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University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

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About us

Practice Links is a free publication of the Social Work Development Unit, University College Cork, Ireland

The aim of PL is help practitioners to keep up-to-date with new publications, conferences and continuing professional development opportunities.

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@PracticeLinks

Issue 69, October 2016

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practice LINKS



Continuing professional development

ISPCC

Never give up on a child. Ever

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNESCO Chair in Children, Youth and Civic Engagement
Ireland
CHILD AND FAMILY RESEARCH CENTRE

Quality Outcomes in Youth Mentoring

Hosted by the

Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (ISPCC)

in conjunction with the

Global Youth Mentoring Network (GYMN)

Date: Thursday 13 October 2016 (10.00am – 4.00pm)

Registration at 9.30am with refreshments served.

Venue: Institute for Life Course & Society Building, NUI Galway

Mentoring, as a means of providing social support for young people is well established but the factors that contribute to high quality outcomes for young people are less clear. This conference will explore research and evidence based practice in relation to Youth Mentoring with a focus on real life examples of what works in practice. The factors that contribute to high quality mentoring programmes and some of the challenges of measuring outcomes in everyday contexts will be examined along with guidelines for practice improvement.

This event is **free** to attend. To book a place please click on the following link

https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/quality-outcomes-in-youth-mentoring-tickets-26464909256

or find us on Eventbrite by searching 'Quality Outcomes in Youth Mentoring'.



Speakers include:

Grainia Long, CEO & Caroline O'Sullivan, Director of Services, ISPCC
Professor Pat Dolan, Professor Caroline McGregor & Dr Bernadine Brady, UNESCO CFRC, NUI Galway
Seán Campbell, CEO & Mary Lynch, Senior Youth Officer, Foróige
Professor John Pinkerton, Queen's University Belfast
Dr Francisco Simões, CIS-IUL, Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, Portugal
Dr Òscar Prieto-Flores, University of Girona, Spain
Ioana Serb, Executive Director, Asociatia de Servicii Sociale Scut, Romania

For further information please contact:
Tess Noonan, ISPCC Assistant Director Quality & Risk: mailto:tnoonan@ispcc.ie
or Kayleigh Murphy, NUI Research Assistant:
mailto:kayleighcatherine.murphy@nuigalway.ie

Irish Foster Care Association

National Conference: 14-16 October 2016

Call for workshop proposals

The Irish Foster Care Association National Conference brings together all those with an interest in foster care, including general and relative foster carers, health and social care practitioners, academics, students, teachers, policy makers, and members of the community and voluntary sector to learn together, engage in dialogue, share their experiences and best practice. This year, the conference will take place from 14 to 16 October at the Mount Wolseley Hotel, Tullow, Co Carlow.

Call for workshop proposals

We are seeking proposals of relevance to the conference theme for workshops that will be facilitated on Saturday 15 October. Workshops will be two hours long. Workshop facilitators view contributing to the conference as an excellent opportunity to showcase their work. IFCA offers facilitators free day-attendance to the rest of the conference on 15 October, discounted hotel accommodation and cover of travel expenses within the island of Ireland. We do not offer a fee to facilitators.

Conference theme

The conference theme is: *Strengthening Relationships – Strengthening Care*. Relationships are at the heart of effective foster care practice and have been referred to as 'the golden thread of children's lives'[1]. The quality of the relationships that children and young people in care experience with everyone in their world is critical to their well-being and development. Also, when there are healthy relationships among the members of the team that surrounds the child or young person it supports us all to give excellent care. Self-care and self-awareness – the ways in which we maintain our relationship with ourselves – are also vital to our foster care practice. The conference will provide a space to explore all kinds of relationships in foster care and how to strengthen them.

Submission instructions

You can submit proposals by using the online form here. If you have any questions, you can contact IFCA's Learning Development Worker, Maeve Healy, at maeve.healy@ifca.ie, phone 01 4599474 or mobile 087 6555880.

Submission deadline

Please submit your proposal by Friday 15 April. You will be notified of the outcome of the selection process by Friday 20 May.

Proposal selection criteria

When reviewing the workshop proposal submissions, we will select based on the following criteria:

- The content offers a significant contribution to the purpose of the conference
- The workshop has a clear purpose and desired learning outcomes
- The workshop format is dynamic and engages those attending through participation and discussion
- The workshop provides participants with concrete ideas / models that can contribute to the development of best practice in fostering.

[1] The Care Inquiry, UK, 2013.

Continuing professional development

NUI Cert. in Addiction Studies Level 7

Cork College of Commerce

Start Date: Monday 10 Oct. 7.00-10.00 Tel: 021 422 2100

Students must be 21 years of age or older on 1 Jan. 2016.

https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/adult-and-community-education/our-courses

Overview

This course focuses on introducing participants to current debates on addiction. On completion, participants will have become familiar with contemporary addiction theory as well as prevention and treatment strategies. They will have explored associated issues such as public policy, factual information on substance misuse, gender and community drug prevention issues to name but a few.

Course Structure

Content

Module 1 Groupwork & Facilitation Skills/Reflective Learning
Module 2 Substance Misuse and Dependence
Module 3 Drug & Alcohol Misuse in Contemporary Ireland
Module 4 Approaches to Prevention Treatment & Rehabilitation

Course Duration: 100 hours part-time over one year which may include 3 - 4 Saturdays.

Contact us about this course

Apply On Line Here

For further information contact Kay on 01 708 6062 or e-mail Kay.Loughlin@nuim.ie

An Easy Payment Option is available upon registration

Ear-Acupuncture-Detox training with Philippe Pujade in Arbour House, Cork.

A two weekends Detox Auricular/Ear Training designed especially for professionals working in the addiction and health and social care field. It will run on the 14th and 15th of October and 21st and 22nd of October this year.

Training Course times are as follows:

- Friday 3 pm - 5:30 pm
- Saturday 9:30 am - 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm.

This program is open to people with or without medical background.
The training covers the basic theory of auricular puncture with over 12 hours of practical hands on training. After the course completion, trainees will be encouraged to start practicing. A follow up course will evaluate student progression 3 months after course completion.

Philippe is the external T.C.M consultant of Arbour House (H.S. E South) since 2005. His works include: client detoxification, client maintenance (After Care), harm reduction program and support for Concerned people.

Cost of the course: €350. Contact Philippe on 086 3611 353
Auricular Puncture is a part of Arbour House recovery program since 2005. Observations such as the following results have been observed on clients:

- *Reduced cravings for drugs and alcohols.*
  Reduced anxiety, frustration, irritability and hostility.
- *Greater control over their moods.*
- *Helping counsellors as clients experience reduced stress and become more cooperative.*
- *Helping clients achieve greater mental clarity.*
- *Decreased pain, better sleep, connectedness, spiritual connection, decreased*
- *depression and anxiety and feeling of overall wellbeing.*
-

Auricular Puncture is also used in different Cork agencies working in the addiction

Mental Health & Wellbeing Summit 2016 in partnership with Laya Healthcare, Oct 2016

Event Phone: 01 9035424

Event Description

This will be the biggest and most informative event of its kind to take place in Ireland this year and is open to all sectors to attend from medical practitioners to the corporate sector to the general public.

This event takes Mental Health issues and wellbeing to the next level – i.e. bringing the information directly to the people who need it. People are talking about this subject matter now but need access to practical information, support services and products that help with coping and living with mental health issues.

The objective of this summit is a preventative one. The Summit will be open to individuals, professionals and businesses to attend to obtain the information they need to help with either personal issues or to learn about support services and products that are available to help in their role as an employer, teacher, counsellor, etc.

This Summit creates an opportunity for the public and professionals to gather and share as much information as possible across all mainstream areas of mental illness.

Event Fees

Student Ticket €75.00 – Full day access to all speaker sessions, workshops and exhibition area. Light lunch included. Student price applies to full-time students, must provide Student ID

Early Bird €85.00 – Full day access to all speaker sessions, workshops and exhibition area. Light lunch included.
Limited number available.

Corporate Package €135.00 – Full day access to all speaker sessions, workshops and exhibition area. Seated 3 course lunch in private reserved area included. SOLD OUT

For more details and contact info visit our website – http://www.mentalhealthandwellbeingsummit.com

Continuing professional development

INTRODUCTION to Mindfulness For Health & Social Care Professionals

Two Day Courses

Comprehensive introduction to the theory and practice of mindfulness

Support in developing a regular mindfulness practice in your life

Practical strategies for using mindfulness to support your day-to day work

Course Aims

The course aims to:

- Provide participants with an introduction to the theory and practice of mindfulness
- Support participants in developing a regular mindfulness practice in their home and work lives

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course, participants should be able to;

- Describe the basic theoretical and practical aspects of mindfulness
- Understand the link between thinking, feelings, bodily sensations and behaviours in shaping their experience
- Utilise regular formal mindfulness practices to enhance their day-to-day experience and quality of life
- Integrate practical mindfulness based activities into their daily lives
- Develop practical strategies for using mindfulness to support their day-to-day work
- Utilise practical tools and exercises to enhance their overall mental health and sense of wellbeing

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Barnardos are delivering one day Children First, Child Protection Training in Cork on 12th November from 10-4.30pm and more information can be found on Barnardos website. Online booking is open NOW!

