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CAWT in ACTION

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MACE project launched

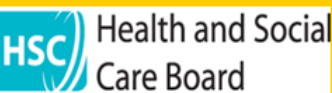


600 people from health & social care services, education, policing, justice, community and voluntary sectors from across Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland attended the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) conference in Derry City on the 28 Sept. Delegates heard from a range of speakers about the potential negative impact of ACEs on children, young people and adults and how organisations, communities and families can be more ACE aware and pro-active. At the conference CAWT launched its three year, €5.01 million EU INTERREG VA funded Multiple Adverse Childhood Experiences (MACE) project. This EU grant funding will be used to help transform the lives of vulnerable families who are at risk from multiple adversities in their lives, through identification, early intervention and the provision of support within their communities. Importantly the project will add value to and enhance existing activities and structures in place in both jurisdictions.



Pictured at the ACEs conference (l to r): John Brattin from Derry City, Mark Feeney, SEUPB; Finn O'Farrell from Monaghan and Kaylem Toner from Galway.

Welcoming the project Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB said: ***"This project will deliver upon one of the key objectives of the EU's INTERREG VA Programme, which seeks to improve the health and well-being of thousands of citizens living in this region, by helping to identify vulnerable families who will benefit from early parenting and family development assistance. This support is designed to nurture families and ensure the best outcomes for the children involved, on a cross-border basis."*** Speaking on behalf of the CAWT Project Board, which is managing the overall project in the border area, Kieran Downey, WHSCT said: ***"I am delighted that the health services has been able to secure valuable EU funding to enable us build more ACE aware & trauma informed communities on a cross border basis. By building supportive communities, we can increase the levels of resilience in children and adults and ensure those who suffered ACEs can avoid many of their health harming consequences."***



Conference organisers and speakers. Seated (l to r): Kieran Downey, MACE Project Chair, WHSCT and Dr Karen Treisman, guest speaker. Standing: (l to r): Sean McGrory, MACE Project Manager; Bernie McCrory, CAWT; Mark Feeney, SEUPB; Aisling Gillen, TUSLA; Maurice Meehan, PHA; Pamela Cooper, TUSLA; Alasdair MacInnes, Dept of Health (NI); Éimear Fisher, Dept of Children & Youth Affairs; (Rol); Carmel McPeake, CAWT and Trevor Spratt, TCD (guest speaker).

The event has received much positive comment for example:

"Amazing presentations, young people so moving and inspirational"

"Project relevant to the special education setting in which I'm in"

"Young people's messages were invaluable"

"I am a survivor of severe adverse childhood experiences - totally agree with the mace project"

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Projects supported by the European Union's INTERREG VA Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body



Acute Project: Community Paramedic Workshop

The CAWT Acute Project has a range of strands currently underway. Over its lifetime, the project is aiming to assess and treat a minimum of 13,000 patients which will be achieved through the establishment of cross border frameworks for scheduled and unscheduled care across Northern Ireland, the border counties of the Republic of Ireland and the West Coast of Scotland. The Vascular and Dermatology Services have recently commenced with patients now receiving appointments and follow up treatment. Training staff in specialist areas to deliver new services for the project is being delivered. The interoperability stream of the project, which is concerned with addressing the information requirements for cross border health and social care provision, is also underway.



Pictured (l to r): Bernie McCrory, Chief Officer, CAWT; Declan Smith, Community Paramedic, Clones GP Practice; Sean Murphy, Letterkenny University Hospital; Martin Dunne, Director, National Ambulance Service; Sean Brady, Head of Ambulance Control Centres, National Ambulance Service and Macartan Hughes, National Training Officer, National Ambulance Service.



Pictured (l to r): Sally McDaid, Operations Resource Manager, National Ambulance Service and Anne McDermott, Community Paramedic, Buncrana Primary Care Centre.

The most advanced work stream is the Community Paramedic Service which is progressing well in the various pilot sites in the border region and Scotland. The Project is targeting patient populations in remote and rural areas from bases in Buncrana, Co. Donegal & Clones, Co. Monaghan in the border region of Ireland, Castlederg & Fintona, Co Tyrone in Northern Ireland & the Argyle & Bute region in SW Scotland.

In August, representatives from the Ambulance services from the three regions participated in a 2-day workshop co-ordinated by the Community Paramedic Steering Group. The objective of the workshop was to bring together all those involved in governing and delivering the Community Paramedic Project to 'take stock' and review the project and consequently plan for the next phase of the project.

