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UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

About us

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

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

Follow Practice Links on Twitter for more regular updates
@PracticeLinks

Issue 67, April 2016

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practice LINKS



Continuing professional development

Traveller Accommodation Conference to be held in Cork City (DeVere Hall, UCC) on Tuesday, 12th April, as part of the Lifelong Learning Week.

Please note the venue has limited capacity, so **booking is essential**, and will be dealt on a first come/ first serve basis.

RSVP by Friday 8th April 2016 to travelleraccommodationconf@gmail.com

Marginalisation and Social Work in a Changing Society

The Programme Committee with members from IFSW Europe executive and the Icelandic Association of Social Workers has decided to use a similar approach to the call for abstracts as for the IFSW European Conference in 2015:

We ask member Associations of IFSW Europe to advertise for and nominate the five best abstracts proposals from their countries and submit the abstracts to the programme committee in Iceland, before 1st of June 2016.

It is important that the workshops and presentations have a strong focus on the theme of the conference, i.e. Marginalisation in a changing society.

It is possible to submit an abstract for:

- Workshop up to one hour.
- Presentation of 15 minutes and 5 minutes discussion.
- Posters.

Deadline is the 1st of June 2016.

We hope that your participation in selecting the workshops and presentations will ensure we have a quality programme. We think that you know the social workers doing interesting and innovative work. Please send all abstracts before 1st of June 2016 to the conference organiser: helga@yourhost.is and we ask you to fill out the form attached. If you have any questions you can also send queries to the same email address.

All participants in the Conference, including presenters, have to register for the Conference.

You can find all information on this website: http://ifsweurope2017.yourhost.is/

And please like IFSW European Conference 2017 Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/IFSW-European-Conference-2017-1988498471254 22/?fref=ts

Continuing professional development

Mad Activism in Academia: Challenging Traditions

Monday 18 April 2016 from 10am – 4pm
CACSSS Seminar Room
O'Rahilly Building (ORB, G27)
University College Cork

Context/Background:
Mad Studies has its origins as an emergent field of study in the School of Disability Studies at Ryerston University, Canada in the early 00's, with Kathryn Church, David Reville and Geoffrey Reaume amongst the key players. Since then, various Mad Studies events have taken place in some UK universities. This is the first such seminar in an Irish university. Church's *Making Madness Matter in Academic Practice* and Cresswell and Spandler's *The Engaged Academic: Academic Intellectuals and the Psychiatric Survivor Movement* have become influential papers in considering the position of Mad Studies in Academia.

Some of the critical questions addressed at the seminar will be:

- How can academics form alliances with social movements?
- How can we be more 'engaged academics'?
- How can we value/legitimise 'mad knowledge'?
- What is the role of universities in addressing social injustices

Structure of the day:

10.15 – 10.30: ***Welcome and Introduction to the day***
10.30 – 11.30: ***Outsider Knowledge: Madness, Expertise and Social Justice.*** Jacqui Dillon; mental health activist, national Chair of the Hearing Voices Network England
11.30 – 12.00: coffee break
12.00 – 13.00: ***Mad Activism: Within and Beyond the Academy.*** Helen Spandler, Mental Health Reader, School of Social Work, Care and Community University of Central Lancashire, member of the editorial Collective of Asylum magazine
13.00 – 14.00: lunch break
14.00 – 15.00: ***Returning to Park House: Critical Autobiography as Mad Activism***. Dina Poursanidou, Post-doctoral Research Fellow, Institute of Psychiatry, King's College, London, member of the editorial Collective of Asylum magazine
15.00 – 16.00: ***Panel Discussion*** with panellists Dina Poursanidou, Helen Spandler, Liz Brosnan (Research Associate, Centre for Disability Law and Policy, NUIG, Galway), Rory Doody (Recovery Development Advocate, West Cork) and Pat Bracken (Consultant Psychiatrist, West Cork Mental Health Services)
16.00: Close of sessions

The event is supported by the ISS21, the College of Arts Celtic Studies and Social Sciences and the School of Applied Social Studies, UCC

Continuing professional development

Dates for your Diary

The IASW Special Interest Group on Practitioner Research will be hosting its first Social Work Practitioner Research Conference on Friday 22nd April in UCC. Keynote Speaker will be Professor Elaine Sharland, Professor of Social Work Research, University of Sussex. Further details and a call for papers will be issued shortly.

IASW National Social Work Conference, AGM & Social Work Awards 2016, 4th June 2016

The IASW National Social Work Conference, AGM & Social Work Awards 2016 will take place on 17th June this year at Croke Park. Further details will be announced shortly on www.iasw.ie. https://www.iasw.ie/event.aspx?contentid=5090

Non-Accidental Head Injury, Babies and Parents: An Opportunity for Prevention in the Irish Context

Thursday, 14th April, 2016

The Bessborough Centre, Cork

Non-Accidental Head Injury (NAHI) is the leading cause of death and long-term disability for babies who are harmed (Sidebotham and Fleming 2007).

