



DEVELOPING TOGETHER

SOCIAL WORK TEACHING PARTNERSHIP

NEWSLETTER

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EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE & WELLBEING CONFERENCE

On 15th March, the Teaching Partnership hosted a conference on **Emotional Resilience & Wellbeing** in social work and there was a great turnout on the day, with around 100 social workers/managers in attendance, as well as representation from Workforce Development and Principal Social Workers.

The conference began with a presentation from social work academic Jim Greer on emotional labour, before breaking out into a number of workshops chaired by experts, where social workers accessed advice and skills on promoting their own wellbeing and developing resilience. We then welcomed Dr Sarah Parry, a clinical psychologist, who presented her research on the impact of the social work role on social workers' individual wellbeing, before continuing with more workshops.

The day ended with a reflection event, facilitated by PSWs, that required participants to consider how they would take forward the learnings from the event and make a commitment to taking steps towards improving wellbeing and resilience within their own organisations. Feedback received from the event was excellent, with one delegate reporting 'this is the best training I have done and [I have] told my team and others about it' and suggestions have been made as to topics that could be covered at future Teaching Partnership events.

The feedback is being taken forward by the Teaching Partnership PSW network, who are currently developing a range of initiatives to promote wellbeing and resilience across the region. Look out more information on this soon.

For those of you who missed out, fear not! Footage from the day, including Jim and Sarah's full keynote speeches, is available to view [on our website](#).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

16/5: Practice Educator Refresher

Kingston Hill Campus, BS2025, 10am-4pm

Book via: dale.vangraan@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk

29/5: Breakfast & Learn: The Liberty Protection Safeguards

Croydon Town Hall, Katharine St, CR0 1NX, 9:30-11am

Book at: [EventBrite](#)

5/6: Practice Education Conference

Kingston Hill Campus, BS0027, 10am-4pm

Book at: <http://www.healthcare.ac.uk/events>

11/6: Research Development Event

Kingston Hill Campus, BS2039, 10am-3:30pm

Book at: [EventBrite](#)

2/7: Black Children's Experience of Child Protection

Wandsworth Town Hall, SW18 TPU, 2-3:30pm

Send name, role and employer to: tdservice@wandsworth.gov.uk

Details of all Teaching Partnership events can be found on our website: www.developingtogetherswtp.org.uk

ACADEMIC SEMINARS

Our Academic Lunch & Learn sessions kicked off with a seminar on 'Self-Neglect', exploring social workers' experience of working with adults who self-neglect and an insight into cutting edge research. This was facilitated by Maria Brent, from Kingston University, in collaboration with Joasia Marzec from Richmond & Wandsworth.

This series of sessions continues with a Breakfast & Learn seminar with Tim Spencer-Lane, legal adviser to the Government on the proposal to replace the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) with the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS). This takes place in Croydon on 29th May - spaces are already filled but you can join the waiting list [here](#).

Other sessions currently in planning include 'Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse' and 'Working with Parents with Mental Ill Health'. Keep your eyes peeled for details on these events, coming soon!

EMPLOYMENT SKILLS FOR ASYE ROLES

Last week, we were lucky enough to welcome Rob Kinahan, consultant social worker and ASYE Lead at Gloucestershire County Council, to Kingston University to deliver 'Getting Your Foot in the Door' - an Employment Skills workshop for final year BASW and MSW students about to apply for their ASYE roles. This session was co-facilitated by ASYE experts within partner agencies and our Practice Education Team; a special thank-you to Jo Finch from Sutton, Nicky Simpson from Surrey Children's Service, Charli Robson from Achieving for Children and Anneta Pinto-Young from Croydon Children's Service. Due to popular demand, plans are being developed to deliver further sessions.

PREPARATION FOR PRACTICE

On 8th May, Twilight Preparation for Practice Sessions commence - these sessions will be linked to KSS and areas of practice where a need for further support has been recognised by ASYE managers across the Partnership.

The first session is being hosted by Anthony Adedokun (Croydon Adults) and Simon Bath (Kingston Adults), two of the Teaching Partnership's valuable Teaching Consultants, and will be on 'Mental Capacity Act and Risk Assessments in Adults'. These sessions are targeted at final year students, however all students, as well as existing NQSWs across the Partnership, are welcome.

Then, on 22nd May, is 'Child Sexual Exploitation', delivered by another of our Teaching Consultants. Anna Holland (NSPCC), will deliver a session on working with children who are at risk of CSE and their parents.

You can find details of all the upcoming sessions, and book your place, [on our website](#).

PRACTICE EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Our Practice Conference on 5th June is taking shape and tickets are going, almost like hot cakes! There is still capacity but places are limited, so if you are deliberating, don't waste time! We have two inspiring presenters, Jo Finch and Siobhan Maclean, and contributions from those across the Partnership. Jo will present on having difficult conversations helpfully, whilst Siobhan will be focusing on the student's journey and tools to enable student learning and development. There will be many workshops on the day, including a session on Team and Manager responsibilities for managing a student on placement, and one on values and working with diversity amongst students. We would still love students to play a more vocal role, so if any Practice Educators or Practice Supervisors could entice their students to co-facilitate, that would be greatly received and a great development opportunity. There will also be an update on the progress of the Practice Education research project, being conducted by Dermot Brady and the Partnership's Practice Education Team, as well as the chance to be involved. Book your place here.

PRACTICE EDUCATION TEAM



With Sarah Cave joining the team on 23rd April, the Practice Education Team (PET) are now at their full complement and can steam ahead with the various activities planned. Sarah started working with adults with learning disabilities as a support worker over 20 years ago, having completed her BSc Social Psychology degree. She successfully completed the DipSW whilst working for the London Borough of Sutton, where she was employed for 19 years. During this time she undertook a number of social work roles in both adults and children's teams. Sarah moved on to work with adults with learning disabilities in the London Borough of Hounslow, where she qualified as a Practice Educator. Supporting students and newly qualified social workers through their placements/first year of practice became an area that Sarah wanted to focus on, and hence she joins the team from her role in Hounslow as assistant team manager in the 0-25 Disability Team. Welcome, Sarah!

Significant work is being done to develop the Teaching Partnership's website, where the dedicated [Practice Education area](#) is in the process of being populated with information and PE resources, as well as links to other sites and articles of interest. We also have a small range of PE tools and resources available to loan - you can find our recommend reading list on the website and then contact us to borrow any of these.

We are currently rolling out the delivery of two workshops for Practice Educators; these are 'Assessing Values & Ethics in Practice' and 'Dealing with Difficulties: Having Courageous Conversations'. More topics are being prepared, and if you have any requests for specific topics you'd like to see covered, please get in touch and let us know. We are also developing groups for students whilst on placement and any particular requests or suggestions would be welcome.

The first refresher course of the year was held in March, for Practice Assessors (PAs). The session was aimed at refreshing knowledge and identifying transferable skills for Stage 2 qualified and experienced Practice Educators (PEs) who are moving into or have recently moved into the role of PA for trainee PEs. The session was attended by 12 PEs, across 7 partner agencies and included those already in the PA role and those contemplating taking the plunge!

This was an informative and lively discussion about the opportunities provided by the PA role to develop Practice Education skills and knowledge, and more of these sessions will be rolled out throughout the year.

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admin@developingtogetherswtp.org.uk