Those who presented at the conference included the Lead Lecturer for the Specialist Paramedic Post Graduate Diploma Course in Glasgow Caledonian University and the Medical Director of the National Ambulance Service. The case studies presented by the participating Community Paramedics conveyed the actual experiences on the ground and how patients are benefitting from this new service. Ultimately the workshop has further strengthened the relationships between the three ambulance services, facilitated peer learning and clinical support and progressed the clinical governance of the Community Paramedic service, which will lead to more patients receiving the right care, in the right place, by the right health care professional. This will further support the reduction in the numbers of patients being unnecessarily transported to Emergency Departments and A&E's and in some cases experiencing long waiting times for treatment which is a key project objective.



Pictured (l to r): Damian Muldoon, Community Paramedic, Castlederg PC Centre; Sean Murphy, Letterkenny University Hospital; Declan Smith, Community Paramedic, Clones GP Practice; Anne McDermott, Community Paramedic, Buncrana PC Centre and Bernie McCrory, Chief Officer, CAWT.

CoH Sync Health Facilitator Training



Attendees at the cross border Community Health Facilitators training which took place in Omagh and was delivered by Health and Well-being specialists from NHS Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland.

The Community Health Sync (CoH-Sync) project has established 8 health and well-being hubs: six in total in the border areas of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland and two in south west Scotland. All 8 hubs are now operational and are actively engaging with their local communities to improve peoples' health and well-being in areas such as physical activity, mental health, nutrition, smoking and alcohol consumption. These lifestyle issues are risk factors for the development of long term conditions. The service the hubs offer involves a trained Health Facilitator providing one-to-one support to individuals in the development of a personal health and well-being plan. Support is also provided to individuals to take action to address any issues identified within the risk factor areas.

In order to ensure that the project is ready to deliver the best possible support and advice to people, staff from a number of the hubs came together to avail of training on a cross border basis. This training was delivered by health and well-being specialists from NHS Dumfries and Galloway in Scotland, who are also partners in the CoH-Sync project. Taking place in Omagh, the training was attended by Health Facilitators from hubs based in the border corridor. Many thanks to Jo Kopela and Dr Catherine Mackereth from the Directorate of Public Health in NHS Dumfries & Galloway for providing this training, which was well received by all attendees.



Participants in the CoH Sync Project training (left to right): Linda McGovern; Lakeland Community Care Belcoo; Geraldine Morgan, Oak Healthy Living Centre and Kevin Curran, Monaghan Integrated Development.

Commenting on the progress of the CoH Sync project to date, Dr Maura O'Neill (Project chair) from the Western Health and Social Care Trust said: **"This much needed EU INTERREG VA funding provides opportunities to increase Health Facilitator capacity across the Trust and the three regions and enables us to share expertise and knowledge across borders. The training provided by NHS Dumfries & Galloway will give the local CoH-Sync Project Community Health Facilitators additional skills to support them in addressing health inequalities in the border region."**

All eight Hubs are working intensively to create awareness of their services and are engaging in promotional activity in order to secure beneficiaries to meet the targets set by the EU funders.

[A list of Hub locations and contacts can be accessed by clicking here](#)

Innovation Recovery

The Innovation Recovery project is focused on empowering people with experience of mental illness to better manage their condition. People with lived experience will work with mental health practitioners to co-produce and co-deliver a range of educational courses.

In recent months the Project Manager and Project Board have been concentrating on project mobilisation and procuring specialised expertise required for the successful operation of the project. Staff are in place in the Western Hub and the Autumn prospectus has been well received with a high demand across the North West for the courses on offer. Staff are coming into post within the Eastern and Southern Hubs and the Innovation Recovery team are keen to see the project fully operational by early 2019.

The Scottish Recovery Network is supporting the Innovation Recovery Project in developing a Quality Assurance framework which will provide a framework for governance and quality improvement on a North South basis.

The Innovation Recovery Project is working with the University of Ulster at Magee to host a conference entitled 'Young People and Mental Health in a Changing World'. This event will be held on the 27th of October at the University of Ulster in the Magee campus. The focus of the event is to raise awareness of the diverse and complex mental health issues that young people can face and to mobilise efforts that enable and support young peoples' resilience and management of their mental health needs.

The project recently held two successful workshops on an 'Introduction to Co-Production' in the HSE area. The programme offered participants the opportunity to explore the concept of co-production which is about working in equal partnership with people using services, carers, families and staff. Co-production offers the chance to transform social care and health provision to a model that offers people real choice and control. The events celebrated the benefits of co-production, sharing good practice and highlighted the contribution of people who use services and carers to developing better public services.



Pictured (l to r): Wendy Risby and Karen Elliott, Peer Educators for the Western Innovation Recovery Project Hub.