This conference aims to raise awareness about Non-Accidental Head Injury in the Irish context. The impact of this form of harm at an individual, familial and societal level will be examined through a number of professional perspectives.

Registration and booking information:

FEE: €80 visit https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/non-accidental-head-injury-babies-and-parents-an-opportunity-for-prevention-in-the-irish-context-tickets-22573272265?ref=eweb to register and make your payment.

For more information, email: training@bessborough.ie call: 021 435 7730 or visit www.bessborough.ie

Parental Pathways

Understanding Adolescence: A Morning Workshop for Parents

Saturday 23rd April, 9am-1pm
All Hallows College, Gracepark Road, Dublin 9,

The teenage years can be tough work. Adolescence is one of the most amazing developmental stages in life and a period of extraordinary growth and change, where all the body's systems (physical, neuropsychological, biological and hormonal) are being reworked in a natural transition from childhood to adulthood.

Lots of parents agree that parenting adolescents can be challenging, confusing, conflicted and isolating. But Mums, Dads and teens share more in their common frustration than you would think. Let's go on a journey of discovery through the amazing teen brain and learn how to better communicate and strengthen the relationship between parent and adolescent.



Limited Places available at €55 per person
Booking is essential

Contact Linda (086 337 9334) or Maria (086 856 9397)
or email info@parentalpathways.ie for further information

Continuing professional development



uclan
University of Central Lancashire

Connect Centre

CONNECT CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH ON INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE AND HARM

CONFERENCE

Thursday 12 May 2016
9.30 am. – 4.30 pm.
Brockholes Conference Centre
Preston

Guest speakers include:

Bragi Gudbrandsson
General Director of the Governmental Agency for Child Protection, Iceland

Polly Neate
Chief Executive, Women's Aid
(Full agenda at Connect Centre website)

Opportunities to:

- Hear about the latest research from the Connect Centre team
- Attend workshops on areas of specialist interest
- Network with other practitioners, researchers, students and commissioners

Cost

Full Price:
£85 pp. (£75 pp. if booking before 31 March 2016)

Students/Third Sector Organisations:
£55 pp. (£45 pp. if booking before 31 March 2016)

Lunch provided & Free Parking

For further information and to book a place, please contact Lorna Burrow on swccresearch@uclan.ac.uk or 01772 893936 or download the form from the Connect Centre website:

http://www.uclan.ac.uk/research/explore/groups/connect_centre_int_research_new_approaches_prevent_violence_harm.php

Continuing professional development

The School of Nursing and Midwifery at Queen's University Belfast in partnership with the Health and Social Care Board invite you to attend a symposium on:

Health and social care professionals' family focused practice with parents who have mental illness, their children and families

Date: Monday 16th of May 2016, registration from 12:15
Location: Riddel Hall, Conference Room 1

There will be presentations from Dr Anne Grant (QUB) and Mary Donaghy (Think Family NI Lead) in conjunction with three international experts in the area of parental mental illness, Dr Adrian Falkov, Sydney, Dr Bente Weimand, Norway and Dr Tytti Solantus, Finland. Presentations will focus on initiatives internationally and in Northern Ireland for families when parents have mental illness.

Light refreshments will be served from 12:15pm, with presentations to commence at 1:10pm. The symposium will come to a completion at 4:45pm.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP by Monday 2nd May to Amber Mulholland at amber.mulholland@qub.ac.uk



Ulster University

4th Biennial
International Symposium

Decisions, Assessment, Risk and Evidence in Social Work

Tue 05 & Wed 06 July 2016
Templeton Hotel, Templepatrick, Northern Ireland
(convenient to Belfast International Airport)

Plenary Speakers:

Professor Dr Gerd Gigerenzer is Director of the Harding Center for Risk Literacy and Director of the Center for Adaptive Behavior and Cognition (ABC) at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin, Germany, where he leads world-leading research on heuristic models of decision making.

Dr John Fluke is Associate Director of Systems Research & Evaluation, and Associate Professor at the Kempe Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, University of Colorado, USA. He is internationally recognized as a researcher specializing in assessing and analyzing decision-making particularly in child welfare and mental health services for children.

Professor Mandeep K. Dhami, PhD is Professor of Decision Psychology at Middlesex University, London. She is an expert on decision-making, risk and uncertainty, particularly within the criminal justice sector.

Further information on DARE 2016 including a call for abstracts will be added to our website over the coming months: **www.socsci.ulster.ac.uk/irss/dare2016/.** If you would like your name to be added to the list for publicity please email: **Mrs Sharon Lucas** at: dare@ulster.ac.uk.

This fourth DARE symposium builds on the third symposium in July 2014 which brought together 125 delegates from eleven countries including senior practitioners, managers, policy makers, researchers and those in education and training.

