CORA Cork Open Research Archive
Cartlann Taighde Oscailte Chorcaí

Title	Practice links [Issue 36, February 2010]
Publication date	2010-02-01
Original Citation	Burns, Kenneth ed., 2010, Feburary, "Practice Links", [Online]. http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/
Type of publication	Other
Download date	2026-11-14 14:56:22
Item downloaded from	https://hdl.handle.net/10468/1152



UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Practice Links

Issue 36, February 2010



Inside

Continuing Professional Development
Pgs. 2-3

Barnardos
Pg. 4

Recently Published Books and Resources
Pgs. 5-8

Positive Behaviour Ireland
Pg. 9

National Child Care Information System
Pg. 10

Book Review
Pg. 11

Web-links and Electronic Publications
Pg. 12

Research Survey on Supervision
Pgs. 12

Report on Fieldwork Training for Social Workers
Pg. 13

Equine Assisted Personal Development
Pg. 14

MSocSc Third Sector Management
Pgs. 14

About Practice Links/Submissions/ Subscriptions/Contributors
Pg. 15

Continuing Professional Development

EAPN International Conference: Building Social Europe

On 19th February 2010, the European Anti-Poverty Network Ireland will host an international conference on the occasion of the 2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion. Conference agenda and registration form. http://www.eapn.ie

Issues in Safeguarding Refugee and Asylum-Seeking Children (BASPCAN)

5 April 2010, University of Central Lancashire, Preston

Brochure, speaker list and booking form http://www.baspcan.org.uk/events.php
If you would like to attend please fill out the booking form and return to the National Office via email to conferences@baspcan.org.uk, by fax to +441904 642239 or to the postal address below. You can also contact the National Office for speaker updates and further information.

Speaking Up for Children: The Media and LSCBs. On the Same Side?

MONDAY 10TH MAY, 2010, BVSC, BIRMINGHAM, 138 Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DR

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS INCLUDE :

- Liz Davies (Senior Lecturer, London Met University)
- Mike Jempson (Director, The MediaWise Trust)
- Prof. Nigel Parton (NSPCC Professor, University of Huddersfield)
- Sue Woolmore (LSCB Advisor, NSPCC)
- David Spicer (Barrister & Vice Chair-BASPCAN)

Issues regarding the care and protection of children are always likely to interest the media and therefore the public. Some of the recent coverage has been negative, focusing on the failings in the systems and processes designed to safeguard children.

This one day event is designed to support LSCBs in considering how to engage with the media in ways that are constructive and mutually beneficial. The conference will draw upon the expertise of professionals with experience of media reporting and commentating on children's issues.

The conference programme will include: presentations on ethical reporting from a journalist's perspective; advice on the issuing of press releases and statements on children's issues; and discussion of how LSCBs engage with the public through the media.

The conference is particularly aimed at Chairs and Managers of LSCBs; Senior Managers and Press Officers within local authorities and Health Trusts; Journalists; and Professional Associations.

To book a place please complete the booking form, and for further information visit the BASPCAN website for updates or contact the National Office: conferences@baspcan.org.uk

Tel: 01904 613605
Fax: 01904 642239
www.baspcan.org.uk

Continuing Professional Development

6th International Conference on Social Work in Health and Mental Health

University College Dublin, June / July 2010. The call for abstracts is now open and closes on 30th September, 2009.
The link to the website is www.changinghealthdublin2010.com

3rd International Conference on Adoption Research

11th - 15th July 2010, Leiden.
http://www.socialsciences.leiden.edu/educationandchildstudies/childandfamilystudies/research/adoption/icar3-conference-2010

International Short Break Association's Conference

7th International Short Break Conference shall explore the theme of Short Breaks:
A Path to Inclusion – Whose Needs? Whose Rights? What Choices?