Children First, Child Protection Training

The Children First Act 2015 will put elements of the *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2011)* on a statutory footing. The aim of this training is to equip those who work with children with the skills and knowledge that are necessary to deal with child protection issues in line with the Children First Guidelines, 2011.

After completing the training, participants will be able to:

- Recognise their legal responsibilities in relation to Child Protection
- Explain the definitions of abuse
- Identify the signs and indicators of abuse and neglect
- Describe how to respond to a disclosure
- Prepare a Standard Report Form

This one day training from 10-4.30pm costs €125 which includes a copy of Barnardos *Protecting Children, A Child Protection Guide for Early Years and School Age Child Services* resource.

Date: 12th November

Venue: Vienna Woods Hotel, Glanmire, Cork

Continuing professional development



NARCISSISTIC RELATIONSHIPS

LEAVE A DESTRUCTIVE LEGACY OF CO-DEPENDENCY AND ADDICTION

- LEARN HOW TO WORK WITH YOUR CLIENTS MORE EFFECTIVELY (14 CPD)

"In my experience as a practitioner, I've found that unhealthy, co-dependent and narcissistic behaviour is encouraged and even normalised by society. In this way, disconnection from one's true self is actively encouraged. This experience can unconsciously impact on both the therapist and their work with their clients.

Through my work, I've developed a helpful model which gives therapists the skills & awareness they need to overcome these pressures. With these insights, therapists can work with confidence that they can help clients make significant and timely progress in their recovery. Both my clients and I have benefited from the model. Now, by attending, you and YOUR clients can benefit too!"
- Margaret Parkes

Programme Outline:
This intensive and experiential programme is based around a therapeutic model for working with co-dependent adults and young people who come from an emotionally abusive and neglectful family of origin. It also enables recovery for those who are stuck in abusive personal or organisational relationships. Being goal focused, this model encourages the therapist to take an interactive role in their client's therapy:

- Narcissism and co-dependency - how they entangle the therapist and the client
- Identifying narcissism in families, couples, organisations and relationships
- Understanding narcissistic influence of family, organised religion, education system and organisations
- Clarifying the contribution of society and unhealthy organisations to co-dependency
- Understanding co-dependency as the root cause of all addictions
- The five stages of recovery from co-dependency & the role of the therapist in this process
- The next generation – the benefit of creating awareness & correcting unhealthy patterns of past generations

Facilitator:
Margaret Parkes (Dip. Psych., BA, MSc.) has practiced as a psychotherapist and systemic practitioner for over 15 years. She is a qualified and experienced facilitator and has experienced significant success with this model.

Course Dates & Times:

Dublin	7th & 8th Oct 2016	Citywest Hotel and Conference Centre, Dublin
Cork	14th & 15th Oct 2016	Vienna Woods Hotel, Glanmire, Cork
Galway	21st & 22nd Oct 2016	Connacht Hotel, Dublin Road, Galway
Wexford	4th & 5th Nov 2016	Ferrycarrig Hotel, Dublin Road, Wexford
Athlone	18th & 19th Nov 2016	Athlone Springs Hotel, Monksland, Athlone

Course Fee: **€195.00 Early Bird 180.00** **10.00am – 5.00pm each day**
Booking: **email: www.margaretparkes.ie OR click BOOK COURSE HERE**

Call for papers

Ecology & Impact of Trauma: Relational Responses to Disrupted Development

7th - 9th November 2016 Regency Airport Hotel (Whitehall), Dublin, Ireland

We are delighted to broadcast this Call for Papers for the 3rd annual 'Unity through Relationship' International Conference, an inclusive learning & development event which builds and strengthens connections, relationships and interdisciplinary working. All who are involved in the provision of care and services to children, youth and families are welcomed, including but not limited to: front-line practitioners (social work, social care, teachers, family support staff), clinicians, educators, justice professionals, mental health staff, researchers, managers, carers and students.

Conference theme: The impact of trauma on mental health and relational responses.

We all begin our physical, mental and social development from the moment of conception, a process, which, even at that early stage, is influenced by genetic and inter-generational factors. As we travel along our life course we encounter many factors within our 'ecology' and these can impact on our development. Positive and nurturing factors augment healthy development and resilience. However, the converse is also true, negative experiences can stunt or arrest development. We refer to such deeply distressing experiences as 'trauma'. It is here that the conference has its foundation.

In 2016, the Unity conference is seeking to draw from the expert knowledge of colleagues who have particular interest in the understanding of how ''disruption within ones ecology'' can impact on growth and development. This includes pre-birth disruption (such as contributes to syndromes such as FASD), abuse/neglect and any other type of event which can contribute that what is seen to be a 'mental health issue'. A focus should also be on how we can optimally respond to such trauma using relational approaches.

The objectives of this 3-day conference are (within a relational framework):

(i) to provide a forum to present thinking and share the views and practice experiences.
(ii) to aid carers and professionals to understanding how early and inter-generational trauma can impact on the mental health needs of young people;
(iii) to share progressive and contemporary knowledge, with a focus on a relational response.

At this time we are sending out a ***call for papers*** seeking applications to contribute to the conference. If you have an idea you would like to propose or want some help with the application process, we will be happy to provide support. This conference will be innovative, programmatic, participative, comparative, critical and empowering.

We are also seeking expressions of interest from prospective presenters who may have associated 1 or 2 days trainings which they would be willing to deliver on the Thursday 10th and Friday 11th as part of a suite of trainings related to the conference theme being made available as we have done in each of the previous events. This has proven to be an excellent opportunity to make available innovative trainings that may otherwise not be accessible and thereby positively influence practice. It is also an opportunity for professionals to make available trainings that they may be in the process of developing.

Application forms are available from and must be completed and returned to: info@empowerireland.com prior to 16th May 2016

WEBSITE: www.unitythroughrelationship.com

Continuing professional development

'CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON AND BEYOND ACTIVISM AND ACTS OF RESISTANCE…' 9 AND 10 NOVEMBER 2016

A Two-Day Conference organised by the School of Applied Social Studies and the Catherine McAuley School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork, in association with the Critical Voices Network Ireland. REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Venue: Brookfield Health Sciences Complex, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland. **Booking:** To book a place, email Harry Gijbels h.gijbels@ucc.ie.
Please make sure you give **your name,** and indicate **the day(s) you wish to attend** (either Wednesday 9 November, Thursday 11 November, or both days). Booking will be confirmed by return email. **Registration:** Please bring the booking confirmation slip with you to the conference registration desk on the day(s) you are attending.

The conference aims to explore and debate critical perspectives on:
- Acts of resistance within and outside academic and service systems
- The impact of activism on democratising mental health care
- The importance of socio-political perspectives in understanding and responding to human distress
- Co-option of resistance into dominant systems.

This conference, **now in its eighth year**, is unique as it is free for all participants and it involves people from diverse backgrounds (self-experience, survivors, professionals, academics, carers) presenting, discussing and debating critical and creative perspectives on and beyond the dominant bio-medical approach. The 2010 conference saw the launch of the Critical Voices Network Ireland (CVNI), a network of people interested in considering and developing responses to human distress, which are creative, enabling, respectful and firmly grounded in human rights.

Confirmed Keynote Speakers (in alphabetical order): Kathryn Church is Director and Associate Professor in the School of Disability Studies at Ryerson University in Toronto. Currently engaged in the activist/ administrative project of blending disability and Mad studies. **Jacqui Dillon** is a speaker, writer and activist, who has lectured and published worldwide on trauma, psychosis, dissociation and recovery. Jacqui is the national Chair of the Hearing Voices Network in England. **Jonathan Gadsby** is a mental health nurse and a founder member of the Critical Mental Health Nurses' Network. **Lucy Johnstone** is a consultant clinical psychologist, author of 'Users and abusers of psychiatry'. **Brigit McWade** is a sociologist researching and teaching aspects of mental health. She is active in establishing an International Mad Studies Network through publications, conference and event organisation, and social media.

Panel discussion with Cork activists: **Rory Doody,** Recovery Advocate; **Joan Hamilton,** Sli Eile; **Mary Maddock,** MindFreedomIreland; **Pat Bracken,** Consultant Psychiatrist**.**

Concurrent Sessions: the conference also includes a series of workshops and oral presentations, related to the conference theme.