HSC Health and Social Care Board

Supported by the Institute for Research in Social Science at Ulster University

Continuing professional development

Training for Social Workers/Potential Practice Teachers

this coming August 2016 in UCC

Ruth Murray, Fieldwork Coordinator in the School of Applied Social Studies, is organising the annual two days Fieldwork Workshop Training in UCC on Thursday and Friday August 25th and 26th 2016. It is being run by a number of staff within the School of Applied Social Studies, Disability Office and outside practitioners. It is aimed at social workers who may be considering supervising students in the future or social workers who have not taken students for a while and wish to have their supervision skills refreshed. The two days are free. It is hoped the topics being covered will be:

- Supporting CPD: The Role of the Practice Teacher
- Understanding Diversity and Responding to Varying Student Needs
- Keeping CORU Proficiencies to the fore while supervising students
- Background to MSW and BSW Social Work Programmes and Expectations of Critical Learning Incidents as written by students and feedback on them by Practice Teachers
- Role of Disability Support Service for Students with Disabilities on Placement
- Writing Reports on Students

There is an expectation that those attending will be available to take a student in January or September 2017. Full attendance at the two days in previous years merited 8 CPD points by the IASW. Closing date for this year's applications is 29/7/2016.

If interested phone Ruth at 021 4903954 for a brochure and/or application form or email her at r.murray@ucc.ie

If Ruth is unavailable, please phone Jackie Connolly (mornings only, Monday to Thursday) for same at 021 4903546 or email Jackie at: j.connolly@ucc.ie

Places will be limited to 25 so early booking is advised. It was booked out very early last year.

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.

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

Would You Like To Contribute to the Development of the Social Work Profession?

Have you thought about practice teaching/ having a student on placement? Have you been a practice teacher before and not done it for a while? If any of these questions apply to you and you want to discuss it further, please contact the Fieldwork Co-ordinator at the School of Applied Social Studies, UCC. I would be very interested in discussing what is entailed with you. The main times placements are required by UCC are for 14 weeks from January –April and September-December. Very occasionally they are required over the summer period also. I will be hoping to recruit shortly for placements for the September-December period. Sharing a placement with a colleague is also possible and I am happy to discuss this with interested people.

Practice Teachers will be offered a library card in UCC for the duration of the placement. A call-in day is held in advance of the each placement cycle beginning, in order to help you prepare for your student. It is professionally stimulating to pass on your knowledge to someone who is interested in social work and wants to learn more about it. Social workers who engage in practice teaching have continually informed us of the benefits in terms of their own continuing development of supervising students. A regular practice teacher and participant on the Postgraduate Diploma a few years back recently stated:

> *'Being a Practice Teacher has helped me to enhance my confidence and integrate new knowledge and skills. One of the most rewarding things about practice teaching is observing the growth and the learning that emerges with each student from the beginning to the end of their placement experience. I have enjoyed the experience of observing my own growth and feel I have developed a more reflective, collaborative, assertive, supportive and person centred approach to practice teaching and supervision.'*

Social workers are now increasingly conscious of CPD and from the 31st May last year have been required to keep a CPD portfolio. (See www.coru.ie)

Other training initiatives include the ***Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Fieldwork Practice and Supervision (Social Work)*** - applications will be open in a few months' time for this course-see ACE (Adult and Continuing Education) on the UCC website. The closing date for this course is the end of May. See http://www.ucc.ie/en/ace-adfps/ and Adult and Continuing Education Website https://www.ucc.ie/en/ace/ .

One of the innovations I and some colleagues have been involved in is visiting social work teams and running training sessions with social workers there interested in practice teaching. I would be happy to factor this in for a team if social workers express an interest in this. I am also willing to visit social work teams, at their request. One of the times that have proven most suitable for meetings with social workers has been the end of their own team meetings, and with notice, I am willing to travel and meet with people at these times.

I can be contacted at (021) 4903954 or by email at r.murray@ucc.ie

UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

PhD in Social Work

Starts September 2016



UCC
University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

The **PhD in Social Work** recognises that social workers are best placed to identify the research needs of the profession. Drawing upon international models of excellence, social workers will be introduced to innovative research methods and supported to complete a PhD thesis. Through a reflective model of teaching and learning, social workers will experience a doctoral programme that values peer-learning and dialogue in addition to research methods training and excellent tutorial supervision.

For social workers

You will make an important contribution to social work knowledge and will develop the expertise to critically examine contemporary social issues and practice responses that seek to enhance the lives of service-users in diverse settings. You will be in a strong position to pursue career opportunities nationally and internationally. These include careers in research, policy and practice development, management, education and CPD training.

For employers

Whilst on the programme, your staff member will generate evidence-based research important to your agency. These include research on programme design; effectiveness and implementation; assessment practices; service-user engagement; and organisational change.

Duration and fees

We recognise the need for flexibility. The programme takes a minimum of three years (full-time). Students can opt to complete in 6 years by enrolling part-time. Fees in 2015-6: €5,770/annum (€2,885/annum P/T). You may also choose to transfer and exit with an MPhil after two-years (full-time).