Venue: National University of Ireland, Galway – Galway, Ireland
Date: June 9-11, 2010

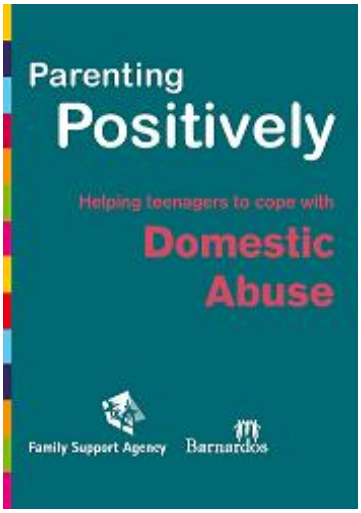
Keynote Speakers:
Professor Roy McConkey, University of Ulster, Northern Ireland
Professor Robyn Munford, Massey University, New Zealand

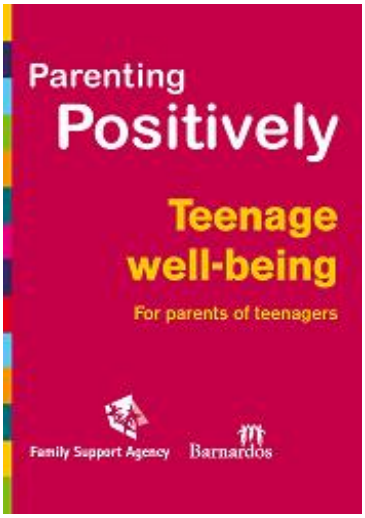
This biennial conference will explore all aspects of Short Breaks for people of every age with a disability. The conference will draw on the United Nations Article 19 – Living independently and being included in the community as a framework for addressing inclusivity. The conference will address the effectiveness and appropriateness of short breaks and respite measures in facilitating all persons with a disability to full enjoyment, inclusion, choice and participation in the service they receive.

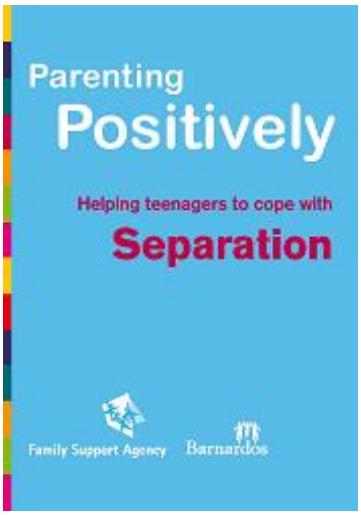
Important Dates:

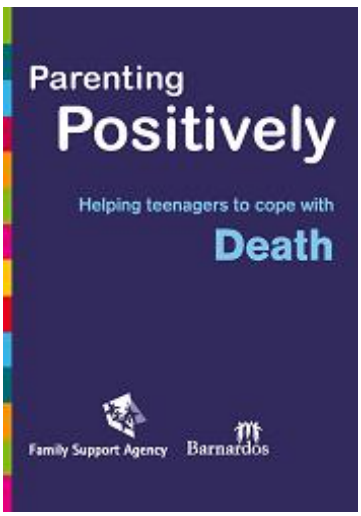
Opening of Submission of abstracts or draft papers	1st June, 2009
Deadline for submission of abstracts	15th November, 2009
Notification of acceptance	15th December, 2009
Early Bird Registration	15th April, 2010
Late Registration	30th May, 2010
Conference	June 9-11, 2010

www.isba2010.com / http://www.conference.ie/Conferences/index.asp?Conference=65







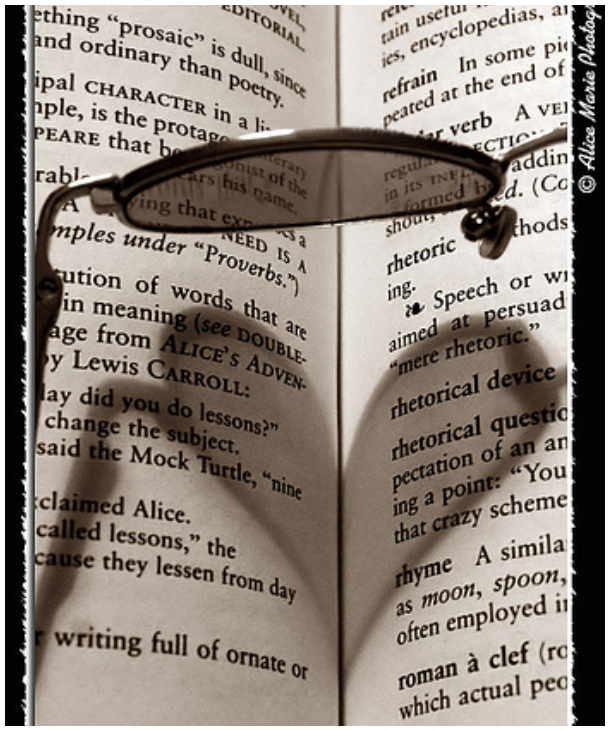


Barnardos

New publications and resources

http://www.barnardos.ie/training_and_resources.html





Recently Published Books/Publications

Children First: National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2nd Edition)

Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
http://www.omc.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=1220

Children's Rights in Ireland: Law, Policy and Practice.