Full programme: full details will be available in early October on http://www.ucc.ie/en/nursingmidwifery/news/ and http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/resconf/conf/ . Check http://www.uccconferencing.ie/walking-distance/ for accommodation. To get to Brookfield (UCC) check http://www.ucc.ie/en/visitors/getting-here/ Parking facilities are limited around UCC. Try car park next to Kingsley Hotel, Victoria Cross (10 walk from venue via footbridge behind Western Gateway Building on Western Road). Coffees and lunches not included. There are restaurants and cafes in and around the conference venue.

The Conference organisers are Lydia Sapouna, School of Applied Social Studies and Harry Gijbels, Catherine McAuley School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork, Ireland.

09:30-16:30

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders T&E Program

Liam Curran

Early diagnosis and interventions are critical for children exposed to Prenatal Alcohol Exposure (PAE). A large body of evidence is pointing to child welfare services receiving many children suffering to PAE.

The social work and social care professions are crucial in this task. With training and knowledge of this complex disability, we can create a positive and lasting outcome for those living with FASD or suspected to be living with FASD.

FASD awareness needs be promoted within all strands of our society, so as to improve the diagnosis and management of children born of PAE.

Overview of the workshop

- Introduction/overview of the session
- Foundations of FASD – the biology of risk
- Across the Lifespan – intervening with children affected by FASD
- Case Study (Screening)
- International Evidence of Prevention
- Screening, Diagnosis, and Assessment.
- Where/what should I do?
- Vignettes (Referral & Care Planning)
- Reflections, Discussion, Evaluations

Liam Curran is an Independent Child Care & FASD Specialist. In early 2011 Liam became a certified FASD educator through the University of Wisconsin, USA. Liam has over 25 years of experience working with young people in residential and secure accommodation for children, child & family Social Work and children's disability social work and fostering provision. Liam has also spent many years as a local authority trainer in children and families division both in the UK and Ireland.

Liam has published a number of papers in relation to FASD and has given lectures and trainings in several European sites. Liam's latest co-authored book, *Understanding Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: A guide for Parents, Carers and professionals* was published by Jessica Kingsley Publishers in August 2014.

** Demand dependant, this workshop will be repeated on Thursday 10 November.*

Continuing professional development

Two day introduction to Motivational Interviewing (M.I)

M I is an approach that guides and strengthens peoples motivation to change.It is well recognised as being of use to those who work with people with problem behaviours(substance use, gambling, smoking ,nutrition, weight change and health and Lifestyle related problems)

Venue: Carlton Hotel, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15

Training limited to 15 places and takes place 9.30am-5pm
Thursday 17th and Friday 18th of November 2016

The training will be led by Andrew Robertson, Addiction Counsellor with 30 years experience working in the field of Mental Health and Addiction .
Andrew is a member of the Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (MINT).

Full Cost: €190 . Completed booking form and full payment needed to secure place.

For booking and further information Contact - 0851323969
email - Andrewrobertsonmi@gmail.com

Certificate in Drugs Counselling Theory & Intervention Skills – CORK (NFQ Level 7) 2016-2017

Merchants Quay Ireland in conjunction with University College Dublin is pleased to offer a **Certificate in Drugs Counselling Theory and Intervention Skills**. This unique and innovative course empowers participants to respond more effectively to the issues of drug use and addiction.

STUDENTS: This course is for anyone with a serious interest in the area of substance use and who interacts on either a paid or voluntary capacity with people who may have drug or alcohol related problems. Lectures are delivered by both academics and by experienced practitioners in the area of drugs and addiction.

All students who receive the Certificate are eligible to register for the **Diploma in Drugs Counselling Theory & Intervention Skills in Dublin**.

Venue: CIT, Cork School of Music, Union Quay, Cork.
2 Days at University College Dublin, Belfield Campus, Dublin 4.

Schedule: September 2016 to May 2017; part-time over one academic year of three semesters and a mandatory 35 hour work placement in a drugs agency setting.

Cork Certificate: Thursday Afternoon 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Cost: €2449.00

Awarded by: National University of Ireland (University College Dublin)

How to apply: Course application forms can be downloaded from:
https://www.mqi.ie/training/certificate-diploma-courses

Closing date: **Closing date for receipt of applications for the Cork Certificate is Friday July 1st 2016.** Successful applicants will be required to attend an interview in July 2016 for Cork course. Places will be offered to candidates subject to successful interview. The course will commence on September 15th 2016.

More Information: For further information and application forms please contact Gerry Raftery at 087-9841821 or email ger.raftery@gmail.com or access our website at: www.mqi.ie

Continuing professional development

The Northern Ireland Branch of BASPCAN is pleased to invite you to this free seminar by Lee Sobo-Allen, Senior Lecturer in Social Work in the School of Health and Community Studies at Leeds Beckett University

Child Protection, Children and Their Non-Resident Fathers: An Exploratory Study Into the Expectations and Motivations of Social Workers and Non-Resident Fathers in Seeking Alternative Family Placements.

A presentation by Lee Sobo-Allen

Thursday 1st December 2016

2.00pm – 4.00pm

Room 02/017
Peter Froggatt Centre
Queen's University Belfast

This seminar is free of charge but places must be booked in advance by registering at:

http://www.eventbrite.com/e/child-protection-children-and-their-non-resident-fathers-tickets-28482119787

Irish Association of Social Workers

Research Connect Service

Research Connect is an online service linking social work researchers with mentors. The service is provided through the Irish Association of Social Workers, one of the ways in which the Association supports practitioner research.

The idea for Research Connect grew from listening to the needs of members of the IASW practitioner research special interest group (https://iasw.ie/group.aspx?contentid=2931) who identified the need for mentors to offer support, advice and information about social work practitioner research. The IASW were also aware that many academics were willing and happy to provide support in relation to research and dissemination but weren't necessarily aware of individual practitioners' research nor was it easy to make those links. Funding support to design and develop Research Connect was received from the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. The online resources is an example of how a collaborative endeavour, this one between the IASW and social work educators from the universities, can provide practical supports for practitioner research by making links and building mutually beneficial relationships.

Research Connect provides a place to make those connections between practice and academia and so contributes to building the base of evidence informed practice, positioning social work more strongly in the research community and embedding a research ethos and culture in practice. As a profession, social workers are uniquely positioned to make good researchers, social work education and training providing many of the skills and knowledge required for research. As a practice-based profession, it is important that social workers document and dialogue what has been learnt from practice wisdom, contributing to the ongoing development of our knowledge and skills base. We need to disseminate social work research – to invite conversation, reflection and critique about social work, the issues that impact on our work and on those we work with. Practitioner research can inform the delivery of services, bringing solutions to decision-makers about how best to deliver safe and effective services to patients and service users.

The service is based on a very simple idea whereby those interested upload their profile, search for mentors/mentees with similar interests and make matches accordingly. When a person creates their profile listing, it goes to the IASW office for approval before being uploaded to Research Connect. Once a listing is approved, the mentor/mentee is then sent a link which allows them to edit their profile.