For further information

http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/ps/courses/doc/phdsocwork/

Dr Eleanor Bantry White, e.bantrywhite@ucc.ie
+353 21 4902271

Dr Simone McCaughren s.mccaughren@ucc.ie
+353 21 4901887

Applications through http://www.pac.ie
CKH91 – full-time
CKH92 –part time

We will offer support to you in developing your practice interests into good research questions and will guide you through the PhD application process.

New publications and policy reports

Out on the Inside: The Rights, Experiences and Needs of LGBT People in Prison by Dr Nicola Carr, Dr Siobhán McAlister and Dr Tanya Serisier (February 2016)

LGBT prisoners and ex-prisoners are described as a "doubly-marginalised" group - both in LGBT service provision on the outside, and in prison policy and practice on the inside.
Out on the Inside is the first in-depth study of the experiences of LGBT people in prison in Ireland. The report:

1. identifies examples of best practice in prison and penal policy;
2. analyses the needs of LGBT prisoners in Ireland from an equality and human rights perspective;
3. conducts primary research into the needs and experiences of LGBT people in prison in Ireland; and
4. makes recommendations to the Irish Prison Service and other relevant bodies.

Link to the report: http://www.iprt.ie/files/IPRT_Out_on_the_Inside_2016_EMBARGO_TO_1030_Feb_02_2016.pdf

Europe: A Union for the Powerless as well as the Powerful? Review of the Social Situation in Europe and Considerations for a More Sustainable and Inclusive Future by Social Justice Ireland (April 2016)

The study analyses what has been happening in all 28 EU countries on issues such as poverty, unemployment, services and taxation. It concludes that there has been a profound failure of policy across the EU since the 2008 crash, a failure that raises serious questions concerning the EU's commitment to protecting its millions of powerless and vulnerable people. The study makes a series of proposals and recommendations at local, NGO, national and EU levels, aimed at ensuring a more sustainable and inclusive future for all European citizens.

Link to the study: http://www.socialjustice.ie/sites/default/files/attach/publication/4011/2016-03-31-europeaunionforthepowerlessaswellaspowerfulfinal.pdf

Applying the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights to children's rights in the EU by Eurochild (December 2015)

Every year the European Commission reports on the efforts of the European Union (EU) and the Member States to apply the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. In this paper, Eurochild analyses the report from the perspective of children's rights. Our analysis extracts the relevant references in the Report to children's rights and then provides an assessment of some of the gaps or weaknesses.

Link to the paper: http://www.eurochild.org/fileadmin/public/05_Library/Thematic_priorities/01_Childrens_Rights/Eurochild/Applying_the_EU_Charter_of_Fundamental_Rights_to_children_s_rights_in_the_EU.pdf

New publications and policy reports

The Tallaght Roma Integration Project: Working for Inclusion in Health Care through a Community Development Model by Deirdre Jacob and Gloria Kirwan (January 2016)

Since 2009, the Tallaght Roma Integration Project (TRIP), formerly the Roma Families Working Group, has been working to address the needs of the Roma community in the greater Tallaght area. TRIP was formed in response to a number of issues, which were highlighted during a community consultation process with the Roma population living in the locality of Tallaght, a large suburb positioned on the outskirts of Dublin, the capital city of Ireland. Problems with access to healthcare emerged from that consultation process as a major concern for the Roma community. Arising from that process of consultation, a key focus of TRIP, since its foundation, has been to work to improve healthcare access for the Roma community. The aim of this report is to record the establishment of TRIP and its subsequent focus on improving access to healthcare for the Roma community in Tallaght.

Link to report: http://www.tara.tcd.ie/bitstream/handle/2262/75826/TallaghtRomaIntegrationProject_WorkingForInclusionThroughACommunityDevelopmentModel_2016.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

A Home for LifeThe Housing and Support Needs of Clúid's Older Tenants by Siobhán Fox and Lorna Kenny (October 2015)

The primary aim of this research was to investigate the housing and support needs of Clúid Housing's older tenants, aged 60 years and over, who are living in mainstream or sheltered scheme accommodation.This aim was met through the following research methods: i) a comprehensive literature review of policy and research; ii) a national survey of Clúid's older tenants living in mainstream housing and sheltered housing; iii) in-depth focus groups with Clúid tenants.

Link to the research study: http://www.cluid.ie/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/A-HOME-FOR-LIFE-FINAL-28-10-15.pdf

Parental alcohol use and resilience in young people: A study of family, peer and school processes by Aisling McLaughlin, Tara O'Neill, Claire McCartan, Andy Percy, Mark McCann, Oliver Perra & Kathryn Higgins (March 2016)

A new report funded by the Public Health Agency on 'Parental alcohol use and resilience in young people: a study of family, peer and school processes' was launched at the Europa hotel on the 8th March. The report, using longitudinal data collected over 10 years as part of the Belfast Youth Development Study (BYDS), investigated substance use, mental health and educational outcomes for children living with problem drinking parents and highlights a number of recommendations for policy and practice.

