



DEVELOPING TOGETHER

SOCIAL WORK TEACHING PARTNERSHIP

Practice Education Team Newsletter - July 2019

Hello to all, from us in the Practice Education Team (PET), Developing Together Partnership! What a month it has been! In the sweltering heat, the downpours and cloudy days too, the weather has not obstructed our appetite for all things 'Practice Education' and indeed, beyond! We have continued to strengthen relationships with our partners, been busy, creative, reflective and even progressive! So, grab a coffee (or mint tea!), put your feet up and read about some of the PET achievements and activities carried out throughout July.

Our PET roadshow travelled to further partner venues, with visits to Achieving for Children (AfC) in Twickenham and Kingston, and Kingston Adult Social Care. As in previous roadshows, we met a number of very passionate and keen Social Workers wanting to know more about Practice Education and yet again, a few interested individuals asking about how to get into Social Work. Luckily, Charli Robson was on hand for one of the discussions in Guildhall 2, so the lucky person received a 3-1 discussion about entry routes into social work. Like other partners, AfC are exploring the social work apprenticeship model, so ears should be kept closely to the ground for more information! We were also fortunate to have the welcoming and involved Enize Powell at our busy Kingston adults roadshow, encouraging individuals to think about 'what's next?' for them and participate in great discussions, particularly their continuing professional development.

There was a fantastic turnout at the Post Qualifying Consultation Event at Kingston University. Alongside David Nilsson (Kingston University Senior Lecturer) and jointly organised with our very own Teaching Partnership Social Work Lead, Sue Lansley, was Paul Lawrence (Practice Education Consultant) also at the helm. It was attended by us at PET but also a number of NQSW's, experienced social workers, Principal Social Workers and workforce development leads across our partners. Creative juices were really flowing with thoughts, views, suggestions and requests from attendees, that would contribute towards new or reshaped Post Qualifying modules and pathways at Kingston University. Following this initial event there was a follow up meeting with partners to put 'ideas into action', exploring new PQ framework options to incorporate the needs of social work professionals throughout their careers.

On a very sunny day, Josie and Sarah facilitated our 'Assessing and Evidencing Values & Ethics' workshop in Croydon. Yet again, we received a warm welcome not only by Anneta Pinto-Young, but by an impressive number of Social Workers, NQSW's and Practice Educators, all keen and participating in analysis and discussion on what Values and Ethics are, and how it can be observed and evidenced in practice. As we received such positive feedback on the day we have already identified a further date in January 2020 so we can re-run - this time scheduling in an even longer session. We can't wait to return!

We had greater opportunity to share PET progress to date and reveal further developments with our PE workshops, at AfC's 'Whole Social Care Service' event. Dale Van Graan (PE Consultant / Senior Lecturer) and Paul provided an overview about the Teaching Partnership and our Practice Education offer to AfC Social Workers and Social Care staff and continued our 'giveaway' of bags, pens and treats! A big thank you to AfC for inviting us!

Most of our workshops are now organised, with dates and venues planned to end of March 2020 for Practice Educators across partners. We are still developing a couple and are still open to any subject areas of interest that benefit not only Practice Educators, but On-Site Supervisors and other team members who contribute to the overall learning and development of Student Social Workers. We have workshops running in partner venues but also in 'general' venues (such as King Charles Centre, Surbiton, Twickenham Training Centre and Chaucer Centre, Morden) - these should be particularly useful for independent Practice Educators and Practice Assessors (PA's). Our aim is for Practice Educators across the partnership to join workshops advertised in neighboring boroughs and across adults and children teams to further promote partnership working and communication. Have a look at the updated workshop poster [here](#). To book onto one of the workshops at 'general' venues, check out our [events page](#) where you can find all the details.

Paul (and Charli Robson from AfC) attended the National Skills for Care ASYE development group (funded/supported by the DfE). There was much discussion between organisational leads and NQSW national representatives about ASYE programmes across the country and the commitment from the sector to work with both statutory and voluntary agencies in further developing and quality assuring ASYE programmes.

Sarah and Josie have started the search for enrolling new Service Users and Carers, to be as involved as they are able, on Kingston University Social Work courses. Although not directly Practice Education related, it is key for student Social Workers' learning and development, to understand what is expected from them as qualified Social Workers. This important participation and contribution to assessment,

interviews and involvement with direct teaching, goes a long way to strengthen that understanding. There is some payment attached to this. If there is anyone you know involved with mental health services, care leavers and / or families who have used services who may be interested in this important role, please do pass on our details to them or contact us for more information:

josie.newton@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk or
sarah.cave@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk

Sarah and Josie are putting their Off-Site Practice Educator hats to good use, with current and future placement allocations which is exciting news. Josie is coming to the end of supporting her first trainee Practice Educator as Practice Assessor, a role Sarah will soon be undertaking with the Teaching Partnership too! Don't forget, if we have capacity, we can provide Off-Site Practice Education to students placed with our partners. Please do contact dale.vangraan@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk, sue.lansley@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk or paul.lawrence@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk for any questions or discussions in the first instance.

As a Practice Education Team, we have consciously focussed on each #WellbeingWednesday tip and suggestion shared on our Twitter feed [@DevelopT_SWTP](https://twitter.com/DevelopT_SWTP) from the one and only, 'Self Care Psychology', self-care cards. One particular card created quite a discussion and an interesting learning session! Did you know, Mark Twain once said: "If it's your job to eat a frog, it's best to do it first thing in the morning. And if it's your job to eat two frogs, it's best to eat the biggest one first."? So, your day can only get better once you've eaten your frog! We are committed to #WellbeingWednesday and hope the word continues to spread.....!



And finally, at our most recent Teaching Partnership Review, when asked to create a visual of what we as the PET have achieved, our challenges, learning and celebrations, we all got creative with some coloured pens, sticky paper, glitter, felt

and lolly sticks! We stepped away from our laptops, books and spreadsheets and got colourful, our imagination coming to life in full 3D! It was an exercise of how far we have come and what we still want to achieve in the time we (currently!) have left! What do you think?

