produce product for
bereavement boxes. Help them have their voices heard
and experiences validated.

Group of bereaved children from Mid Ulster to produce product for box.

#### 3. Speedwell Trust

Received £339.50 to deliver a project in Parkanaur Forest Park, Dungannon. Will present at the next meeting.

# 4. Barnardos Young Carers

Received £392 to deliver Fresh Minds Education Grow project building resilience in young people. To present at next meeting.

#### **Budget**

Emma explained there is £458 left in the budget. If any existing members of the Network wish to avail of this funding focusing on Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing/Support and Fitness, apply to Emma before close of day on Monday.

### Uniform Exchange Toolkit Update

Planning group set up with Darren Curtis, Dungannon LPG and Emma McGeehan, Mid Ulster District Council to develop a toolkit for schools to think about recycling old school uniforms. An email sent to local schools before Christmas for feedback. 15 schools are keen. Meeting with schools next week.

# 4. Family Support Hub Update

Jessica gave an update on their annual hub evaluation this month. It was highlighted they had an increase in referrals for financial aid support around Christmas. They had a toy appeal and were able to deliver toys to 20 children and worked alongside Hope, Magherafelt to deliver hampers to families.

Jessica attended Jungle NI before Christmas to speak to parents and kids promoting the hubs.

All members

|    | AHD services request from parents. unmet need   |        |
|----|---|--------|
|    | Newtownabbey Hub locality planning meeting. Gap in services online in services. Seen increase support community family support programmes. Create online safety programmes. Now available in that area to meet the need.  |        |
|    | Joanne Dougan highlighted there was a need for internet safety. Since covid there has been an increase in indecent images being shared with kids as young as 13. Heightened in schools.   |        |
|    | Josie to send details for the IT company NSPCC free workshops.  | Josie  |
|    | Emma to check the contact. NHSCT has set up an  |        |
|    | internet safety multi-forum group. Emma to speak with Selena and Kate re their plans.   | Emma   |
| 5. | Members updates   |        |
|    | Aileen McGoldrick - Network Personnel   |        |
|    | Aileen works with Maxine alongside the Network Personnel needs programme. Employability further education CVs/interview support/work with progression officer/higher education needs. Take in young person not in education or up to 30 hours per week. Takes cost away from the employer. Extra step closer for them moving up in organisation. Work with local groups in Mid Ulster area. Works with Game Changer group in Galbally for past 4 years - found many mental health issues from participants. Try to adapt training and resources to accommodate. Many workshops with stress/anxiety. Better prepared for face to face with employers. Youth resource pack ideas with pandemic. Interacting with people in general. What to cook/read/podcasts/exercise not to feel isolated. Sent to every live and participants in programme. ESF funded. |        |
|    | Aileen to send leaflet to Emma 'Up for Work' programme. Email queries to: Aileen.mcgoldrick@networkpersonnel.org.uk   | Aileen |
|    | Anita Hurley - NICHI  |        |
|    | Depending on what someone has worked at before they can apply to that particular fund on turn2uk.org.uk, they have over 3500 benevolent funds available for people in financial hardship. After you enter information, it weeds   |        |

out the grants you are not eligible for and should have a choice of 4 or 5 possible grant funders to apply to for that person needs. Need to enter a description of financial difficulties.

Tai Chi on Mondays/ finger holes to manage emotions. help kids or parents to deal with anxiety/fear/grief at that particular time. A booklet to be downloaded in over 35 languages.

Monday evenings at 7pm, 'Spring Into Health' 6 week course - help ourselves to improve health and wellbeing. Working with groups

- Bugsy McMahon working with intergenerational at Glasgowbury Drama Project expressing the issues/impacts of Covid and creating a drama.
- Sunflower support face-to-face activities in John Devlin Hall, Ardboe for Men and young boys.
   Supporting carers/families with kids that have additional needs. Share with Emma.

Anita

## Annette McGahan - PCSP

PCSP continues to support agencies in delivery of schools programmes including internet safety, road safety, positive relationships programmes and working with youth at risk of coming to the attention of the Criminal Justice System.

# Charlotte Turner - BCM

Funding coming to an end. Charlotte to send Emma a list of what they cover- rent in advance, deposits, electric, heating, home security and more. Part of funding linked in with local estate agents for 16-25 year olds as landlord's reluctant to take them. HOPE foodbank and BCM toy appeal helped support 15 families over Christmas. The team no longer have an office due to tenancy end, now working remotely and from home.

Charlotte

# Conor Rafferty - Network Personnel

Conor shared his screen showing a presentation and Leaflet for the Grow programme - Gaining access to the job market key objectives to remove significant health and wellbeing and other barriers facilitated by Network Personnel - two keyworkers set aside to get 80 participants on scheme. CV building, life skills, confidence/motivation, enable clients to access driving license, mental health counselling, paying for

uniforms/access to laptop, 1-1 activities able to signpost in the local area.