Link to the report: http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofSociologySocialPolicySocialWork/AKFileStore/Filetoupload,610540,en.pdf

New publications and policy reports

The relationship between poverty, child abuse and neglect: an evidence review by Paul Bywaters, Lisa Bunting, Gavin Davidson, Jennifer Hanratty, Will Mason, Claire McCartan, Nicole Steils (March 2016)

This report explores the economic costs of child abuse and neglect and outlines broad policy implications, with a particular focus on the UK.
The report outlines:

- UK and international evidence about the association between family poverty and child abuse and neglect;
- UK and international evidence about the impact of childhood abuse or neglect on poverty in adulthood;
- evidence about the costs of child abuse and neglect;
- strengths and weaknesses in the evidence base;
- implications for policy-making.

Link to the full report: https://www.jrf.org.uk/file/48920/download?token=Pmnooju4&filetype=full-report

Study of Gender Dimension of Trafficking in Human Beings
European Commission Study

The team, led by Distinguished Professor Sylvia Walby of Lancaster University, which produced the study report under contract for the European Commission was Dr Birgit Apitzsch, Dr Jo Armstrong, Dr Susie Balderston, Dr Karolina Follis, Prof Brian Francis, Prof Liz Kelly, Prof Corinne May-Chahal, Prof Awais Rashid, Prof Karen Shire, Dr Jude Towers, Markus Tünte.

The full report and Executive Summary are available here: https://ec.europa.eu/anti-trafficking/eu-policy/study-gender-dimension-trafficking-human-beings_en

The report will also be available to download from the Violence and Society UNESCO Centre website in due course. For further information please contact the Study team at: violenceandsociety@lancaster.ac.uk

Research briefs

Psychological therapies for post-traumatic stress disorder and comorbid substance use disorder

by Neil Roberts, Pamela Roberts, Neil Jones and Jonathan Bisson (April 2016)

THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION®

Abstract

Background

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a debilitating mental health disorder that may develop after exposure to traumatic events. Substance use disorder (SUD) is a behavioural disorder in which the use of one or more substances is associated with heightened levels of distress, clinically significant impairment of functioning, or both. PTSD and SUD frequently occur together. The comorbidity is widely recognised as being difficult to treat and is associated with poorer treatment completion and poorer outcomes than for either condition alone. Several psychological therapies have been developed to treat the comorbidity, however there is no consensus about which therapies are most effective.

Objectives

To determine the efficacy of psychological therapies aimed at treating traumatic stress symptoms, substance misuse symptoms, or both in people with comorbid PTSD and SUD in comparison with control conditions (usual care, waiting-list conditions, and no treatment) and other psychological therapies.

Search methods

We searched the Cochrane Depression, Anxiety and Neurosis Group's Specialised Register (CCDANCTR) all years to 11 March 2015. This register contains relevant randomised controlled trials from the Cochrane Library (all years), MEDLINE (1950 to date), EMBASE (1974 to date), and PsycINFO (1967 to date). We also searched the World Health Organization International Clinical Trials Registry Platform and ClinicalTrials.gov, contacted experts, searched bibliographies of included studies, and performed citation searches of identified articles.

Selection criteria

Randomised controlled trials of individual or group psychological therapies delivered to individuals with PTSD and comorbid substance use, compared with waiting-list conditions, usual care, or minimal intervention or to other psychological therapies.

Data collection and analysis

We used standard methodological procedures expected by Cochrane.

Main results

We included 14 studies with 1506 participants, of which 13 studies were included in the quantitative synthesis. Most studies involved adult populations. Studies were conducted in a variety of settings. We performed four comparisons investigating the effects of psychological therapies with a trauma-focused component and non-trauma-focused interventions against treatment as usual/minimal intervention and other active psychological therapies. Comparisons were stratified for individual- or group-based therapies. All active interventions were based on cognitive behavioural therapy. Our main findings were as follows.

Individual-based psychological therapies with a trauma-focused component plus adjunctive SUD intervention was more effective than treatment as usual (TAU)/minimal intervention for PTSD severity post-treatment (standardised mean difference (SMD) -0.41; 95% confidence interval (CI) -0.72 to -0.10; 4 studies; n = 405; very low-quality evidence) and at 3 to 4 and 5 to 7 months' follow-up.

Psychological therapies for post-traumatic stress disorder and comorbid substance use disorder

by Neil Roberts, Pamela Roberts, Neil Jones and Jonathan Bisson (April 2016)

THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION®

There was no evidence of an effect for level of drug/alcohol use post-treatment (SMD -0.13; 95% CI -0.41 to 0.15; 3 studies; n = 388; very low-quality evidence), but there was a small effect in favour of individual psychological therapy at 5 to 7 months (SMD -0.28; 95% CI -0.48 to -0.07; 3 studies; n = 388) when compared against TAU. Fewer participants completed trauma-focused therapy than TAU (risk ratio (RR) 0.78; 95% CI 0.64 to 0.96; 3 studies; n = 316; low-quality evidence).

