

CYPSP Locality Planning Group
Tuesday 8th November 2022 10am CRUN Coleraine

Present: Michele Loughery (Chair)
Bronagh McCrory, NHSCT
Anita Hurley, NICHI, CWSAN
Deirdre Bradley Education Authority
Nicola McCoy Family Support Hub
Louise Mitchell Action Mental Health
Elaine Donnelly Surestart
Pippa Campbell Mae Murray Foundation
Johnathan Ashe Education Authority
Lauren McLaughlin 21 Training
Andrew Millar Start 360

Speaker: Marzena Kepska Ethnic Minority Support Project, Building
Communities Resource Centre

Apologies:

Kiri McLaughlin, Fresh Minds Education, Kate McDermott NHSCT, Chris Lindsay Education Authority, Katrine McDermott NHSCT, Alex Larsen MDT Lead, Stephanie McMullan Solas, Jenni Archer CC&G Council, Bebhinn McKinley CC&G Council, Veronica McKinley NICHI, Lisa Edgar Bytes, Pam Petersen Homestart, Sharon Kirk Surestart, Sheena Morrison Aware NI

1. Welcome and Introductions

Michele welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

Any changes / amendments of the last meeting minutes, please forward to Bronagh / Michele.

Action: All

3. Matters Arising

All actions from previous minutes carried out, information on events sent out.

4. Guest Speaker – Marzena Kepska, Ethnic Minority Support Worker, Building Communities Resource Centre

Marzena gave an overview of the services provided by the project such as ESOL classes, women's groups (taking place in Coleraine and Portstewart, beginners and advanced levels ran on an ongoing basis all currently full) support for mental health, trauma awareness and mindfulness sessions

(provided by Michalina on Mondays.) Marzena mentioned the wave project (ran in partnership), a free 6 week surf therapy service for children. The project has helped children feel less anxious and more positive about themselves. She noted that this project is always oversubscribed and will continue to run. Children are usually identified through the BCRC's ethnic minority service. The service also provides a wellbeing connection café, this started monthly in 2020 first lockdown and has identified and supported lots of people wanting to learn and connect. The project also provides arts and creativity through an 11 week programme for Ukrainian children which helps break down the language barriers and promotes creativity. Globetrotters Summer scheme is also provided last year children learned about Ukraine, India, and NI local culture.

The Ethnic Minority Support project also ensures staff take part in training such as counselling skills which can also be provided to service users. They also run intercultural competency training, the next one is end of January learning about diversity and inclusion challenging thoughts prejudice and stereotypes. Other training provided includes 'Communities Against Hate' OCN level 2 training, 'Awareness and Prevention of Hate Crime' all free of charge. The project also provides volunteering opportunities and one to one English classes. Transport can be paid covers all CC&G There is now also a surf project for women planned for October.

5. Causeway Locality Budget

Funding of £400 was supplied to 4 projects out of a total of 12 applications. This was more than the 5 applications received last year. Some applications could not be funded as they were not from members. These groups have now signed up which is positive. Successful Applicants were Mae Murray Foundation – 'All Ability' Christmas Event, BRAKE Project – 'Fareshare at CRUN,' Rasharkin Primary School – 'Active Playtimes,' which encourages more active playtimes through new play equipment, and Ballymoney High School's 'Thoughtful Thursday' Mental Health project which helps year 8's transition into First Year through holding a club on a Thursday which helps them make connections. Activity boards were purchased for the Club. Mae Murray were in attendance and updated on their project. The 'All Ability Christmas Event' was a Christmas Event at Portstewart beach which included a choir, hot chocolate, a visit from alpacas for 300 to 400 people. Everyone enjoyed the day thoroughly. Michele gave an update from the BRAKE project. Their funding has been used to purchase a fridge for the Fareshare food to be kept whilst it is being distributed, this allows for the food to be stored safely and ensures the maximum benefit from the food that the project receives.

6. Family Support Hub Update

Nicola gave an update the Family Support Hub recently worked with BCRC to support 3 families supporting 12 children in total. They received Vineyard food hampers and selection boxes. They were also supported by the 'Great Toy Giveaway.' Families were very grateful for this support and this new link to toys for children at Christmas meant that existing toys could go to other families in need. Nicola spoke about gaps in services. There is an increase in demand for counselling services for young people especially those of secondary school age. Zachary Geddis Foundation are providing art therapy and play therapy although resources are limited. Many organisations offer counselling but not for children or do not have the funding to offer it to children. Services offering counselling include Solas, Hummingbird Project, Focus on Family, Ashes to Gold, Vineyard previously had funding. Counselling in schools and the Emotional Wellbeing Framework was highlighted. The next FSH meeting will be 15th of January in Vineyard Hope Centre.

A need to scope on services providing counselling for free and counselling services for children was mentioned. Contact to be made with Educational Welfare Officer Chris Lindsay on this.

Action: Michele and Bronagh

7. CYPSP Causeway LPG Action Plan

Main priorities remain the same - mental health/emotional wellbeing, education, sports and fitness, and health (including poverty.) The projects funded through the activities programme align to the action plan therefore help to deliver on actions. Need for a sub group to come together to take forward the action plan. Bronagh to send out dates to prospective members.

Action: Bronagh

8. Members' Updates

Start 360 - Dry January is being promoted. In Cookstown on the 25th of January 'Alcohol and I' conference is being held this will include inspirational speakers, panel discussions, health and wellbeing activities, talks from Women's aid, Hidden Harm, Barnardos, Steps to Cope. Feel good February event also taking place still some space for stands open to under 18s and clients also welcome. Info to be sent out to members

Action: Bronagh

Education Authority - EA Horizons Programme which is a 2 year leadership programme. Although Coleraine and Ballymoney are full there is still space in Bushmills and Glens area. Programme includes an all-Ireland residential and international trip not an open call however members can encourage young people to come forward. The aim of the project is to build leadership and confidence in young people.

NICHI – highlighted that they can help promote members activities through Health Alliance website and weekly e-zine which provides information on training and funding.

Council – update sent from council on warm spaces available in the Causeway Coast and Glens area. Information to be sent to members.

Question on whether there were any warm space that are youth focussed this is to be looked into.

Action: Bronagh

9. Any Other Business

It was highlighted that there are not many spaces to rent that are accessible for people with physical disabilities. Members concurred this had been a difficulty. It was mentioned that at Ballyronan there are accessible glamping pods with changing places

10. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next date for Causeway CYPSP is Tuesday 7th of March at 10.30am in the Education Authority offices in Portrush.