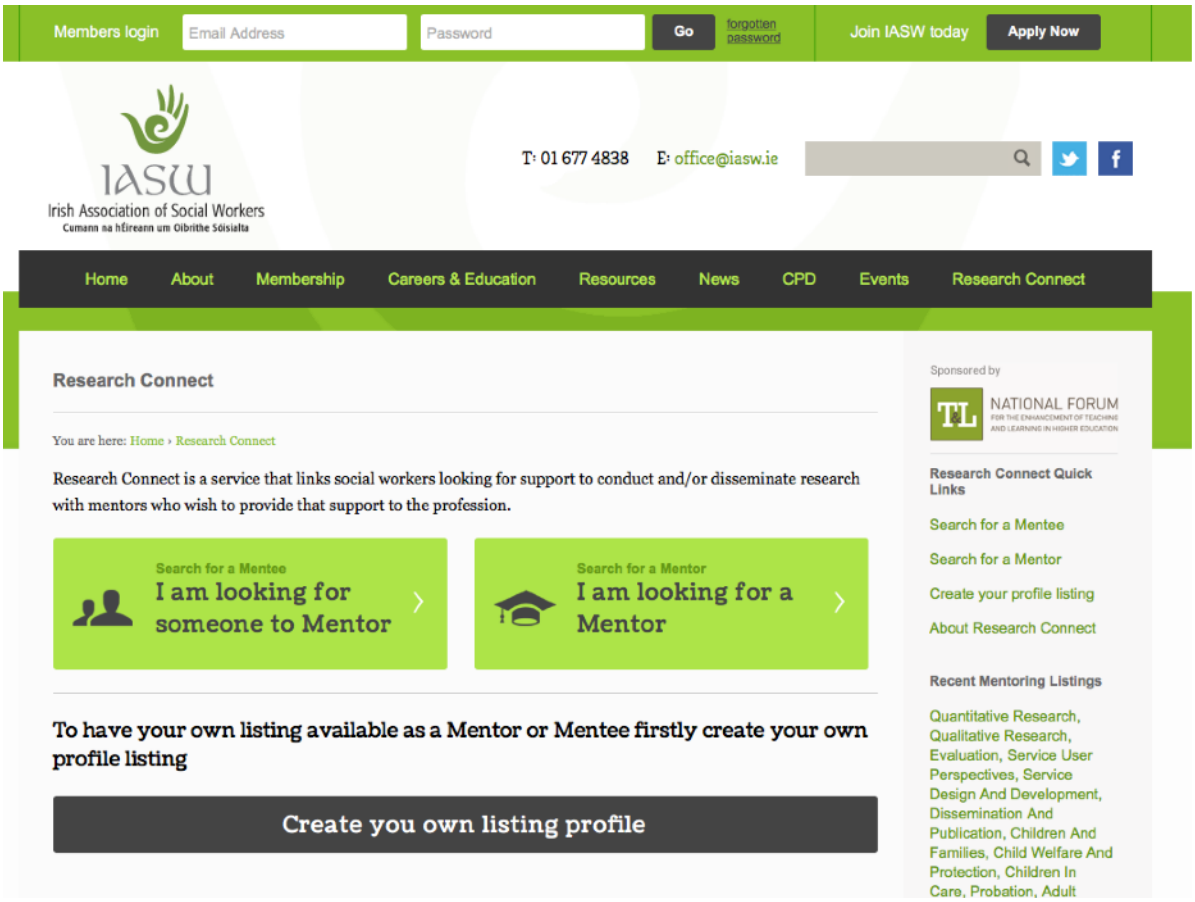
If interested in getting in touch with a mentor or mentee on Research Connect, simply click on the contact button to send the person a message. There really is very little obligation after that – it's entirely up to the individuals involved to decide how much time and input they want to put into any mentoring relationship they make.

There are many benefits for mentees ranging from advice and support in relation to formulating a research question to dissemination of research. There are also numerous potential benefits for mentors which can include: (Cont/…)

IASW Research Connect (Cont/…)

1) Access to the voice of service users;
2) Direct support of practitioners to contribute to the social work evidence base;
3) A mechanism for attracting PhD students;
4) A means to increase publication outputs by co-authoring papers on joint projects;
5) Joint projects with practitioners in the field may also enable academics to access data sets, populations and research settings where access may otherwise be difficult to negotiate;
6) Enables more inclusive research funding applications as many grants are now actively seeking the involvement of practitioners/service users in funding applications and in the research process;
7) It may also help attract practice teachers for each individual university by academics reaching out to directly support social work practitioners in the field.

To find out more about the Research Connect, visit www.iasw.ie and click on Research Connect in the menu bar. You do not need to be a member of the IASW to use this free service – we welcome research minded practitioners and mentors to create their own listing, to engage with Research Connect and to be part of the development of the social work profession in Ireland.



Continuing professional development



Thursday, February 9th 2017

Working with Complexity – the role of the Child Protection Social Worker

One Day Conference – registration open**

Keynote speakers – *Dr Sharon Shoesmith, Professor Helen Buckley, Dr Stephanie Holt*

The Bessborough Centre is excited to announce a one day conference taking place in February 2017. This event, on the subject of working within the area of child protection and welfare will explore a myriad of key issues related to professional practice in a complex environment. Specifically, the conference is an opportunity for participants to engage with learning from areas such as Domestic Violence, Child Death Reviews; and family contact for children within the care system and the sensitive area of supervised access. Furthermore, the issue of systemic failures will be explored constructively in the context of the implications for children, families, wider society and those working within the area of child protection and welfare.

The conference will be of interest to social workers, policy makers, researchers, legal professionals, social care workers, those working in the regulatory services, students and anyone with an interest in the field of child protection and welfare.

The conference is delighted to welcome Dr Sharon Shoesmith, author of 'Learning from Baby P: The Politics of Blame, Fear and Denial'. Sharon will be joined by other key note speakers, Professor Helen Buckley and Dr Stephanie Holt. Presentations will also be given by Practitioners and participants will have the opportunity to update their knowledge, network and to partake in key debates and discussion on the day.

Places are limited so register early

Registration and booking information:

FEE: €100 (*light lunch is included*), visit **Eventbrite** to register and make your payment on the following link; (press Ctrl) http://thebessboroughcentre.eventbrite.ie

For more information email nosullivan@bessborough.ie, call:021 4357730, visit www.bessborough.ie

**This event is being supported by Tusla South, Workforce Learning and Development, and a small number of tickets have been made available at a discounted price to interested social workers.

http://www.eventbrite.ie/o/nicola-osullivan-9780006154

Continuing professional development



"The Irish Association of Social Workers and partners have been successful in securing Ireland as the next venue for the joint global Social Work, Education and Social Development conference from 4-7 July 2018. The International Federation of Social Workers, the International Schools of Social Work and the International Council on Social Welfare signed the contract for this conference last week during the 2016 joint global conference held in Seoul, South Korea.

The local organising committee here comprises members of the IASW, the Schools of Social work in UCD, TCD, UCC and NUIG and the European Anti-Poverty Network Dublin office.

The conference theme is: ***Environmental and Community Sustainability: Human Solutions in Evolving Societies.***
This exciting, unique and important event will bring together upwards of 2500 social work practitioners, educators and policy workers from across the world. It is our intention to also invite user groups and community groups to participate in the conference programme.
In shaping the structure of the conference programme, the local organising committee will focus on the United Nation's *Sustainable Development Goals 2015-2030*. Ban Ki Moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his address to the 2016 Global Conference in Seoul last week, spoke about the importance of these goals in helping to ensure 'that no one is left behind'. For me, the core of social work is about helping to ensure that those who are vulnerable are supported in their journey so that they are not left behind.
Topics will include poverty and quality of life, social justice, rights and equality, community development, climate change and sustainable environments. We plan to have a programme where all those attending the conference can engage in meaningful dialogue about practice, education and policy relating to these issues and can leave a rich legacy.

Register your name and email to keep updated with details of SWSD 2018 at http://www.swsd2018.org/
Ongoing updates will also be provided through social media www.facebook.com/SWSDofficial and https://twitter.com/SWSDOfficial"

New publications and policy reports

National Drugs Strategy – Public Consultation

Minister Catherine Byrne TD announces a public consultation on the new National Drugs Strategy

Press Release Tuesday 6th September 2016

Minister of State for Communities and the National Drugs Strategy Catherine Byrne, TD, today called on service users, parents, families, young people, organisations and all members of society across the country to provide their views on the current drugs situation in Ireland. Launching a public consultation to inform the development of a new national drugs strategy, the Minister acknowledged that drugs are unfortunately a fact of life here in Ireland and underlined the importance of hearing everyone's views on the issue.

The new drugs strategy will set out Government policy from 2017 onwards in the areas of drug awareness and prevention, treatment of substance misuse and addiction, promoting rehabilitation and reducing the supply of illicit drugs. The Department of Health is keen to hear about the issues people think are important to be considered in the new drugs strategy. All views received will be collated in a report, which will be provided to the National Drugs Strategy Steering Committee to help inform the new policy.

Announcing the consultation plans, Minister Byrne said: "*The development of the new National Drugs Strategy is essential to ensure that we have an up-to-date and effective response to the drug problem facing our society. We are planning for a future where Ireland is a better place in terms of drug prevention, where people can make informed decisions through education and the right services and support are provided to those who need them most. Now is the chance to have your say and inform Government policy on this key issue*".

Speaking at the launch, John Carr, independent chair of the National Drugs Strategy Steering Committee said: "*The drug problem affects people from all walks of life and all social backgrounds in every part of the country. The consultation process will give people an opportunity to voice their concerns, and events are being organised in Carrick on Shannon, Limerick, Cork and Dublin in order to get a nationwide perspective on the drug problem*".

Concluding her remarks, the Minister said: "*Too often we don't see drugs as relevant to our own lives if we have not been directly affected by drug misuse, but each one of us has a view and is directly or indirectly impacted by drugs and so we must all, therefore, be part of the solution.*"

The new National Drugs Strategy will set out Government Policy on tackling the drug problem from 2017 onwards. The public consultation process will run from Tuesday 6th of September until Tuesday 18th of October at 5.oo p.m.

After the public consultation is completed the information collected will be compiled into a report which will then be presented to the National Drugs Strategy Steering Committee. The information will assist in the development of the new strategy.

As stated in the Cork & Kerry Alcohol Strategy we must include alcohol as part of our response to substance misuse. When the National Drugs Strategy runs out we must include alcohol in a new National Substance Misuse Strategy from the start of 2017.