Dr Ursula Kilkelly

Children's Rights in Ireland: Law, Policy and Practice presents a unique and comprehensive analysis of issues of law and policy affecting children. Dealing with private family law matters like custody, access and guardianship, as well as issues of child protection, alternative care and adoption, this book outlines current law, policy and practice as it relates to children in all areas of their lives. Written in a clear analytical style, it maps the legal landscape and highlights the key provisions and principles relevant to cases involving children and families. It presents a fresh children's rights perspective on these issues while outlining best practice in other jurisdictions and internationally. Constitutional law and Ireland's obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the European Convention on Human Rights are fully integrated into the analysis.

"Dr. Kilkelly's newest book, Children's Rights in Ireland: Law, Policy, and Practice, is a most useful and significant legal treatise of interest not only in Ireland but to readers in all English speaking nations. This book provides a thorough review of the historical evolution of the rights of children, relevant theories, case law, legislation, and a review of the current and growing influence of international law in the realm of children's legal rights. Highly recommend for all person interested in the rights of children, and essential reading for legal scholars and practitioners working in this area of law".

John Dayton, J.D., Ed. D., Professor and Co-Director, Education Law Consortium, University of Georgia.

"Dr Kilkelly's book is a comprehensive study of children's rights in Ireland and examines in commendable detail all the relevant law on the topic … [she] develops her argument in chapters on defining the child and the family, the child's right to a family, abduction and protection from harm. She does have trenchant and reasonable criticism of the rights, or lack of them, for children in care. On adoption, she does have some well founded criticism of our present law. She has some interesting observations on health care and education, and criminal law. Dr Kilkelly makes a credible case for constitutional change…"
Judge Peter Smithwick, Review published in the Judicial Studies Institute Journal (2009)

The book can be purchased by emailing Jennifer Lynch at jennifer.lynch@bloomsburyprofessional.com

A Non-Violent Resistance Approach with Children in Distress: A Guide for Parents and Professionals

Carmelite Avraham-Krehwinkel and David Aldridge.
December 2009, 192 pages, paperback.
ISBN: 9781843104841.

Find out more and buy this book:http://www.jkp.com/new/9781843104841
Parents, teachers and other professionals often struggle to know how to deal with disruptive, abusive or aggressive behaviour. This book addresses the urgent need for a realistic, practical and effective approach to dealing with severe disruptive behaviour in children and adolescents. Adapting the principles of non-violent resistance originally advocated by Mahatma Gandhi, the book provides de-escalation techniques which empower the adult and unburden the distressed child. The authors outline the theoretical basis upon which the approach was developed, and explain how and why it can be so effective. Case studies demonstrate how the approach can be used to reach more successful places with unhappy and disruptive children of different ages. A separate section for parents provides useful advice on how to take the theoretical material and use it to deal with problematic behaviour in everyday life. As effective as it is original, this approach will empower desperate parents and despairing caregivers by equipping them with hands-on tools to contain, counter and positively direct the aggression and opposition which they face from children in distress.

Combating Child Trafficking for Labour and Sexual Exploitation

A successful conference was held in UCC some time back titled 'Combating Child Trafficking for Labour and Sexual Exploitation'. The Conference proceedings have now been published and the book, edited by Shirley Martin, Deirdre Horgan and Jacqui O'Riordan is available directly from the publishers, Original Writing Ltd., Dublin. 2008. ISBN 978-1-906018-85-6

"I think we would be naïve to think that Ireland doesn't have an issue with trafficking. Every country does" Mary Nicolson, ISPCC

These conference proceedings reflect the diversity and scope of the papers presented at the 'Combating Child Trafficking for Labour and Sexual Exploitation' Conference which took place in University College Cork on May 17th 2008. This conference was a response to the growing concern about child trafficking and child labour in both the minority and the majority world contexts and featured speakers from Ireland, the UK and India. It evolved as part of an ongoing collaboration between the Hope Foundation (based in Cork and India) and the Department of Applied Social Studies, UCC. Increasingly, children are being bought and sold within and across national borders. Children are trafficked for a variety of reasons including domestic work, sexual exploitation, marriage, illicit adoption and begging (Rafferty, 2007).

