

Newsletter | Issue 27 | Date: 31.01.24 |

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2024 - hoping everyone has had a good start to the year so far!

Last year came to an end with a lovely celebration of the accomplishments across the partnership (page 6) and bit of well-earned rest for the team over the Christmas and New Year period. Then, 2024 kicked off with the start of the Step Up to Social Work course for Cohort 8 (page 5).

This year already looks set to be full of new and exciting projects and events for our Teaching Partnership, and we look forward to telling you more about them in the coming months!

We hope you enjoy the latest iteration of our newsletter.

The TP Team

Contents



Item	Page
CPD Offer 2022-23	3
Training for External Colleagues	4
Step Up to Social Work	5
Celebration and Awards 2023	6
Emotional Resilience and Wellbeing Conference	7
LGBT+ History Month	8
The Black Voice of Social Work Discussion Groups- Co-facilitators needed!	9
Callout for Kinship Carers Research Project	10
Research in Practice Resources	11
Thank you	12

CPD Offer 2023-24



If you work for one of our primary partner agencies, you should book via the links in the Teaching Partnership's <u>annual CPD</u>

<u>Brochure</u>. Our 2024-25 CPD Brochure is due to be released by early March 2024 so please look out for this!

You can also <u>click here</u> to sign up for direct CPD Updates going forward.





Continuing Professional Development Offer April 2023 - March 2024

Version 1: 8.3.2023









^{*}Primary partners are: Achieving for Children, Croydon Adults, Croydon Children, Kingston Adults, Merton Children, Merton Adults, Richmond & Wandsworth Adults, Sutton Adults, Sutton Children, Wandsworth Children, NSPCC, Welcare and Kingston University.

Practice Educator/Onsite Supervisor Provision



Planning for and Working with Individual Difference 5.2.2024, 9:30am - 12noon

Developing and Assessing Professionalism in Learners 26.2.2023, 2 - 4:30pm

Supervision Skills for Reflection and Analysis 7.3.2024, 9:30am - 12noon

Please note these workshops have now been opened up to include primary partners and would be relevant for anyone who has missed the in-person sessions.

^{*}Primary partners are: Achieving for Children, Croydon Adults, Croydon Children, Kingston Adults, Merton Children, Merton Adults, Richmond & Wandsworth Adults, Sutton Adults, Sutton Children, Wandsworth Children, NSPCC, Welcare and Kingston University.

^{*}Secondary partners are: Surrey Children and South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust



Step Up to Social Work - Cohort 8



Earlier this month, our 8th cohort of Step Up students started their lectures at Kingston University. They have already done their practice interviews and are getting ready for their first portofolio submission.

We are happy to confirm that 25 students will be joining seven different organisations for their placements along the programme.

We wish them well and look forward to seeing them progress over the duration of the course!















Annual Celebration Event & Awards Ceremony 2023



Last month, on the 7th of December, we hosted our annual Social Work Awards, where we celebrated our colleagues across the partnership in the following categories:

- Social Worker of the Year (Adults)
- Social Worker of the Year (Children)
 - Social Work Student of the Year
 - ASYE Assessor of the Year
 - NQSW of the Year (Adults)
 - NQSW of the Year (Children)
- Team Leader of the Year (Adults)
- Team Leader of the Year (Children)
- Outstanding Contribution to supporting Equality & Diversity

<u>Click here</u> to view the presentation of winners, runners up and nominees.



"I was so excited and ecstatic when I first heard that I won this award. However, it is not just me. My whole team is happy and joyful as this is the first time someone from the hospital team has won an award."

"Being recognised for this award has really motivated me to continue being an ASYE assessor and being available to help shape and develop the skills of new social workers."

"As someone who has had a direct experience with a social worker as a 15/16-year-old, receiving this made me feel very humbled."



2

Next month we will be hosting our annual Emotional Resilience and Wellbeing Conference at Kingston University, Kingston Hill Campus.

If you haven't already done so, make sure to join our waiting list and take part in our different talks and workshops to support your wellbeing. Please <u>contact us</u> for booking details to join the waiting list.

There will be a number of workshops to support you with your wellbeing.

