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University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Technology enabled collaboration in Irish social work practice education, CPD and research:

Presenting themes from the National Practice Teaching in Social Work Initiative

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Introduction

Challenges posed by existing & contemporary crises in social work student placements led to the opportunity for a new and innovative collaboration of Irish practice education coordinators from six higher education institutions with IASW

Outputs include:

- Learning & teaching resource website
- Open access and free to attend online CPD
- Practice teaching and education research

Findings

Practice teaching information reached

1 in 3 social workers in Ireland

44.9% used the learning & teaching website resources

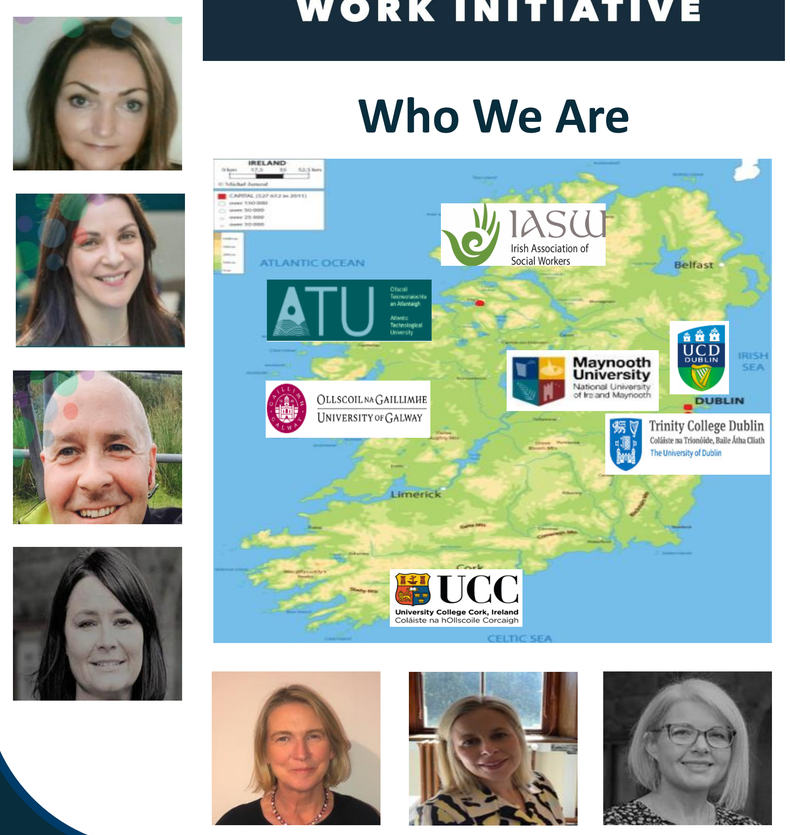
20.6% attended online CPD

Process

- Our research aim was to examine the experience of social workers actively engaged in practice teaching
- Quantitative study used a cross-sectional survey design to collect data
- Our research tool comprised a questionnaire administered online using Microsoft Forms.
- 21% of all practice teachers active in 2022-2023 responded

NATIONAL PRACTICE TEACHING IN SOCIAL WORK INITIATIVE

Who We Are








Learning & Takeaway Thoughts

Technology:

Enabled collaboration, and our website provided resources to overcome time and workload challenges

Supported the CPD and ongoing learning of practice teachers, opportunity to step back and think about their social work practice

Profiled practice teaching within the profession

Enabled collaboration with IASW and facilitated national access that wasn't there before

Constructed practice teaching as professional development and a way to meet the CPD requirements of statutory registration

Acknowledgement

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Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

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Ethical Approval

Ethical approval for our research study was granted by the Social Research Ethics Committee (SREC) at University College Cork