Kids Online: Opportunities and Risks for Children

Author/Editor(s):Sonia Livingstone, Leslie Haddon

As the internet and new online technologies are becoming embedded in everyday life, there are increasing questions about their social implications and consequences. Children, young people and their families tend to be at the forefront of new media adoption but they also encounter a range of risky or negative experiences for which they may be unprepared, which are subject to continual change.This book captures the diverse, topical and timely expertise generated by the EU Kids Online project, which brings together 70 researchers in 21 countries across Europe. Each chapter has a distinct pan-European focus resulting in a uniquely comparative approach. ISBN. 9781847424389. http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?K=9781847424389

The Survival Guide for Newly Qualified Child and Family Social Workers: Hitting the Ground Running

Helen Donnellan and Gordon Jack

So, you've passed your degree and have started your first job. But are you confident about translating the theory into practice? Are you prepared to juggle the workload of a busy social worker? Do you have a plan for your continuing professional development? This practical guide provides a wealth of suggestions to help you to hit the ground running in the early stages of your new career. The book will guide you over the initial hurdles you will face in the transitional phase from student to employee. The Survival Guide for Newly Qualified Child and Family Social Workers provides a range of strategies for managing your time and workload, and offers suggestions for finding support, coping with stress and maintaining job satisfaction. Ways of handling difficult situations - with colleagues, managers and other professionals, as well as service users - which may be new and challenging are also explored. Each chapter concludes with a checklist of key points as a ready reference for practitioners preparing to face the daily challenges of their new professional status. This invaluable guide will be an essential support for all students, post-qualification and returning practitioners specialising in the fields of child and family social work in sustaining their commitment to their chosen profession and working successfully within it. ISBN: 978-1-84310-989-1. http://www.jkp.com/catalogue/book/9781843109891.

New Publications

Best Practice Guidelines for the Use and Implementation of Therapeutic Interventions for Children and Young People in Out of Home Care

http://www.caab.ie/Publications/PDFs---Publications/Guidance-Documents/CAAB-Best-Prac-Guide-hteraputice-Inter.aspx

'Putting Research Evidence to Work: Key Issues for Research Utilisation in Irish Children's Services'

http://www.caab.ie/getdoc/2d63cc18-ba7a-426c-b01a-48e60276fead/Prew.aspx

A LITERATURE REVIEW OF INTER-AGENCY WORK WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON CHILDREN'S SERVICES
http://www.caab.ie/Publications/PDFs---Publications/Literature-Review/IAC-Literature-Review.aspx

Guidelines on Recording in Children's Residential Care
http://www.caab.ie/Publications/PDFs---Publications/Guidance-Documents/Guidelines-Role-Social-Workers.aspx

Recently Published Books/Publications

CAAB

The Children Acts Advisory Board is an independent statutory board, advising the Ministers for Health and Children and Justice Equality and Law Reform. The key function of the Board is to advise the Ministers on policy relating to the co-ordinated delivery of services under the Child Care Act, 1991 (care, protection and welfare) and the Children Act, 2001 (detention).

The Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies

Established in 1998, the Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies (IJASS) shall in future be published electronically in open access format. Volume 9(1) shall be published in 'digital commons' on DIT's Repository in February 2010:

http://arrow.dit.ie/ijass

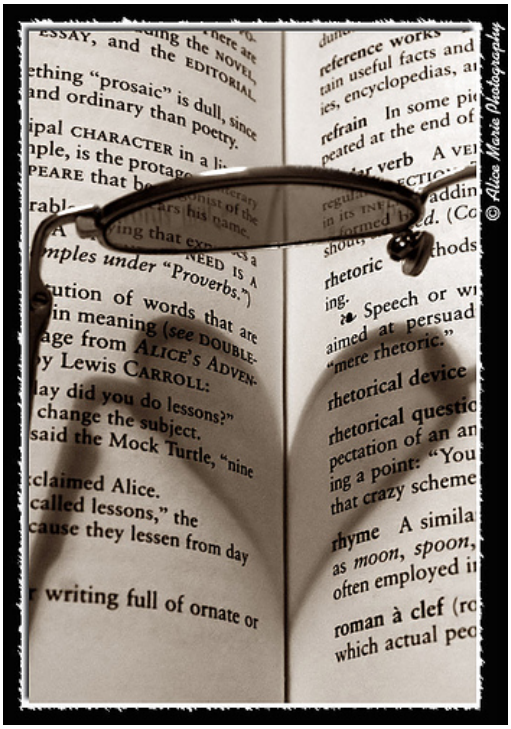
Papers shall continue to be double blind peer reviewed.

