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Newsletter - January 2021

Vision: The Vision of the Partnership is to improve the life chances of children, young people, vulnerable adults and their families by improving the recruitment, retention and the training and development of social workers and their practice.

Introduction

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a restful break. Welcome to the first newsletter of the New Year. Whilst these are challenging times on so many levels we are still progressing well with meeting all the key priorities that we set out, back in March 2020.

Attendance is high at events and work stream meetings, demonstrating the enthusiasm that still exists for us to work collaboratively as a partnership to achieve our vision.

There has been a great deal of activity around placements and Practice Educator Training and what we can do to provide additional support to our NQSW's, including an ASYE Forum, Peer Mentors for ASYEs and additional online training for both ASYE Assessors and for the ASYEs, to support them in their first few years. However, one of the biggest pieces of work has been around our CPD offer across the whole partnership. Please see our 'Upcoming CPD' later on in the newsletter with events that Social Workers can register for now, with more to come around Legal Literacy and use of research. Please share widely to as many of our Social Workers as possible, encouraging them to engage, asking them to 'Save the Date', ahead of receiving the Zoom or MS Teams link.

On another note, we were lucky enough to secure additional funding we bid for and will now utilise this to purchase student kits to support partner agencies to offer more placements and to support the development and training for Practice Educators to provide additional support to ASYEs.

Online Diversity Event - 7th December 2020

The event was a success with over 191 participants attending. Feedback has been really positive and many felt that they benefitted from attending the event:

"absolutely incredible session", "The day was very thought provoking and inspirational"

"The event was well organised with knowledgeable experienced speakers"

"The session was excellent! I particularly enjoyed hearing about the 'lived experience' of each speaker which made it relevant and easier to understand the complex issues at stake and how racism permeates and affects the individual."

This event was the start and a spring board for future activity. We have a new group forming to look at the partnership's response to BLM and Race. Any interested parties who wish to join the group and engage in the planned activity for the partnership, please email cmswtp@gmail.com to get involved.



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PE Refresher Training – 16th and 17th December

30 Practice Educators attended the two-day Refresher Training. The Evaluation is due in January but early feedback has been overwhelmingly positive with comments such as “you’ve certainly reignited the fire” and “inspired passion in PEs to support students on placements”.

CMSWTP Research Hub

We are in the process of confirming who will support Selwyn Stanley in driving the Research Hub. We have had a number of practitioners expressing an interest and are just liaising with them to confirm their involvement. More to come.....

If you have any ideas for research or there is something you would like the partnership to consider, please email us at cmswtp@gmail.com. There is some funding that partners or individual Social Workers can bid for to help them to complete their small-scale research project. The closing date to apply for funding is end of January 2021.

The four confirmed projects are progressing and we will have an update from each at the new Practitioner Research CPD workshops (PRW's). **20th January 2021, 12.00-1.00**. The first workshop will focus on 'How small-scale activity can make a big difference?' Current Research Leads will share their projects and provide a Q & A for practitioners interested in undertaking their own. Open to all. Register at: <https://edgehill.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/researchworkshops>



Upcoming CPD

For any CPD, we ask that all SW's register as identified below and then save the date, until they are contacted and a link is sent to access the event. This will normally be two weeks prior to the event starting.

Online PE Forum - 28th January 2021, 10.00am-4.00pm

The focus for the January day will be Social Work Theories and relating them to practice - led by Siobhan MacLean. For any PE, at whatever stage of training.

Register at: <https://edgehill.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/peforum>

Online Practitioner Research CPD workshops (PRW's)

20th January 2021, 12.00-1.00

17th February 2021, 12.00-1.00

17th March 2021, 12.00-1.00

The first workshop will focus on 'How small-scale activity can make a big difference?' Current Research Leads will share their projects and provide a Q and A for practitioners interested in undertaking their own. Open to all, register at: <https://edgehill.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/researchworkshops>

Online Teacher Practitioner Status Training. Cohort 5 to start 13th January 2021. Cohort 6 1st Feb, Cohort 7 24th Feb and Cohort 8 12th March.