Individual-based psychological therapy with a trauma-focused component did not perform better than psychological therapy for SUD only for PTSD severity (mean difference (MD) -3.91; 95% CI -19.16 to 11.34; 1 study; n = 46; low-quality evidence) or drug/alcohol use (MD -1.27; 95% CI -5.76 to 3.22; 1 study; n = 46; low-quality evidence). Findings were based on one small study. No effects were observed for rates of therapy completion (RR 1.00; 95% CI 0.74 to 1.36; 1 study; n = 62; low-quality evidence).
Non-trauma-focused psychological therapies did not perform better than TAU/minimal intervention for PTSD severity when delivered on an individual (SMD -0.22; 95% CI -0.83 to 0.39; 1 study; n = 44; low-quality evidence) or group basis (SMD -0.02; 95% CI -0.19 to 0.16; 4 studies; n = 513; low-quality evidence). There were no data on the effects on drug/alcohol use for individual therapy. There was no evidence of an effect on the level of drug/alcohol use for group-based therapy (SMD -0.03; 95% CI -0.37 to 0.31; 4 studies; n = 414; very low-quality evidence). A post-hoc analysis for full dose of a widely established group therapy called Seeking Safety showed reduced drug/alcohol use post-treatment (SMD -0.67; 95% CI -1.14 to -0.19; 2 studies; n = 111), but not at subsequent follow-ups. Data on the number of participants completing therapy were not for individual-based therapy. No effects were observed for rates of therapy completion for group-based therapy (RR 1.13; 95% CI 0.88 to 1.45; 2 studies; n = 217; low-quality evidence).
Non-trauma-focused psychological therapy did not perform better than psychological therapy for SUD only for PTSD severity (SMD -0.26; 95% CI -1.29 to 0.77; 2 studies; n = 128; very low-quality evidence) or drug/alcohol use (SMD 0.22; 95% CI -0.13 to 0.57; 2 studies; n = 128; low-quality evidence). No effects were observed for rates of therapy completion (RR 0.91; 95% CI 0.68 to 1.20; 2 studies; n = 128; very low-quality evidence).

Several studies reported on adverse events. There were no differences between rates of such events in any comparison. We rated several studies as being at 'high' or 'unclear' risk of bias in multiple domains, including for detection bias and attrition bias.

Authors' conclusions

We assessed the evidence in this review as mostly low to very low quality. Evidence showed that individual trauma-focused psychological therapy delivered alongside SUD therapy did better than TAU/minimal intervention in reducing PTSD severity post-treatment and at long-term follow-up, but only reduced SUD at long-term follow-up. All effects were small, and follow-up periods were generally quite short. There was evidence that fewer participants receiving trauma-focused therapy completed treatment. There was very little evidence to support use of non-trauma-focused individual- or group-based integrated therapies. Individuals with more severe and complex presentations (e.g. serious mental illness, individuals with cognitive impairment, and suicidal individuals) were excluded from most studies in this review, and so the findings from this review are not generalisable to such individuals. Some studies suffered from significant methodological problems and some were underpowered, limiting the conclusions that can be drawn. Further research is needed in this area.

Link to review: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD010204.pub2/full

Research briefs

The Effects Of Economic Self-Help Group Programs On Women's Empowerment: A Systematic Review

by Carinne Brody, Thomas de Hoop, Martina Vojtkova, Ruby Warnock, Megan Dunbar, Padmini Murthy, Shari Dworkin (November 2015)



BACKGROUND

Women bear an unequal share of the burden of poverty globally due to societal and structural barriers. One way that governments, development agencies, and grassroots women's groups have tried to address these inequalities is through women's SHGs. This review focuses on the impacts of SHGs with a broad range of collective finance, enterprise, and livelihood components on women's political, economic, social, and psychological empowerment.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this review was to examine the impact of women's economic SHGs on women's individual-level empowerment in low- and middle-income countries using evidence from rigorous quantitative evaluations. The secondary objective was to examine the perspectives of female participants on their experiences of empowerment as a result of participation in economic SHGs in low- and middle-income countries using evidence from high-quality qualitative evaluations. We conducted an integrated mixed-methods systematic review that examined data generated through both quantitative and qualitative research methods.

SEARCH METHODS

We searched electronic databases, grey literature, relevant journals and organization websites and performed keyword hand searches and requested recommendation from key personnel. The search was conducted from March 2013–February 2014.

SELECTION CRITERIA

We included studies conducted from 1980–January 2014 that examined the impact of SHGs on the empowerment of and perspectives of women of all ages in low- and middle-income countries, as defined by the World Bank, who participated in SHGs in which female participants physically came together and received a collective finance and enterprise and/or livelihoods group intervention. To be included in the review, quantitative studies had to measure economic empowerment, political empowerment, psychological empowerment or social empowerment. We also examined adverse outcomes including intimate partner violence, stigma, disappointment, and reduced subjective well-being. We included quantitative studies with experimental designs using random assignment to the intervention and quasi-experimental designs with non-random assignment (such as regression discontinuity designs, "natural experiments," and studies in which participants self-select into the program). In addition, we included qualitative studies that explored empowerment from the perspectives of women participants in SHGs using in-depth interviews, ethnography/participant observation, and focus groups.