You can share your views on the new strategy by completing the online survey which can be found here: www.surveymonkey.com/r/NationalDrugsStrategy

New publications and policy reports

I'd Prefer To Stay At Home, But I Don't Have A Choice: Meeting Older People's Preference For Care: Policy, But What About Practice?

Donnelly et al. (2016)



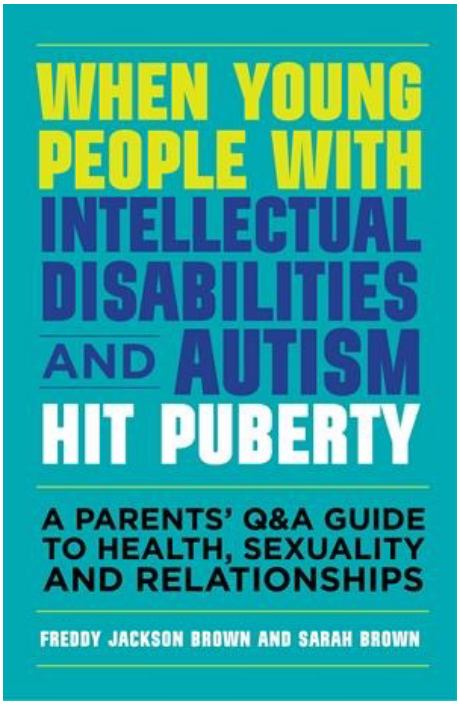
A new report launched on the 3rd June by the Ombudsman, Mr Peter Tyndall exposes serious problems in Ireland's home care services for older people. This important research was co-authored by Dr Sarah Donnelly, Assistant Professor School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice UCD and Irish Association of Social Workers, Dr Marita O'Brien, Age Action, Dr Emer Begley, Alzheimer Society of Ireland and Mr John Brennan, Irish Association of Social Workers. The research was based on a nationwide survey and in-depth interviews with social workers working with older people, including people living with dementia. The study reveals that Ireland's health and social care system is disorganised, fragmented and underfunded with social workers estimating more than half of the older people they work with could be at home instead of in nursing home care if the appropriate services were available.

The authors of the report are calling for immediate investment and reform of community care services and for the Government to implement a fair and equitable way of allocating care and support services underpinned by legislation.

"People have a right to a nursing home bed; it's time they had a right to stay home."

http://researchrepository.ucd.ie/handle/10197/7670

When Young People with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Hit Puberty



Puberty, personal hygiene and sex can be difficult topics to broach with your child, especially when they have an intellectual disability or autism. The authors of this guide provide honest answers to challenging questions and provide solutions to the dilemmas that many parents face on a daily basis. Structured around issues related to puberty and emerging sexuality in children with disabilities or autism, such as physical changes, mood swings and sexual behaviour, the book presents case studies alongside practical guidance on how to overcome problems that commonly arise.
The book also explains laws relevant to disability and sexuality and suggests appropriate sex education programmes to meet the needs of differing degrees of disability.

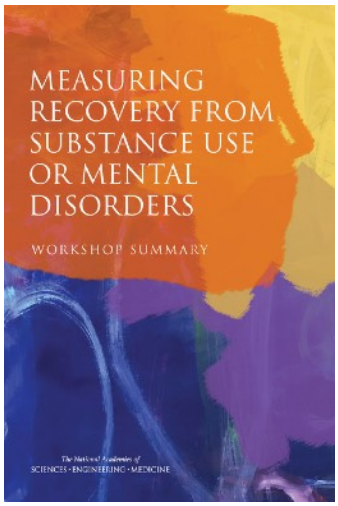
http://www.jkp.com/uk/when-young-people-with-intellectual-disabilities-and-autism-hit-puberty-34155.html/

New publications and policy reports

Comptroller and Auditor General's Report on Guardian ad Litem Service

http://www.audgen.gov.ie/documents/annualreports/2015/report/en/Chapter11.pdf

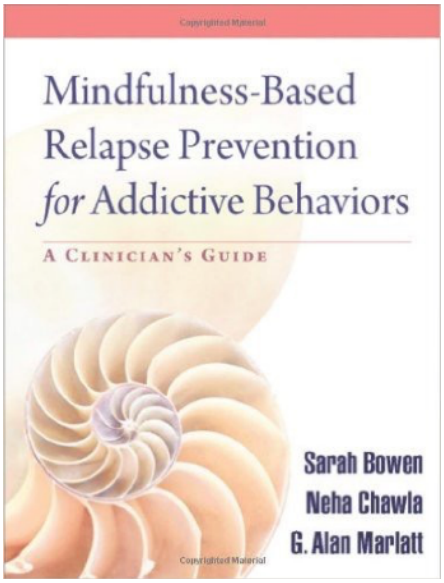
Measuring Recovery from Substance Use or Mental Disorders (2016)



In February 2016, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine held a workshop to explore options for expanding the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) behavioural health data collections to include measures of recovery from substance use and mental disorder. Participants discussed options for collecting data and producing estimates of recovery from substance use and mental disorders, including available measures and associated possible data collection mechanisms. This publication summarises the presentations and discussions from the workshop.

https://www.nap.edu/catalog/23589/measuring-recovery-from-substance-use-or-mental-disorders-workshop-summary?utm_source=NAP+Newsletter&utm_campaign=a786895fb9-Final_Book_2016_09_22_23589&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_96101de015-a786895fb9-102603157&goal=0_96101de015-a786895fb9-102603157&mc_cid=a786895fb9&mc_eid=e882c9a925

Mindfulness-Based Relapse Prevention for Addictive Behaviours (2016)



This authoritative book presents an innovative relapse prevention program that integrates mindfulness practices with evidence-based cognitive and behavioural strategies. Clinicians get essential information and materials for implementing the approach with their clients. Eight carefully structured group sessions help participants gain awareness of their own inner experiences, step out of habitual patterns of thought and behaviour that can trigger relapse, and acquire concrete skills to meet the day-to-day challenges of recovery. In a convenient large-size format, the book includes detailed guidelines for facilitating each session, scripted examples of guided meditations, and more than 20 reproducible handouts. Purchasers get access to a Web page where they can download and print the reproducible materials.

New publications and policy reports

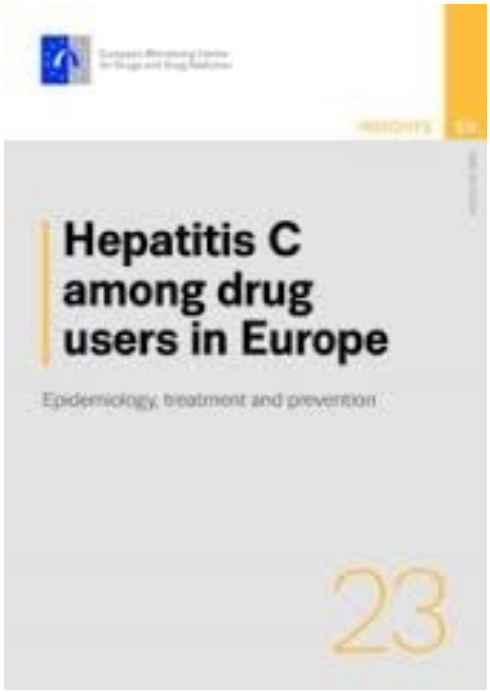
ESPAD Report 2015 - Results from the European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs



This report presents the results of the sixth data-collection wave of the European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD). It marks the 20th anniversary of ESPAD data collection (1995-2015), which increases considerably the value of the information presented, allowing the identification of long-term trends with a standardised and comparable methodology.

http://www.espad.org/report/home

Hepatitis C among drug users in Europe: epidemiology, treatment and prevention



This report provides a timely contribution to raising awareness of the hepatitis C epidemic in Europe and the opportunities now opening up to tackle this problem decisively.

http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/insights/hepatitis-c-among-drug-users-in-europe

Uprooted: The Growing Crisis for Refugee and Migrant Children

We are witnessing the **largest movement of children since World War II**. Nearly 50 million children have migrated across borders or have been forcibly displaced – and this is a conservative estimate. More than half of these children – 28 million – have fled violence and insecurity.

Migrant and refugee children are among the **most vulnerable people in the world**, and until now, there has not been a clear picture of where these children are and the challenges they face.

Today, UNICEF is releasing a new report, *Uprooted: The Growing Crisis for Refugee and Migrant Children*, that includes comprehensive data on migrant and refugee children around the world – where they are born, where they move, and the dangers they face along the way.



http://www.unicef.org/emergencies/childrenonthemove/uprooted/

Research briefs

Strategies to improve the implementation of healthy eating, physical activity and obesity prevention policies, practices or programmes within childcare services

Luke Wolfenden *et al.* (2016)

THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION®

Background: Despite the existence of effective interventions and best-practice guideline recommendations for childcare services to implement policies, practices and programmes to promote child healthy eating, physical activity and prevent unhealthy weight gain, many services fail to do so.

