

## Newsletter No.4 - October 2019

### Practitioner Research Conference



The partnership held its first Practitioner Research Conference on 20<sup>th</sup> September in the Conference Centre at L.A.C.E. The themes of the day were:

- What constitutes practitioner/practice based research and the various research methods used
- Current opportunities and challenges in shaping research for Social Workers in our Local Authorities, Trusts, PVI's and Higher Education Institutions
- Identifying potential research ideas and themes

The day was well attended and the presentations and talks were "challenging", "thought-provoking" and "inspiring". The day culminated in a lively panel discussion with great engagement from the room. Attendees left the conference with a renewed energy for the role of research within Social Work practice.

**"It's possible to conduct research whilst practicing"**

**"Excellent presentations made me laugh and cry!"**

**"Great, informative day!"**

**"Good advice on further study"**

Our thanks to Dr Gill Buck, Kemi Ryan, Natasha Ryan, Pamela Foster, Elaine Aspinwall-Roberts, Dr Amy Pollard and Angela Siteo for leading the sessions at the conference. Our thanks also go to our panel members Steve Reddy, Geoff Owens, Nick Marsh and Dr Daz Greenop. A special thank you to Dr Michael Lavalette for facilitating the day and chairing the afternoon panel session.

#### Next steps:

- We are collating all feedback and planning the next one!
- We are in the process of reviewing suggestions and ideas arising from the day to inform what we do to support practitioner research.
- A limited fund is available for any practitioners within the partnership wishing to undertake research. We are hosting a pre-application meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at Liverpool John Moores University from 11:00 – 12:30 for anyone who wishes to discuss their application in more detail or wants support to submit a bid. Feedback will be given to all applicants.

All presentations from the day and the research fund application form are available to be viewed and/or downloaded on our website, at the following address: [www.teachingpartnership.org/research](http://www.teachingpartnership.org/research)

### Partnership Updates

#### Briefing Days

Admissions briefings and Curriculum Review days will be taking place across the partnership, and will be an opportunity for our Local Authority, NHS and PVI partners to gain an insight into and contribute to the Admissions process and review what is currently delivered on the initial education programmes for Social Work.

Our partners have all been paired to an HEI and we want to encourage practitioners and Service Users to attend, to ensure we have an interagency derived curriculum which fully supports our students to become effective Social Workers.

#### Admissions Briefing Days:

*Liverpool John Moores University:*

12<sup>th</sup> November, 10:00 – 13:00

*Liverpool Hope University:*

28<sup>th</sup> November, time TBC

The date and time for Chester University will be confirmed in the near future.

#### Reviewing the Curriculum Planning Days:

Edge Hill University, Liverpool John Moores University, Chester University and Hope University are currently planning curriculum review days involving practitioners and Service Users.

*Edge Hill University:*

16<sup>th</sup> October 2019, 9:30 – 15:30

8<sup>th</sup> January 2020, 9:30 – 15:30

6<sup>th</sup> May 2020, 9:30 – 15:30

All other dates and times will be confirmed soon.

## Newsletter No.4 - September 2019

### Partnership Updates Cont...

#### Step in to Social Work Pilot Programme



18<sup>th</sup> September saw the launch of the Step in to Social Work pilot work experience programme. 15 students from Hugh Baird College and Childwall Academy sixth forms came to the Cunard Building to listen to an Adult's and a Children's social worker provide insights into their role and responsibilities - warts and all! The students were inspired and are looking forward to the second session on 16<sup>th</sup> October which will focus on the different potential employers and work they may engage in.

#### Service User/Carer Training Package



The first cohort of Service Users/ Carers have completed their training. It was well received by all. The second cohort is due to start at Chester University in October

#### Other achievements:

- Scoping potential placements for the upcoming academic year, which shows an increase in the number of students we will potentially train within the partnership.
- An agreed updated Practice Learning Form, which all Universities will now use to send to placement providers.
- A CMSWTP Labour Market Plan that we will use to support recruitment and retention of our Social Workers.
- A revised structure making sure we are in a good position to sustain the work we are doing in the partnership.

#### Your Partnership needs you!

We would really appreciate your contributions to the Newsletter. Please send any contributions to:  
[viviane.groom@liverpool.gov.uk](mailto:viviane.groom@liverpool.gov.uk)



### Upcoming Events

To find out more or to register for any of the CMSWTP events below, visit:  
[teachingpartnership.org/events](http://teachingpartnership.org/events)

**Practice Educator Training – commencing October**  
Uptake was excellent and this course is now full, but information on applications for the January course at Liverpool John Moores University will be released soon.

**CMSWTP Practice Educator Forum – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

The day will cover supporting students with additional needs, unconscious bias and updates on the partnership, plus what it is doing for practitioners. Registration is now open.

**National Teaching Partnership Conference – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

Registration is open for the National Teaching Partnership Conference. The topics of sustainability, research and working within Teaching Partnerships will be covered with a variety of sessions running throughout the day. Places are limited to nominated members across the partnership – if you'd like to attend please register your interest with your organisational lead.

**Practice Educator Refresher Training - November**  
Capacity has been reached for this course. Any further available courses will be advertised.

**Professional Communication for Social Workers-**  
Cohort 1: 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 19 & 28 Jan 20 Chester University  
Cohort 2: 19<sup>th</sup> March 20 & 30<sup>th</sup> April 20 LJMU

Training is available for students and qualified social workers on professional communication. The course will cover enhancing communication skills, identifying the challenges of effective communication and enhancing verbal skills in Social Work practice. You can register for this yourself or you can direct someone to sign up. Full details and registration information is available on the website.

**CMSWTP Social Worker Awards – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020, 13:00 – 16:30, Liverpool Town Hall**

Applications are open for the Cheshire and Merseyside Social Work Teaching Partnership Social Work Awards. These awards are fantastic opportunity to recognise excellence in Social Work within the CMSWTP, and to promote the work of individuals and teams within the Social Work profession. Download the application form and Ts&Cs from our website. Look out for updates on our twitter account – follow #CMSWTPAwards2020

#### Partner Events

**AMHP/Social Work Learning and Development 2019**

There are two seminars remaining in this years programme. Full information and sign up is available on our website.