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

We systematically coded information from the included studies and critically appraised them. We conducted statistical meta-analysis from the data extracted from quantitative experimental and quasi-experimental studies, and used meta-ethnographic methods to synthesise the textual data extracted from the women's quotes in the qualitative studies. We then integrated the findings from the qualitative synthesis with those from the quantitative studies to develop a framework for assessing how economic SHGs might impact women's empowerment.

RESULTS

We included a total of 23 quantitative and 11 qualitative studies in the final analysis. Initially, we reviewed 3,536 abstracts from electronic database searches and 351 abstracts from the grey literature searches. We found that women's economic SHGs have positive statistically significant effects on various dimensions of women's empowerment, including economic, social and political empowerment ranging from 0.06-0.41 SD. We did not find evidence for statistically significant effects of SHGs on psychological empowerment. We also did not find statistical evidence of adverse effects of women's SHGs. Our integration of the quantitative and qualitative evidence indicates that SHGs do not have adverse consequences for domestic violence.

Research briefs

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Our synthesis of women's perspectives on factors determining their participation in, and benefits from SHGs suggests various pathways through which SHGs could achieve the identified positive impacts on empowerment. Women's experiences suggested that the positive effects of SHGs on economic, social, and political empowerment run through several channels including: familiarity with handling money and independence in financial decision making; solidarity; improved social networks; and respect from the household and other community members. Our synthesis of the qualitative evidence (key informant interviews and focus groups) also indicates that women perceive there to be low participation of the poorest of the poor in SHGs, as compared to less poor women.

IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY, PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

For Policy: SHGs can have positive effects on women's economic, social, and political empowerment. However, we did not find evidence for positive effects on psychological empowerment. These findings indicate that donors can consider funding women's SHGs in order to stimulate women's economic, social, and political empowerment, but the effects of SHGs on psychological empowerment are less clear. Women SHG members perceive that the poorest of the poor participate less than other women. In part, this might be because the poorest of the poor are too financially and/or socially constrained to join SHGs or to benefit from the financial services most often provided through SHGs. Other barriers such as class or caste discrimination might also be present. Poorer or marginalised women may not feel accepted by groups that are made up of wealthier or more well-connected community members. It is important for policy makers to identify ways to build in support and reduce barriers for individual women who want to participate in SHGs but who do not have the financial resources or freedoms to join.

For Practice: We do not find evidence for adverse effects of women SHGs on domestic violence based on the integration of the quantitative and the qualitative evidence. Although there may be adverse consequences in the short term, analysis of women's reports suggest that SHGs do not contribute to increases in domestic violence in the long term. Furthermore, participation of the poorest of the poor in SHGs may be stimulated by incentives. These incentives could be financial, for example, by giving the poorest of the poor the opportunity to participate without a savings requirements, or non-financial, for example, by stimulating the husbands or mothers-in-law of the poorest of the poor to let their spouses and daughters-in-law participate in SHGs or conducting outreach activities to marginalised groups. As new programs are implemented in different contexts, it is also important that program designs are tailored to the local settings in ways that allow them to evolve over time. This review has shown that one-size does not fit all, and while it is important to take best practices across programs for implementation, this means that flexibility is required to adapt programs successfully for the greatest impact in women's lives.

For Research: There is a need for more rigorous quantitative studies that can correct for selection bias, spillovers and the difficulties of measuring empowerment. There is also a need for more research, focused on examining possible factors that meditate and/or moderate the impact of SHGs on women's empowerment to further understand the pathways or mechanisms through which SHGs impact empowerment. For the latter it is crucial to conduct rigorous qualitative research in addition to rigorous quantitative research. Whereas quantitative research is useful in understanding certain aspects of the impact of SHGs on empowerment, qualitative studies could show us more nuanced ideas about how to measure empowerment. Importantly, both quantitative and qualitative studies need to describe more fully the various components of the SHGs being studied. Greater detail in the description of the program design will help in determining moderating factors in the design of SHGs.

Link to review: http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/lib/project/257/

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.

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.