Objectives: The primary aim of the review was to examine the effectiveness of strategies aimed at improving the implementation of policies, practices or programmes by childcare services that promote child healthy eating, physical activity and/or obesity prevention.

The secondary aims of the review were to:
1. describe the impact of such strategies on childcare service staff knowledge, skills or attitudes;
2. describe the cost or cost-effectiveness of such strategies;
3. describe any adverse effects of such strategies on childcare services, service staff or children;
4. examine the effect of such strategies on child diet, physical activity or weight status.

Search methods: We searched the following electronic databases on 3 August 2015: the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled trials (CENTRAL), MEDLINE, MEDLINE In Process, EMBASE, PsycINFO, ERIC, CINAHL and SCOPUS. We also searched reference lists of included trials, hand searched two international implementation science journals and searched the World Health Organisation International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (www.who.int/ictrp/) and ClinicalTrials.gov (www.clinicaltrials.gov).

Selection criteria: We included any study (randomised or non-randomised) with a parallel control group that compared any strategy to improve the implementation of a healthy eating, physical activity or obesity prevention policy, practice or programme by staff of centre-based childcare services to no intervention, 'usual' practice or an alternative strategy.

Data collection and analysis: The review authors independently screened abstracts and titles, extracted trial data and assessed risk of bias in pairs; we resolved discrepancies via consensus. Heterogeneity across studies precluded pooling of data and undertaking quantitative assessment via meta-analysis. However, we narratively synthesised the trial findings by describing the effect size of the primary outcome measure for policy or practice implementation (or the median of such measures where a single primary outcome was not stated).

Main results: We identified 10 trials as eligible and included them in the review. The trials sought to improve the implementation of policies and practices targeting healthy eating (two trials), physical activity (two trials) or both healthy eating and physical activity (six trials). Collectively the implementation strategies tested in the 10 trials included educational materials, educational meetings, audit and feedback, opinion leaders, small incentives or grants, educational outreach visits or academic detailing. A total of 1053 childcare services participated across all trials. Of the 10 trials, eight examined implementation strategies versus a usual practice control and two compared alternative implementation strategies. There was considerable study heterogeneity. We judged all studies as having high risk of bias for at least one domain.
It is uncertain whether the strategies tested improved the implementation of policies, practices or programmes that promote child healthy eating, physical activity and/or obesity prevention. No intervention improved the implementation of all policies and practices targeted by the implementation strategies relative to a comparison group. Of the eight trials that compared an implementation strategy to usual practice or a no intervention control, however, seven reported improvements in the implementation of at least one of the targeted policies or practices relative to control. For these trials the effect on the primary implementation outcome was as follows: among the three trials that reported score-based measures of implementation the scores ranged from 1 to 5.1; across four trials reporting the proportion of staff or services implementing a specific policy or practice this ranged from 0% to 9.5%; and in three trials reporting the time (per day or week) staff or services spent implementing a policy or practice this ranged from 4.3 minutes to 7.7 minutes. The review findings also indicate that is it uncertain whether such interventions improve childcare service staff knowledge or attitudes (two trials), child physical activity (two trials), child weight status (two trials) or child diet (one trial). None of the included trials reported on the cost or cost-effectiveness of the intervention. One trial assessed the adverse effects of a physical activity intervention and found no difference in rates of child injury between groups. For all review outcomes, we rated the quality of the evidence as very low. The primary limitation of the review was the lack of conventional terminology in implementation science, which may have resulted in potentially relevant studies failing to be identified based on the search terms used in this review.

Authors' conclusions: Current research provides weak and inconsistent evidence of the effectiveness of such strategies in improving the implementation of policies and practices, childcare service staff knowledge or attitudes, or child diet, physical activity or weight status. Further research in the field is required.

Research briefs

Juvenile Curfew Effects on Criminal Behaviour and Victimisation: A Systematic Review

by David Wilson, Charlotte Gill, Ajima Olaghere, Dave McClure (2016)



BACKGROUND

A juvenile curfew has a common sense appeal: keep youth at home during the late night and early morning hours and you will prevent them from committing a crime or being a victim of a crime. This common sense appeal has led to the popularity of curfews, at least within the United States and Iceland. However, prior reviews have questioned the effectiveness of curfews.

OBJECTIVES

The aim of this review was to synthesise the evidence on the effectiveness of juvenile curfews in reducing criminal behaviour and victimisation among youth.

SEARCH METHODS

The systematic search was conducted between January 20, 2014 and March 5, 2014. The search strategy yielded 7,349 titles and abstracts. The initial screening identified 100 of these as potentially relevant and in need of a full text review for study eligibility. Fifteen documents representing 12 unique studies were eligible and coded.

SELECTION CRITERIA

To be eligible, a study must have tested the effect of an official state or local policy intended to restrict or otherwise penalise a juvenile's presence outside the home during certain times of day. This must have been a general preventive measure directed at all youth within a certain age range and not a sanction imposed on a specific youth. All quantitative research designs were eligible. An eligible study must have assessed the effect of a curfew on either juvenile criminal behaviour or juvenile victimisation. The manuscript, published or unpublished, must have been written in English and reported on data collected after 1959.

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The typical evaluation design of an eligible study was a variant on an interrupted time-series. To accommodate these designs, the effect size used in this synthesis was the percent change in the crime or victimisation rate during the period of time with a curfew relative to a baseline period, adjusting for any overall linear time trend. The outcomes of interest included crime and victimisation, which were categorised by time of day (curfew hours, non-curfew hours, or all hours) and offender or victim age (juvenile or adult). The effects during non-curfew hours and the effects for adults served as control outcomes; that is, outcomes that should be unaffected by a curfew.

RESULTS

The pattern of evidence suggests that juvenile curfews are ineffective at reducing crime and victimisation. The mean effect size for juvenile crime during curfew hours was slightly positive (reflecting a slight increase in crime), whereas it was essentially zero for crime during all hours. Both effects were nonsignificant. Similarly, juvenile victimisation also appeared unaffected by the imposition of a curfew ordinance.

AUTHORS' CONCLUSIONS

The evidence suggests that juvenile curfews are ineffective at reducing crime or victimisation. This is not, however, a conclusive finding. The observational nature of the research designs creates potential sources of bias, and as such the findings need additional replication. However, many of the most plausible biases should have increased the likelihood of finding an effect. In particular, most of the studies reviewed were conducted during a time period when crime was decreasing throughout the United States. Thus, it appears that juvenile curfews either have no effect on crime and victimisation or the effect is too small to be reliability detected with available data.

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Practice signposts are permanent pages that will appear in every edition of *Practice Links*. The aim of these pages is to provide sign posts to high quality, research-informed databases. Some of the databases at a quick glance may seem too medical/health orientated, but also contain great resources to support social work and social care practice also.

Campbell Collaboration

The Campbell Collaboration (C2) helps people make well-informed decisions by preparing, maintaining and disseminating systematic reviews in education, crime and justice, and social welfare. Access to the database in the Republic of Ireland is free as the government of Ireland has purchased a license. http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/

Cochrane Collaboration

The Cochrane Collaboration, established in 1993, is an international network of more than 28,000 dedicated people from over 100 countries. We work together to help health care providers, policy makers, patients, their advocates and carers, make well-informed decisions about health care, based on the best available research evidence, by preparing, updating and promoting the accessibility of Cochrane Reviews. Our work is internationally recognised as the benchmark for high quality information about the effectiveness of health care.
http://www.cochrane.org/

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) - NHS UK

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) provides guidance, sets quality standards and manages a national database to improve people's health and prevent and treat ill health. http://www.nice.org.uk/ . Videocasts: http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/videocasts/videocasts.jsp. Podcasts: http://www.nice.org.uk/newsroom/podcasts/index.jsp

Health Intelligence Unit (HSE)

Health Intelligence is part of the Quality and Clinical Care Directorate within the Health Service Executive and is responsible for capturing and utilising knowledge to support decision-making to improve the health of the population. Website has links to HSE research, databases, facts (census etc.), publications and using evidence effectively. http://www.hse.ie/eng/about/Who/Population_Health/Health_Intelligence/

Evidence in Health and Social Care (NHS)

NHS Evidence is a service that enables access to authoritative clinical and non-clinical evidence and best practice through a web-based portal. It helps people from across the NHS, public health and social care sectors to make better decisions as a result. NHS Evidence is managed by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/