Contact Conor by email to receive information, PowerPoint, EOI and leaflet so you can send referrals.

# Conor.rafferty@networkpersonel.org.uk

Participants must live in Mid Ulster, economically inactive/long-term unemployed, clear desire to find work/enhance employability and the determination to make changes in the near future.

# Emma McElhone - NHSCT

Highlighted trust work in partnership with councils.

# Joanne Dougan -STEP

Save the children - £26,000 to assist families' in the Southern and Northern Trust areas. Families can receive up to a maximum of £340 available for white goods or furniture delivered through Argos vouchers. Accepting referrals from families struggling with rising costs of goods/essentials. Consent form to be signed, family information leaflet and data protection leaflet given out, 1 parents full name required with address, postcode, email address, telephone number and DOB/1st name of each child under 18 along with a reason for hardship. Evouchers sent by email for parent's choice of shop-Tesco's, Sainsbury's or Asda. Pay with barcode discreetly on their phone. Received positively. Send referrals to Joanne by end of march.

# Jessica Ritchie - FSH

Updated in FSH section

### Josie McGuckin | DADS/Empower Project

VIP membership list started beginning of the year for parents to access webinars with discounted prices and other freebies on website. Activities previously requested with kids on breaks - Music theatre with kids and basketball training both weekly. Josie to send Emma information.

Josie

### **Grainne Scullion**

Christmas Craft nights and Christmas quiz. Held NEA warmer homes meeting via Zoom to talk about how to keep warm saving oil by turning it down slightly and switching bulbs.

Childminders can access 'Managing Children's Emotions' course on a Monday night.

Temporary closure fund for childminders - if they close for covid, they get a payment. Stateability fund starting again next week, childminders will get a payment from January-March to cover cost of covid. NICMA improvement campaign increase registered childminders during pandemic.

#### Leona Christie | Early Years

Toy box project support Roma and traveller children aged 0-4 in the Ballymena and Mid Ulster area. Outreach service provide support in relation to play/development kids. Supports families' pre-schools to primary schools. If you know of any families needing support in Mid Ulster area, contact Leona. Leona to send Emma referral form and information leaflet. Emma to forward.

Leona/Emma

# Maxine Mc Lean | Network Personnel

Continue to work with families. ESF funding, primarily with families progressions, looking to the future to alleviate stress upon the family. Many referrals received, flexibility to meet needs. Match with constraints with funding.

## 6. Action Plan for 2022/2023

Emma shared her screen to show a brief recap of action plan and completed events last year.

To do - Going forward Action Plan

- Internet safety
- 'Can We Talk' event cancelled due to covid 25<sup>th</sup>
  march 2020. To be reorganised focusing on young
  people how the pandemic has affected us. Plan to
  go forward.
- Food/nutrition Grow salad boxes
- Looking at linking generations
- Update given with 'kindness postbox'. Keep on

|    |   | agenda and keep working towards.  |  |  |
|----|---|---|--|--|
|    | •   | Financial hardship  |  |  |
| 7. | AOB   |   |  |  |
|    | •   | Conor McCafferty delivering zoom session 16 <sup>th</sup> March on Social Media and Mental Health. Register with <a href="mailto:laura@impactnetworkni.org">laura@impactnetworkni.org</a>   |  |  |
|    | •   | Contact David Olphert in Danielle's absence -<br>Bereaved by Suicide Service. Enquiries-<br><u>Lisa.lves@northerntrust.hscni.net</u>  |  |  |
|    | •   | Sign up to weekly ezine promoting H&WB info and events across NHSCT, can promote any of your activities - <a href="mailto:healthallience@cwsan.org">healthallience@cwsan.org</a> 07540635862 <a href="mailto:www.healthallianceNI.com">www.healthallianceNI.com</a> |  |  |
|    | •   | NIHE - Running oil-buying clubs. You can phone: 02895982068 or 02895983316 or text details to 07939843716 or email oilbuyingclubs@nihe.gov.uk   |  |  |
|    | •   | Bellaghy Open Door Complex running programmes for Children - check out their Facebook page.   |  |  |
|    | •   | www.ComKit.info Online platform for sudden death  |  |  |
|    | •   | Advice NI can provide free money management workshops for groups - invite to talk at next meeting.  |  |  |
|    | •   | Heather, The Link, Maghera - Activities for Young People  |  |  |
| 8. | Date & time of next meeting   |   |  |  |
|    | The next meeting to be organised for the beginning of April. Emma to check with Ursula.  Emma |   |  |  |