Pictured at the 'Introduction to Co-production' workshop in Ballyshannon.



Pictured at the 'Introduction to Co-production' workshop in Monaghan (l to r): Padraig Columb, Eunice Skinnader, Padraig O'Beirne, Margaret O'Leary. Seated (l to r): Johanna Caffrey, Lorraine Kirwan and Mary French.

mPower

The EU INTERREG VA mPower project is aiming to support 2,500 people to self-manage their health and well-being more effectively in the community, deliver 4,500 eHealth interventions and assist people to connect with activities in their communities. The mPower delivery sites in the border region include South/East Fermanagh in the WHSCT area, Castlefinn, South Leitrim and Carrickmacross in the HSE CHO1 area, Drogheda in the HSE CHO8 area and Newry/ Armagh in the SHSCT area.

The majority of the teams are now in place within each of the CAWT partner areas and plans are well underway for project delivery. The Primary Care teams within each of the deployment sites have been hosting Community Engagement events designed to create awareness among GPs, GP Practice staff, primary care teams, hospital and community representative, as well as community and voluntary organisations about the mPower Project. These sessions were very well attended attracting considerable interest from a range of stakeholders. Participants were informed about the mPower project and plans for local implementation. Attendees also were given insights into the Scottish experience of using remote / digital health services in support of older people with Long Term Conditions. Community and voluntary sector representatives showcased the valuable work ongoing with each area and emphasised their willingness to support the mPower Community Navigators in implementing mPower to older people.

Discussions are ongoing between Primary Care teams and staff working within e-health to agree service innovations to improve the health and well-being of older people. Each of the deployment sites is examining priorities for e-health which will enhance service delivery. These will include systems to help older people with long term conditions to adhere to medicines and improve self-management. Other initiatives will see training to improve digital literacy amongst older people with chronic illness using virtual consultations / video-conferencing to support health care professional and patient engagement. Mobile phone apps to support well-being may also be utilised.



Pictured at the HSE HO 1 Community Engagement event (l to r): John MacDonald, SCVO; Ann Lawlor, mPower Project, South Leitrim; Maria McDaid, HBS Recruit, HSE; Michael Rooney, North/South Health Unit; Cara O'Neill, Head of Service, HSE CHO Area 1; Alan Connor, mPower Programme Manager; Cathal Hand, Monaghan Primary Care Network Manager; Kathleen McGuire, Enhanced Intermediate Care and Rehabilitation, NHS Ayrshire and Arran and Rachel Morrison, MS Specialist Nurse, NHS Western Isles.



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Cross border Leadership Course



Senior leaders from the HSE and the Western Health and Social Care Trust at the cross border 'Applied Leadership in Adversity' course in the South West Acute Hospital.

Senior leaders from the Western Health and Social Care Trust and the HSE participated in System of Systems (SoS) 'Applied Leadership in Adversity' course in October 2018 at the South West Acute Hospital in Enniskillen. The overall aim of this cross border course was to share learning and to foster and further develop leadership skills and behaviours within the health and social care community. Leadership in complexity and adversity, making lasting change, problem analysis and resolution were among the topics covered by the course. Overall the course offered a positive approach with the aim of assisting senior staff members to apply and further develop their leadership skills in the currently challenging environment of constrained resources and assisting with the breaking down of 'silo' working cultures. The courses also provided opportunities for networking by attendees who are engaged in similar work on both sides of the border.

EU INTERREG VA projects in pictures



Edel O'Doherty and Bernie McCrory from CAWT briefing SDLP representatives Mark H Durkan MLA and John Boyle, Derry and Strabane Council on cross border health and social care at the CAWT Development Centre



Representatives from projects funded by the EU PEACE and INTERREG programmes at the state dinner in Dublin Castle in honour of President Juncker of the EU Commission. Bernie McCrory represented the CAWT Partnership.



Left to right: Health service staff Geraldine Mullarkey, HSE; Mary Rose Carr, HSE; Dr Neil Black, WHSCT and Rose Mooney, HSE at the cross border SoS leadership course in the South West Acute Hospital.



Participants in the briefing meeting on CAWT and cross border health and social care in Letterkenny University Hospital with interim USA Ambassador to Ireland Reece Smyth and Vice Consul Kira Peterson.



Health visitors pictured at the MACE launch (l to r): Rosemary McCorry and Nadine McMackin, both from the WHSCT.



Pictured at the MACE launch (l to r): Rosemary Lyons, Enterprise Officer, Inishowen Development Partnership; Patricia Lee, Manager, Parent Stop and Corina Catterson Flynn, Project Manager, Springboard