HRB National Drugs Library

The HRB National Drugs Library is an information resource that supports those working to develop the knowledge base around drug, alcohol and tobacco use in Ireland. The library is funded by the Department of Health, and based within the Health Research Board. We have a range of services and resources designed to provide the evidence needed for practice and CPD. In particular, see the social worker page on our online practitioner resource.

http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/

Drugs.ie

Drugs.ie is an independent website managed by The Ana Liffey Drug Project. Drugs.ie's mission is to help individuals, families and communities prevent and/or address problems arising from drug and alcohol use.

http://www.drugs.ie/

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) improves the lives of people who use care services by sharing knowledge about what works. We are an independent charity working with adults, families and children's social care and social work services across the UK. We also work closely with related services such as health care and housing. We gather and analyse knowledge about what works and translate that knowledge into practical resources, learning materials and services. Our work helps to improve the knowledge and skills of those working in care services. This includes managers, frontline staff, commissioners and trainers. People and their families who use these services also use our resources. All of our work is developed in collaboration with experts - including people who use care services and their carers. http://www.scie.org.uk/

Decision Map.ie

DecisionMap.ie, the new online decision-support tool developed by Ordnance Survey Ireland and Twelve Horses. DecisionMap, currently in beta test release, combines digital mapping from Ordnance Survey Ireland, with visualisation and web delivery tools developed by Twelve Horses, and statistical data provided by the Central Statistics Office and others. It aims to provide decision makers in the public and private sectors instant access to easily-consumable, spatially-referenced data about Ireland. http://decisionmap.ie/

Growing Up in Ireland

Growing Up in Ireland is a national study of children. It is the most significant of its kind ever to take place in this country and will help us to improve our understanding of all aspects of children and their development.

The study will take place over seven years and follow the progress of two groups of children; 8500 nine-year-olds and 11,000 nine-month-olds. During this time we will carry out two rounds of research with each group of children.

The main aim of the study is to paint a full picture of children in Ireland and how they are developing in the current social, economic and cultural environment. This information will be used to assist in policy formation and in the provision of services which will ensure all children will have the best possible start in life.
http://www.growingup.ie/

Irish Qualitative Data Archive

The Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA) is a central access point for qualitative social science data and provides online access to all new qualitative data generated within the Irish Social Science Platform, and to selected existing data. http://www.iqda.ie/content/welcome-iqda

North South Child Protection Hub

This hub available for use by child protection professionals (policy makers, practitioners, researchers and educators) in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

The Hub brings together research, policy and practice guidance, inspection reports, serious case reviews, court judgements, news articles and other material relevant to child protection published in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland together with material from Great Britain and other countries. Staff in the Health and Social Care Board and Trusts in Northern Ireland and in the Health Service Executive in the Republic of Ireland, will have access to the Hub but it will also be an important resource for all organisations concerned with child protection. http://www.nscph.com/

RIAN - Irish Open Access Research Archive (free)

RIAN is the outcome of a sectoral higher education project supported by the Irish Government's 'Strategic Innovation Fund'. Project planning was carried out by the seven Irish university libraries, DCU, NUIG, NUIM, TCD, UCC, UCD, UL and was supported by the Irish Universities Association (IUA). The project aim is to harvest to one portal the contents of the Institutional Repositories of the seven university libraries, in order to make Irish research material more freely accessible, and to increase the research profiles of individual researchers and their institutions. It is intended to extend the harvest to other Irish research institutions as RIAN develops.

http://rian.ie/en

Practice signposts: data sources to support practice



Resource on Marijuana

Marijuana LIT is a source of fact based information to assist professionals in providing accurate information to those affected by the use of cannabis. There are lots of confusing messages regarding the use of cannabis, the harm it causes and whether it should be legalised or not. This makes it difficult sometimes to determine facts from urban myth or popular opinion. The Addiction Technology Transfer Centre Network Co-ordinating Office in the United States has a user friendly package of resources to assist those who provide services to substance users. It has information and infographics on how cannabis affects the body, using cannabis while pregnant and the potential complications for unborn children and newborns and how cannabis impacts on young people and families. Dr. Thomas E. Freese explains in-depth what is meant by "Medical Marijuana Use". Who uses it and why, and the difference between medical marijuana and Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) medications. He also discusses the legal issues around the debate on the legal use of marijuana. http://attcnetwork.org/marijuana/index.aspx#infographic

The DCYA Children's Participation Hub Database

The DCYA Children's Participation Hub Database is now online. Please click on this link: http://www.dcya.gov.ie/Participation-Database/default.asp . The database includes a wide range of national and international practice and research publications and articles on children and young people's participation in decision-making. This database is the first stage of development of the Children and Young People's Participation Hub, which is one of the key actions for DCYA under the *National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-making* (2015-2020).

The Hub will become the national centre for excellence on children and young people's participation in decision-making and will be fully functioning by the end of 2016. The Hub will support implementation of the strategy through the provision of information, training and advice for Government departments and agencies and the non-statutory sector. The database was developed on behalf of the DCYA by the Child Law Clinic, University College Cork.

Mindfulness Based Relapse Prevention Audio Recordings

Please click on the links to these MP3s for your personal use or to share with clients.

Body Scan (female voice)
Body Scan (male voice)

SOBER space (female voice)
SOBER space (male voice)

Urge Surfing (female voice)

Brief Sitting Meditation (female voice)
Brief Sitting Meditation (male voice)
Sitting - sound meditation (male voice)
Sitting - breath meditation (male voice)

Longer Sitting Meditation (female voice)
Longer Sitting Meditation (male voice)

Kindness (male voice)
Kindness (version 2, male voice)

Mindful Movement (male voice)
Mindful Stretching (male voice)
Mindful Walking (male voice)

Mountain Meditation (female voice)
Mountain Meditation (male voice)

HRB National Drugs Library

HRB National drugs library resource for social workers and social care workers

The HRB National Drugs Library is an information resource that supports those working to develop the knowledge base around drug, alcohol and tobacco use in Ireland. The library is funded by the Department of Health, and based within the Health Research Board. We have a range of services and resources designed to provide the evidence needed for practice and CPD. In particular, see the social worker page on our online practitioner resource.

http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/

You can view Irish and international research and policy material on legal and illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Because these issues affect so many aspects of daily life, we also have publications on related subjects such as poverty, suicide, prisons, homelessness, social care, and health.

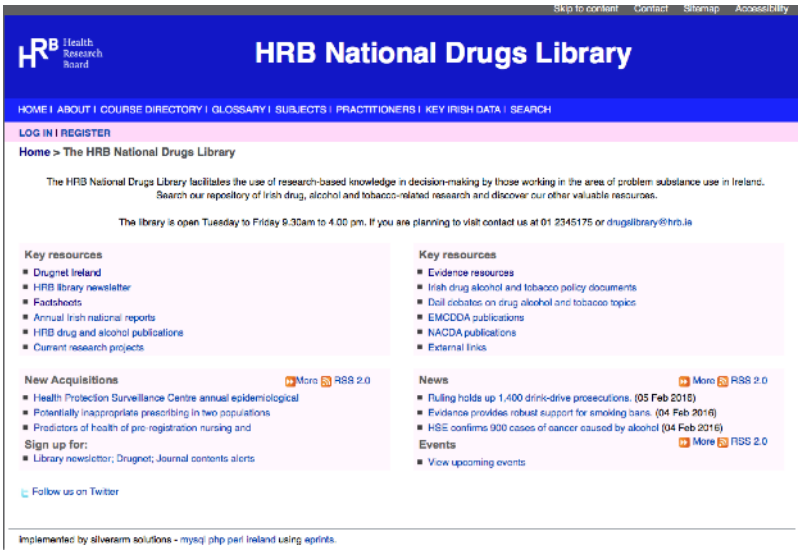
Every year we add hundreds of new articles and reports to our library collection. In order to help relieve information overload we have a number of summarised aids, such as Drugnet Ireland, NDC newsletter, and factsheets.

We recognise that those working in health and social care need access to research in a way that suits your busy work life. In order to facilitate this, the NDC librarians, with the wonderful help of advisors working in the social work and social care work areas, have developed a 'practitioner' resource. The homepage http://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/practitioners has links to a number of subject areas. The 'key Irish data' link and those on the bottom row are relevant to most workers. Clicking on a link will show you recent Irish and international articles and reports on that subject.

We have also developed pages for specific professions including social workers and social care workers. Each of these pages list key documents and have links to subjects of particular interest to that profession.

The resource includes a page called 'doing research' which has links to useful online tools providing help on finding and using information for research. We are interested in collecting and making available local Irish drug or alcohol research done by those working in the area. If you are doing any such research, even a small piece in their organisation, you can submit it to us.

We would like to express a special word of thanks to all of those who helped with the design of the resource. We welcome ongoing feedback with recommendations for key documents, subject areas and anything else workers would like to see in your resource.



CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

Are you a member of a community group, voluntary organisation, resident's association, NGO?

Do you need a small piece of research done, but don't have enough money or resources to

What is this about?

Community-Academic Research Links (CARL) invites non-profit voluntary or community organisations to suggest potential research topics that are important to them and could be *collaboratively* worked on with students as part of their course work. CARL is an initiative in UCC and follows a 30-year European tradition with similar initiatives on-going in some of the highest ranked Universities in Europe. CARL has produced impressive and important pieces of research that have generated interest outside the university walls and the project reports have even had an impact at government policy level.

We are seeking expressions of interest from groups who have ideas for a research project and would like to collaborate on their research idea with a UCC student.

How does it work?

As part of their academic course, students undertake a minor dissertation (between 10,000-30,000 words). In past years, students designed their own study and then contacted groups for permission to collect data. These projects serve to develop the research skills of the students; however, the research may not always answer the needs of community and voluntary groups.

In the CARL model, the students undertake their studies, learn about research methods, data collection, ethics, literature reviews as usual; however, the major difference is that the research projects undertaken are explicitly ***studies of issues identified by the community***. These are studies/ research which the community identifies as important and need to be undertaken, but they cannot pay for it and/or do not have the expertise themselves to undertake the study at this time.

How long does this take?

The typical time-scale for projects would be a) proposals submitted by groups, b) review of proposals by the CARL advisory group (comprised of UCC staff, students and representatives from the community and voluntary sector) to see which proposals are sufficiently developed and feasible for a student to undertake, and c) students begin their research in May or October.

Projects must be small enough to be completed within the academic year, roughly 9-12 months. Large research projects which require longer than a year to complete may be broken up into one or more smaller one-year projects for multiple students.

Where can I get more information and read sample reports?

Please visit our website to watch brief videos about CARL, to find out what it is like to participate http://www.ucc.ie/en/scishop/, or to read past research project reports http://www.ucc.ie/en/scishop/rr/

Does it matter what the research topic is about?

Topics that are connected to any discipline at UCC are welcome (science, maths, engineering, social sciences, arts, humanities, business, law, etc.)

What if we have already completed a research project with CARL?

Community groups that are currently involved, or previously completed a project, are welcome to apply again.

We look forward to hearing from you!

CARL
COMMUNITY - ACADEMIC RESEARCH LINKS
University College Cork, Ireland

Before you make contact …

1. Is your proposed project small enough to be undertaken as part of a student project?
2. Does your group come under the definition of a not-for-profit community and voluntary group?
3. Do you have a clear idea for a research project that, if undertaken, will have a wider benefit to society?
4. Read some completed research reports on our website.
5. Groups that have funding should consider commissioning research, rather than applying to CARL.
6. Contact Anna to discuss your idea further and to receive a copy of the application form.
7. We are accepting proposals all year round.

CONTACT US

Anna Kingston a.kingston@ucc.ie /

UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Videos

Ten Years of BeLonGing!

It is vitally important that people working in Irish social services understand and are sensitive to the issues facing the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) community, its younger members in particular. BeLonG To is the national organisation for LGBT young people, aged between 14 and 23. Established in 2003, BeLonG To's vision is for an Ireland where LGBT young people are empowered to embrace their development and growth confidently and to participate as agents of positive social change.
It aims to achieve this through the provision of safe and fun services to LGBT young people across Ireland, engaging them through a Critical Social Education framework, while upholding all elements of the Youth Work Act 2001.

A short video (5mins) was made to mark the organisation's 10th Anniversary "Ten Years of BeLonGing", which shares the reflections of some of BeLonG To's allies including Emily Logan, then Ombudsman for Children, Niall Crowley, former CEO of the Equality Authority and Donal Óg Cusak, All Ireland Hurling Champion.

Ten Years of BeLonGing! video -https://www.youtube.com/user/BeLonGToYouthService/featured

Young people from IndividualiTy experience of Transgender European Council Conference in Bologna Italy June 2016

The School of Life

The School of Life is a global organisation devoted to emotional education that asks the sort of questions rarely taught in school or college, such as:

- How can relationships go well?
- What is meaningful work?
- How can love last?
- How can one find calm?
- What's gone wrong (and right) with capitalism?

The School of Life's You Tube channel has recently grown to over one million subscribers, a testament to the excellent short films it broadcasts each week that focus on thought-provoking ideas within the humanities, especially philosophy, psychotherapy, literature and art.

The School of Life channel

Rogers in 10 minutes

A ten-minute video introducing the humanistic psychology of Carl Rogers.

Rogers in 10 minutes

Podcasts

'How Prevalent is Racism among the Irish Middle Class?'

Dr Martina Byrne of UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice, was interviewed on her research into the Irish professional class response to immigration, on Newstalk's 'The Sunday Show' on the 7th August.

You can listen to a podcast of the interview on the Newstalk website here.

Humans of Dublin (HOD)
HODCast is a weekly podcast where host, Derek Carter, talks to people from Dublin (or living there!) about Dublin, about themselves and, ultimately about what it means to be human.

http://www.thehumansofdublin.ie

https://www.facebook.com/HODCast

The Gospel According To Matthew

This 19 minute podcast is a powerful and poignant piece about Matthew, made by his younger sister Niamh. For years Niamh's parents told her that her oldest brother Matthew was on holidays. It wasn't until she found letters from him addressed to her mother that she connected the dots. This is the first time that Matthew told her where he was, and what had happened.

This documentary aims to highlight the drastic need for more effective aid for drug users and re-offenders, and a dire need for more mental health services. Matthew, whose story is not yet finished, is just one of thousands of people who are forgotten.

The Gospel According to Matthew

Apps

Social Work Social Media

This app offers a way to explore and learn about some of the ethical issues of using social media in social work with the aim of encouraging discussion and debate. A Team Manager called Adrian presents some ethical dilemmas around social media use. Can you help Adrian make the right decisions to ensure his team's practices are consistent with social work ethics and values?

Using a games-based approach, you are encouraged to reflect on your decisions and consider the potential impact these may have on your day-to-day social work practices in relation to social media use.

For educators and trainers, this app can be used as a pre-teaching/training activity or as a pre-induction resource for social work students to help them examine some of their social media practices before entering a professional programme.

Many of the issues raised can also be applied to other professional disciplines within wider professional settings.

- To download the app for iPhones Click here
- For Android devices Click here

The DBT Diary Card – Dialectical Behavioural Therapy

Dialectical behaviour therapy (DBT) is a type of talking therapy based on cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), but has been adapted to meet the particular needs of people who experience emotions very intensely. DBT helps you to change unhelpful behaviours, while also focusing on accepting who you are and is mainly used to treat problems associated with borderline personality disorder (BPD). DBT places particular importance on the relationship between you and your therapist, and this relationship is used to actively motivate you to change. This app is not intended as a replacement for a therapist. It is available for iPhone only on the App store:

DBT Diary Card

Social media

LinkedIn groups

The following two groups may be useful resources for LinkedIn members working in related fields. They are easily found using the search bar once a member has logged in.

Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies
The Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies (IJASS) was founded in 1998 and is published by Social Care Ireland. It aims to publish papers from across the social sciences and related applied areas, with a focus on Ireland, but manuscripts from other areas are welcome, particularly those with a comparative perspective.

Advanced Social Work Practice Network
This group is for social work practitioners, academics, employers and partner organisations who wish to support the development of professional leadership in social work.

LinkedIn Home

Twitter

Keeping it Irish again this issue with a range of worthwhile Twitter accounts to follow:

See Change @SeeChangeIRL – Ireland's movement to change minds about mental health problems & end stigma, one conversation at a time

Suicide or Survive @SuicideorSurviv – creating #socialchange through their programmes #edenprogramme and http://www.wellnessworkshop.ie and breaking down #stigma

John Devaney @JDev65 – Social Worker & Academic with an interest in child welfare, domestic violence and the impact of adversity in childhood across the lifecourse. Belfast, Northern Ireland

Harry Ferguson @Harr_Ferguson – Professor of Social Work. Child protection, social theory, fatherhood, masculinities, ethnography and research into face to face social work practice. University of Nottingham

Vivian Geiran @VGeiran – Director of the Probation Service, Ireland. Opinions my own; RTs not endorsement. Dublin, Ireland

About Practice Links

Practice Links is a free e-publication for practitioners working in Irish social services, voluntary and non-governmental sectors. *Practice Links* was created to help practitioners in these areas to keep up-to-date with new publications, conferences and continuing professional development opportunities. *Practice Links* is published every other month in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf file). Distribution is by email, Twitter and on the *Practice Links* website http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/ .

Submissions

Submission for publication should be received two weeks prior to the next publication date. Please forward submissions by email to k.burns@ucc.ie.

SWDU

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