Submissions are invited from across the social sciences and related applied areas, including social work, social policy, community development, education, criminology, youth work, psychology, sociology, family studies, social care, early education and related areas. Proposals for special theme issues are also welcome.

EDITOR, Kevin Lalor, DIT

MANAGING EDITOR, Sinéad Freeman, DIT

EDITORIAL BOARD
Mary Corcoran, NUI Maynooth.
Jim Deegan, Mary Immaculate College.
Francis Douglas, UCC
Fergus Hogan, WIT
Nóirín Hayes, DIT
Mary Horgan, UCC
Fred Powell, UCC
Áine de Róiste, CIT
Perry Share, IT Sligo



Recently Published Books/Publications

This 12 weeks course is a group-based transformational parent training programme which helps parents troubleshoot the issues they face with younger children. This course combines effective parenting training with a personal development programme which focuses on empowering parents and families to function successfully.

Established by Carolyn Webster-Stratton and developed over the past 30 years, this evidence-based programme runs for 12 weeks, one night a week from 7pm to 9:15pm in our education centre in Mountjoy Square. The next course is starting on the 9th February 2010. It is highly recommended that you book early.

You can contact info@pbireland.ie <mailto:info@pbireland.ie> or phone (01) 8942765 for course fees and to book your place on this course. See http://www.pbireland.ie <http://www.pbireland.ie/> for full details of this course.

We will also be running the Parenting Teenagers Today programme from March 18th. Positive Behaviour Ireland is offering the Parenting Teenagers Today course to parents in Dublin. Adapted from the Incredible Years, this course aims to help parents face the challenges that did not exist 20 years ago. It helps parents to relate positively to their 11 to 18 year olds. They are taught the necessary skills to identify, manage and redirect difficult behaviours, whilst appreciating the positives in their teenagers.

This 12 week course will run one night a week from 7pm to 9:15pm in our education centre in Mountjoy Square. The next course will start on the 18th March 2010. It is highly recommended that you book early.

Please contact info@pbireland.ie <mailto:info@pbireland.ie> or phone (01) 894 2765 for course fees and to book your place on this course. See http://www.pbireland.ie <http://www.pbireland.ie> for full details.

PBI

PBI is dedicated to promoting positive, pro-social behaviour in children and young people throughout the Island of Ireland. Staffed by professionally qualified social workers, nurses, psychologists, teachers, child care workers and youth workers, PBI services include: The Incredible Years Programme; Applied Behavioural Analysis; Behavioural Management Training; Centre-Based Home Tuition; Short Break/ Leisure Provision and Small Group Home Provision for children and young people with learning disabilities and challenging behaviours.

National Child Care Information System

Extract from part 1:
"The goal of the business process standardisation project is to create an integrated Child Welfare & Protection system to look after every child and manage every case from first contact with the HSE social work department through to case closure including any or all of the processes and services listed: 1. Intake & Referral, 2. Initial Assessment, 3. Child Protection Family Support, Fam. Welfare Conf., Children in Care, Further Assessment, 4. Close Case. Including sub-Processes: Preliminary Enquiries, C.P. Conference, Strategy Meeting, CP Review Conference, C.P. Plans, Family Support Plans, F.S Plan reviews, FWC Review, Admission to Care, Placement Moves, Statutory Care Plan Review, Discharge from Care

The ICT Project
The scope of the National Child Care Information System Project covers the business areas listed above. The goal of the project is to develop and improve child care management information. There are two elements to the project, Business Process Standardisation and the ICT project.

The ICT system is seen as a support tool and not an end in itself. The design of the ICT system is based on the standardised national business processes.

At the outset a set of 'high level' national business process designs to identify the critical decision-making points were mapped and documented. These business processes maps provided a common model to unify the diverse processes that existed then and continue to exist nationally in child care today.