A series of half day workshops that focus on key subjects/issues that face individuals who are new to teaching or would like to be more involved in teaching in Higher Education. The workshops will provide an opportunity to discuss experiences, share ideas and gain some information about a range of techniques and processes that may help in teaching – Led by Julie Connolly. Register at: <https://edgehill.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/cmswtp-tps>



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PEPS Training. Cohort 2 to begin 24th Feb 9.30-4.00.

The online PEPS Level 1 and 2 combined, 2-year programme with 10 sessions to complete. Partners are currently identifying who will engage in this programme.

Well-Being: Self-care

Workshop 2 A2 11/1 1.30-4.30 or B2 21/1 9.30-12.30

Workshop 3 A3 4/2 9.30-12.30 or B3 8/2 9.30-12.30

Workshop 1 A1 1/3 9.30-12.30 or B1 18/3 1.30-4.30

Three 3 x hour workshops that you can do either as a standalone or as all three workshops. It begins with workshop 2, then 3 and then workshop 1. They will run twice so you only need to register once for each workshop if you wish to attend all 3.

Workshop 1 - What is self-care and why it is so vital? For all participants to understand professional trauma and fatigue, and the evidence based 'Five Pillars of Protection' used to buffer the secondary impact of working in social care and health with a focus on self-care.

Workshop 2 - How can self-care be brought into practice by managers? For all participants to understand how they can encourage and facilitate self-care within their teams.

Workshop 3 - Why and how to strengthen peer support and the sense of team? For all participants to understand why peer support is important, within the context of the evidence based Five Pillars of Protection used to buffer the secondary impact of working in Social Care and Health with a focus on Self Care. For them to have identified actionable steps they can take to improve and/or maintain team morale and support. To register: [click - https://edgehill.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/cmswtp-wellbeing](https://edgehill.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/cmswtp-wellbeing)

PE Mentor Training package 12th January 10.00-12.00. To support the PE mentor to undertake their role effectively when supporting a PE in training. Partners have identified their PE mentors.

ASYE Forum 29th January 10.00-4.00. To support ASYE's including: Top Tips for the ASYE year. Seeing the year as a journey, horizontal/vertical development, demonstrating professional development, reflective practice and moral injury. Facilitated by Siobhan Maclean.
Register at: <https://edgehill.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/cmswtp-asye>

Child Sexual Abuse. Day 1 - 9/2, Day 2 - 4/3 and Day 3 - 16/3, 9.30-4.30 each day.

Train the Trainer 3 - day package. Board members are currently identifying their reps to attend.

Action Learning Sets for Aspiring Leaders and Managers. 10th, 11th & 12th Feb 10.00-12.00

Three consecutive days input:

1. Introduction/Launch and creating a safe space
2. Hopes, Fears and Expectations
3. Next steps, looking forward.

Board members are currently identifying their aspiring leaders/managers.



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Peer Mentor Training Package. 15th March 2021, 10.00-4.00

Providing training to SW's who wish to provide additional support and mentorship to an ASYE. To provide a Peer Mentor Handbook, plus some additional resources from Siobhan Maclean to help a peer mentor when undertaking this role. There will be a one-day training, which will include a launch of the materials and then a delivered training session on group supervision. Facilitated by Siobhan Maclean and Bridget Caffrey from UoC.

CPD under development

ASYE Training and ASYE Assessor Training

SWE have agreed to deliver a session on 'Your CPD' for the partnership. Date TBC.

Theme: A Research Informed Practitioner

RiP will deliver a number of CPD sessions:

- What does it mean to be a research informed practitioner?
- What research is out there for practitioners and how can you use it to inform what you do? This will be topic based – if you have any topics you would like RiP to deliver in these session, please let us know.

Theme: Legal Literacy

39 Essex Street will deliver a number of CPD sessions. We are just in the process of confirming the content of these.

Theme: Aspiring Leaders and Managers

A programme is being confirmed that will be designed and delivered by another Teaching Partnership to our current aspiring leaders and managers.

National Virtual Conference for Teaching Partnerships

On the back of the successful national conference we held as a partnership in the last cycle, all teaching partnerships have asked if teaching partnerships working together can host a virtual one in June 2021. This will be an opportunity for us to show case ourselves and some of the excellent practice we are doing. More info to come.....