There will be breakfast and refreshments provided, as well as goody bags to take away!

Full information on workshop selection and agenda to follow closer to the time.



S

LGBT+ History Month



Every February, <u>LGBT+ history</u> is celebrated and this year's theme is: **Medicine - Under The Scope**

At a time when the LGBT+ community is experiencing a rise in hate crime and hate instances we also encourage you to look 'Under the Scope' and listen to LGBT+ peoples' lived experiences from LGBT+ people.

Join us in celebrating both historical and current LGBT+ contributions to the field of Medicine and Healthcare. Different ways of supporting are joining an <u>event</u>, reading <u>stories</u>, <u>reading</u> a book, <u>sharing resources</u> and joining in on social media with the hashtags #LGBTplusHM & #UnderTheScope. Be an ally in your organisation and make use of some of these resources to spread awareness.





The Black Voice of Social Work Discussion Groups-Co-facilitators needed!



We are coming up to the last discussion group of this CPD cycle and we have been very pleased to see so many colleagues attend over the last few sessions and show their commitment to fighting racism!

We had some interesting and thought provoking topics, our last topic was presented by Marcia Cameron and Taz Mudali who lead a conversation about adultification.

We are currently planning for the next cycle of discussion groups and we are looking for new co-facilitators to join. We are looking for more Black* colleagues to join the group - we strongly feel that the more diverse our group is, the more interesting our reflection points would be. This would allow us to have discussions on new and important issues, ensure that there is a facilitator in each breakout room to aid the discussion, and will ensure continued sustainability of the group.

You do not have to have experience of delivery, and this will support you to develop your delivery skills. The main commitments would be:

- To lead on one session per year on a relevant topic of your choice 2 or 3 slides maximum, to keep to 10 minutes
- To attend the other sessions if you are available, and facilitate breakout room discussions, including taking notes on key themes to feed back

Please discuss with your manager and TP lead in the first instance, but anyone who is interested should contact us at:

admin@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk

* Please note that by 'Black', we mean anyone who identifies as a person of colour.

Please save the date of the last Discussion Group for this CPD cycle below, the invite links can be found in our CPD brochure, or please contact the Teaching Partnership for the calendar invites/links to attend.

10 -11:30am Thu 14 Mar 2024

Please continue having discussions within your organisations about racism and share the links for the groups!





Callout for Kinship Carers Research Project



Kinship Charity are looking to talk to Black and Asian kinship carers about their experiences for their research project, aiming improve the lives of vulnerable children and providing evidence to improve support for carers and parents.

The awarded funding has been allocated to focus on the experiences of Black and Asian kinship carers – both those with formal and informal arrangements. For information, a kinship carer is someone who is looking after a family member's child, when the parent is unable to do so. Sometimes this is with the support of the local authority and other times, where informal kinship care may have arisen out of a family arrangement between the parent/s and person now raising their child, these carers are unknown and unsupported. Previous research has explored the experiences of White kinship carers. They would like to speak to Black and Asian kinship carers in the Midlands and across Greater London to understand more about how they became kinship carers and the kind of support they needed at the start of the arrangement and would like now.

Kinship carers will receive a voucher for taking part in this research project. If a carer wants to take part, they can contact the lead researcher, Priya Tah, via email or telephone/WhatsApp, Priya's details are included in the recruitment poster here.



Research in Practice Resources



Research in Practice is an organisation that brings together academic research, practice expertise and the experiences of people accessing services. We have been working with them to collate some of their open-access resources, which do not require membership to access!

Articles & videos

- Supporting people with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
- Building trust with survivors of child sexual abuse
- Sharing power as equals
- Overcoming the challenges of direct work with children in child protection

Resources

- Keeping you informed in 2023: Trauma-informed practice, assessment and CPD
- Understanding identity with minoritised children and young people

Callout

• Join a network to influence social work practice conditions and workload



Thank you for reading!

If you have any good news stories, examples of excellent practice, or helpful resources that you'd like to share, please send these through to us at: admin@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk

We would also be grateful to receive comments or suggestions on the newsletter, including any topics you'd like to see covered in future editions.