The high level business processes were mapped at a level to support the design of a Child Care ICT System.

It was decided (based on best practice advice) that implementation of the business processes should precede deployment of a National Child Care ICT System. Being 'high-level', i.e. designed with an ICT system in mind, the then existing business process designs required further elaboration and refinement to produce detailed operating procedures that could be implemented with or without an ICT system. The objective of the Business Process Standardisation project was to carry out this elaboration and refinement exercise starting with the Referral & Assessment processes and on a process by process basis each of the remaining Child Protection and Child Welfare business areas included in the scope of the project.

The deliverables from the Business Process Standardisation project are: - Standard Operating Procedures - Accompanying Forms - Guidance for forms and other guidance - Detailed Process Maps - (Revised/Updated Definitions & Statement of Requirements)

The detailed processes were designed by way of extensive consultation with representatives of social work department's country wide. This approach was adopted not only to build consensus and understanding with respect to the child care processes themselves but also to try to build an understanding about the ICT system capabilities necessary to support these processes and in so doing to deliver greater confidence in the configuration and designs, that will be outlined in the requirements specification (a key deliverable) from the National Child Care Information (ICT) System Project.

Background to the Information Project
The National Child Care Information System Project was initiated when the DoHC and HSE (i.e. the former Health Boards) identified the need to develop and improve child care management information. Responding to this problem, a report titled, The Final Report on Options for System Development & Implementation recommended the development of a single 'National Child Care Information System'. As the functional design of this type of ICT system must be based on underlying business processes, the requirement for a single 'National Child Care Information System' creates by extension a requirement to develop a single (national) set of business processes (Standardised business Processes) ...". {see documents for more text). Full text:

NCCIS Business Process Standardisation Project - Part 1 http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/Publications/services/Children/nccisbpsp_part1.pdf

NCCIS Business Process Standardisation Project - Part 2 http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/Publications/services/Children/nccisbpsp_part2.pdf

NCCIS Business Process Standardisation Project - Part 3 http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/Publications/services/Children/nccisbpsp_part3.pdf

NCCIS Business Process Standardisation Project - Part 4 http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/Publications/services/Children/nccisbpsp_part4.pdf

Book Review

HIlary Jenkinson, School of Applied Social Studies, University College Cork

Doel, Mark and Best, Lesley (2008) ***Experiencing Social Work: Learning from Service Users***, London: Sage. http://www.sagepub.com/booksProdDesc.nav?prodId=Book227665&currTree=Subjects&level1=M00

This is a book where the voices and experiences of service users are the primary medium through which we can gain an insight into what has worked and what has contributed to positive experiences of social work in these instances. Case examples from many service user groups are used, including people with mental health difficulties, disabilities, those who have lived in care, adoptees tracing birth parents, and those experiencing family stress and parenting difficulties. After each account the authors highlight and discuss the main factors identified by the service user as being particularly beneficial. The book concludes by bringing together the lessons learned in terms of good social work practice.

This book is inspiring and refreshing in its approach, and provides many valuable insights into what service users value about social work intervention. Several themes come into focus for the reader. Not least among these is the experience of social workers (or in some cases social work students) going the extra mile for clients, and operating beyond the bounds of duty. This is described as 'taking the trouble, and the risk, to go beyond the script' (p. 128).

While the authors don't set out to promote a strengths based approach to social work, it gradually emerges as a very strong theme. Many service users valued worker's belief in the possibility of change and the expressed belief the social worker had in them. This is expressed by John who experienced mental health difficulties; 'I was made to feel as though I was the expert in my own body, my own mind, and not the other way around, where it is the professional who is the expert' (p. 78).

What also becomes apparent is that there is no 'one size fits all' approach to social work and that what is often valued in these accounts is the social worker's ability to be sensitive and adapt to the unfolding needs of their client. In several accounts this emerges where the social worker varies the level of care and/or control they exercise in a situation. So for example, Humerah valued the fact that her social worker took decisions on her behalf when she was mentally unwell: She says, 'my social worker knows when to take the lead and when to back off…Sometimes they just need to take control – and that's not giving up control forever' (p. 16).

Overall, this book has a lot to contribute to our understanding of what service users identify as good practice in social work.