National Teaching Partnership Network Meeting 9th December

Isabelle Trowler attended and shared her thoughts on Teaching Partnerships. She identified the following:

- TP investment is perceived as necessary and we need to keep fighting for it.
- Development of culture of collaborative working between HEIs and LA partners is one of the greatest achievements of TPs.
- We need to position TPs as something to fund.

She would like to ensure that every LA partner and HEI are linked into a TP.



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Partner Showcase

Partners often comment that students are unaware of what fantastic learning opportunities are available within their own organisations and sometimes where their teams are geographically located. To solve this all partners have been invited to sign up to showcase their organisation to students and provide a short Q & A on the 27th January. If you are interested in showcasing and haven't yet signed up, please email cmswtp@gmail.com to discuss timings.

DfE Data

DfE have asked each partnership for data on PEs and also NQSW. They are undertaking work on these two aspects and the data is informing their discussions. As a partnership, we will need to update this monthly to reflect the changes and to keep providing this to DfE. Please note, for those who have not yet supplied this data, can they return it to cmswtp@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Post March 2020

We have had confirmed that 13 current partners wish to contribute to a subscription model. This is good news as it enables us to continue working with a central resource driving the partnership forward. These 13 partners will be primary partners moving forward with 2 becoming secondary partners and our PVI remaining as a primary partner.

Hosting Post March 2021

We are in the process of confirming if EHU would like to continue to host the partnership moving forward. If EHU agrees, this will be considered by Board Members in January.

Visionary day

From the doodle poll the favoured date is the **25th January 1.00 - 4.00**

1.00 - 2.00 will be consideration and confirmation of Host from March 2021.

2.00 - 4.00 will be a Visionary workshop where we will confirm our vision and our priorities as a partnership moving forward.

CMSWTP PSW Children's Group

Meet every 6 weeks to share practice and identify activity that can be worked on jointly to benefit all SW's in our region.

The group are progressing with two ideas; one a joint research project with LJMU and EHU looking at Carers in the home and they are also discussing establishing a CMSWTP Team Managers Network. Watch this space...more to follow.



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Website and Drop Box

At the time of writing we still have limited access to the website to make alterations. Of the planned changes, some have been made but more are to come, when we are granted full access.

Drop Box – over the next week or so you will have access to the CMSWTP Drop Box folders. These contain all agenda, minutes, agreements and papers shared at meetings. Please note this replaces the shared drive we utilised in the last cycle.

Social Work England Update

Meeting with our Regional link the following information was shared:

- Currently around 90,000 Social Workers reregistered
- Around 5,000 didn't and therefore are no longer registered Social Workers.
- Out of the group that didn't register there is a number who are seeking registration but there will be a delay, as this will now take time.
- Discussions are taking place on Student registration. Along with discussions on annotation of PE and what does a Post Qualified Social Worker need to look like.
- SWE have commissioned a number of research projects and will be gathering experiences of students with protected characteristics, including BAME.
- Currently looking at statutory definition for placements.

Social Work Week 8th March – 12th March

We are hosting 1 hour discussion groups each day facilitated by a range of speakers.

Thinking about.... Discussion Groups, topics to include:

Thinking about you as a Social Worker - Well-being. Who is checking in on you? Sharing ideas. Facilitated by

<http://www.selfcarepsychology.com/>

Thinking about your learning and development - What are you doing to continue to learn and develop during these unusual times? How can you capture this? Facilitated by Social Work England.

Thinking about Supervision - How is it happening? Sharing ideas of how it can be undertaken. Facilitated by Siobhan Maclean

Thinking about your success in Practice - A celebration of what SW's are doing. Sharing this practice for all. Facilitated by a student, an ASYE and an experienced SW sharing their successes in practice.

Thinking about the future of your learning - How are we currently learning? Is online learning the way forward? Benefits and disadvantages of how we are learning. Facilitated by Warrington Council.

Please see flyer which will be sent to all Board members shortly to register for any of the above discussion groups