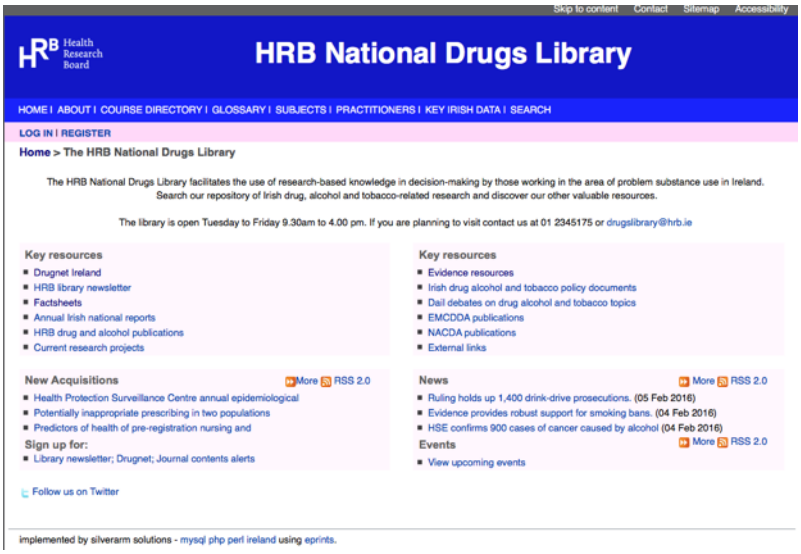
Every year we add hundreds of new articles and reports to our library collection. In order to help relieve information overload we have a number of summarised aids, such as Drugnet Ireland, NDC newsletter, and factsheets.

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

Podcasts, videos and apps

Videos

My Experience in Foster Care

This video demonstrates the importance of recognising the active participation of children in society. Seán Downey is an inspirational young man who shares his perspective of being in foster care, both residential and 'normal', as he describes it. He offers his definition of a social worker, his part in designing more child-friendly review forms and his involvement in the Children as Actors for Transforming Society (CATS) conference in Switzerland.

My experience in foster care by Seán Downey

Two videos on Restorative Justice

Moving on shows Lucy, the victim of a mugging, replaying events endlessly in her mind. Only when she meets the mugger in a restorative justice conference is she able to put the incident behind her.

Moving On – A short video on restorative justice

Daniel Reisel studies the brains of criminal psychopaths (and mice). And he asks a big question: Instead of warehousing these criminals, shouldn't we be using what we know about the brain to help them rehabilitate? Put another way: If the brain can grow new neural pathways after an injury ... could we help the brain re-grow morality?

TED Talk – Daniel Reisel: The neuroscience of restorative justice

Every Conversation Can Change A Life

Pat Divilly is a personal trainer who recently appeared on the Late Late Show. He prides himself on building powerful communities, instilling belief and promoting authenticity. His groups have raised over €250,000 for local charities in the last 12 months. In this frank TEDx Talk, Pat demonstrates how one nudge can be the difference in changing everything for the better.

TEDxGalway – Pat Divilly: Every Conversation Can Change A Life

Podcasts

The Social Work Podcast

With over 100 podcasts to date, the Social Work Podcast provides information on all things social work, including direct practice, research, policy and education. Despite being an American site, it is still highly relevant and informative for Irish social work practice.

The Social Work Podcast

Mobile apps

Software Applications

Genogram / Genealogy Software

Genopro is a software program specialised to draw family trees and genograms. Currently only available for Windows, you may run GenoPro on a Mac by installing a multi-boot utility that supports Microsoft Windows. The latest version can be downloaded as a trial with limited features, although you will be prompted to buy each time it is launched. Alternatively an older version with less features may be downloaded for free. http://www.genopro.com/

My Three Houses App (Google Play Store and Apple Store)

Abused and neglected children, facing violence and fear in their everyday lives tend to withdraw into their own silent world, often blaming themselves for adult problems. The child often feels ashamed and silenced and even experts can find it hard to get these children to speak about what's happening in their life.

The three houses tool was first conceived in New Zealand in 2003 and since then has been a tool of choice for children's services workers around the globe because it offers a caring and intelligent way of placing the voice of the child at the centre of child protection assessment and planning.



The **My Three Houses App** brings this tool into the digital realm with video, interactive animation and a drawing pad for children into the one fun, elegant and engaging app. It also includes a video explanation for parents and extensive guidance for workers. Most importantly the app makes it easier for workers, who have limited time to do the most important and often hardest part of their job—getting vulnerable children to speak.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PUf8U1aw80&feature=youtu.be&mc_cid=e64c812ef6&mc_eid=3d9a841d05

Social Media

Twitter

Useful Twitter accounts to follow, with up-to-date links to relevant articles, reports and podcasts etc:

Guardian Social Care @GdnSocialCare

Barnardos Ireland @Barnardos_IRL

Children & Youth UCC @Child_YouthUCC

Springer Social Work @SpringerSW

Community Care @CommunityCare

IASW @IASW_IRL

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

Practice Links is a publication of the Social Work Development Unit, University College Cork, Ireland. http://swdu.ucc.ie

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Practice Links is edited by

Dr Kenneth Burns
School of Applied Social Studies
University College Cork
William Thompson House
Donovan's Road, Cork, Ireland.

E: k.burns@ucc.ie
W: http://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/aboutus/activities/pl/
T: https://twitter.com/PracticeLinks

Practice Links team

Kerry Cuskelly
Adult Mental Health Social Worker, HSE
Eavan Brady
PhD Student (TCD) and PART, Canada
Robert O'Driscoll
HSE Addiction Services
Louise McCormick
Social Worker
Dr Kenneth Burns
School of Applied Social Studies, UCC

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