Web Links and Electronic Publications

Social Work Focus

Social Work Focus is brought to you by Avenue Consulting Ltd and Avenue Media Solutions. Developed by a talented team led by Neil Thompson, Social Work Focus offers the basis for an exciting and important online community to help promote the highest standards of practice, to maximise learning for all and to provide a degree of support for students, practitioners, managers, policymakers and educators. Please make the best use of the facilities available and do a make a contribution where you can. The greater the contribution from members, the greater the benefits for everybody. http://www.socialworkfocus.com/

IASW
Irish Association of Social Workers
Cumann na hÉireann um Oibrithe Sóisialta

Research Survey on Supervision

This survey is being run by the Southern Region Special Interest Group. The purpose of the project is to look at the views of Irish social workers regarding the current availability and quality of supervision in their place of work. The aim is to identify and highlight any potential issues. The study is completely anonymous and no personal data will be collected. The results are to be made available online and will be published in a forthcoming IASW newsletter. There are 16 questions only and we expect the process should take no more than 2 mins.

Link to survey: http://tinyurl.com/iaswsurvey

If you would like to contact the researchers directly you can e-mail us via cork2008@gmail.com

Many thanks for your participation.

Research developed by:

- Steven Peet (Final year BSW student at UCC / Committee Member)
- Orla Jennings (Senior SW Practitioner / Southern Region Chairperson)



Report on Fieldwork Training for Social Workers, UCC, 3rd and 4th September 2009.

A very successful two days training took place in University College Cork for social workers interested in the area of Practice Teaching. This has been organised every year for the last three years by the Fieldwork Co-ordinator. This year the input was from her colleagues in the School of Social Work, the Disability Office in UCC and two social workers working in practice who had supervised a number of students over the years.

The first item of training was on Reflective Practice, presented by Dr. Carmel Halton, Director of Practice in the Department. Carmel explained that reflective learning is an approach to teaching/learning that involves the active acknowledgement and utilisation of previous work and life experiences. It focuses particularly on preparing students for the experience of reflecting on, and learning from, their work whilst on placement. In this workshop, practice teachers were introduced to the conceptual underpinnings of reflective learning. Developing a reflective model of supervision using appropriate reflective tools was a primary focus.

In the afternoon, Hilary Jenkinson, Course Director of the BSW, and Lydia Sapouna, Deputy Course Director, of the BSW presented on the background to their course, explaining its emphasis on a social justice model. They also referred to the nature of the age group and background of students who study on this course.

Ending with day 1, Ruth Murray covered the Final Placement Report, an item which often taxes Practice Teachers. She suggested that Practice Teachers start collating information on the student from as early on as possible on placement, for example keeping copies of the supervision logs for themselves, copies of learning incidents form the students that the Practice Teachers would have commented on. She said it was worth working as hard as time allowed on the mid way evaluation, as this begins the foundation for the final placement report.. The five competencies to be commented on are clearly outlined in the Fieldwork Manual.

There is a Practice Assessment Panel who meets twice a year in the Department. This consists of previous practice teachers who had not taken students in the recent past. who review a number-sometimes all-of practice placement reports and offer a one page written report after reviewing reports.

The day finished with an optional attendance at a talk at 5.00 p.m. presented by Kenneth Burns, who recently completed his PhD. All social workers in the Southern Region were invited to attend this by the Social Work Development Unit within the School of Social Work.

The next day started with Debby Lynch, Acting Course Director of the MSW, presenting on the background to the MSW, with an emphasis on the Learning Incidents that students engage in on this course. She gave two reading references: 'Assessing Skills in Groupwork, a Program of Continuing Professional Development from 'Strength and Diversity in Social Work with Groups' Cohen, C., Phillips, M and Hanson, M (eds). Debby described an escalator of learning for students from this book chapter. Mark has another book on the way in 2010 called 'A Rough Guide to Social Work Placements' published by London, Routledge. This book has not been released yet but can be ordered. Debby also, with student and practice teacher permission, gave the group a look at a first learning incident from a student.

Mary O'Grady gave an account of the Disability Office, and the supports on offer to students with varying disabilities. She also said that in more recent years, they give students registered with them an induction at the start of their course. Included in this is the question they need to ask themselves, which is: 'are they the right course, given whatever is the nature of their disability?' Mary went through the supports that are available and how students registered with disability can best use these supports. The office itself encourages students to be as independent as is practical throughout their time in College.

The final afternoon brought an energetic and enlightening presentation from two Practice Teachers on 'Challenges on Placement-what do you do when things start to go wrong?' Mags Creed and Rosemary Fox talked about early warning signals and alarm bells.. They both emphasised that keeping track early, keeping written evidence (e.g. a supervision log should have on it certain work expected by the student for the following week and noting the following week if this is not done), stating and noting things as you go along is hugely helpful if deadlines are not being met by the student. They also stressed colleagues can be supportive in that if they also note things about the student if they co-work with them. Finally, engaging the College Tutor early on is important, and trying to keep the discussions with all these three whenever possible is important. If necessary, call an extra three way, in order to discuss what is going on. However if the evidence is there (these two Practice Teachers said themselves said they have each failed a student in the past) then it is important to call it. Ruth added a piece on to this, where she said there are procedures to be followed when a student is failing, and these are always clearly outlined in the Fieldwork Manual for practice teachers each year.

The day by asking for a 'one word' round about how all found the day. Many found it, in short, useful, educational, and energising and a positive experience. The overall feeling was a positive one. For the next time, perhaps more group discussion might take place within the training, and in particular, people who had not taken students before would have liked to have got together as a group, perhaps as a forum for putting 'out there' common concerns about embarking on a first supervision experience. It is planned to take this on board next year.

35 participants were able to make the first day and 33 the second day. People came form Roscommon, Co. Meath, Limerick, Waterford, Tipperary, Kilkenny and Cork, among other locations. Agencies represented included Probation, HSE and Fostering First Ireland, Disability, Hospitals and social workers who work with elderly. It is planned to run similar training around the same time next year. There will be an emphasis on a commitment to practice teaching (in the year after completing the training) for those who participate in the course-the course is free and numbers are kept to 30/35 in order to facilitate easy participation for all those who attend.

Ruth Murray,
December 2009.

Equine Assisted Personal Development



Equine Assisted development is based on Equine assisted learning and therapy principles incorporating experiential learning in an out of office/classroom environment. Through this approach, participants behaviour and communication skills are further explored and through reflection can be transferred to daily life situations.

Equine Assisted Personal Development caters for groups and individual and can be individually designed to suit the pursuit of specified goals and aims. Equine assisted activities are designed to create learning opportunities helping to enhance social communication skills, problem solving capacity, stress management and non verbal communication skills. We cater also for corporate and professional teams offering team building activities in form of workshops or ongoing programs.

http://www.2wildhorses.com

M.Soc.Sc. Third Sector Management, University College Cork

Applications are now being invited for the next course which begins in September 2010. This is a part-time Masters, one day a week (Wednesdays) for 24 weeks each year, over two years, starting September 2010. It also includes a 5-day summer school at U.C.C. in 2011 and possibly one Saturday morning tutorial during 2011. U.C.C. has agreed to apply a fee of approximately 3300 euros per year to this programme.

Applications can be made online through the Postgraduate Admissions Centre at http://www.pac.ie. The closing date for applications is Monday 1st March 2010. Further details can be found in UCC's Postgraduate Prospectus at http://www.ucc.ie/en/CKE75.

If you require further information about the programme, please contact Dr. Féilim Ó hAdhmaill, School of Applied Social Studies, University College Cork, Tel. (00353) 21 490 2616

Continued on Pg. 3

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, electronic publications, conference and continuing professional development opportunities. *Practice Links* is published every other month in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf file). Distribution is by email and on the *Practice Links* website http://www.ucc.ie/en/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.

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

Subscriptions

To subscribe to the *Practice Links* email distribution list, whereby you will automatically receive each edition, click on this link http://lists.ucc.ie/lists/archives/pl-l.html and press the *Join or Leave PL-L* button. Follow the same process to unsubscribe from the list.

Contributors

- Kenneth Burns, School of Applied Social Studies
- Kevin Lalor, IJASS
- Martina Dumpleton, Barnardos
- Ruth Murray, School of Applied Social Studies
- Conor Prendergast, PBI
- Hilary Jenkinson, School of Applied Social Studies
- Baerbel Schleuter, 2 Wild Horses

Complied and edited by

Kenneth Burns
School of Applied Social Studies
University College Cork
William Thompson House
Donovan's Road, Cork, Ireland.
T +353-21-4903151 **W:** http://www.ucc.ie/en/pl
W: http://www.ucc.ie/en/swdu

ucc
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire
University College Cork, Ireland