

e-bulletin

Issue no 56

19 December 2008



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Welcome to our e-bulletin issue 56 bringing you up to date with latest news and resources.

Thanks to everyone who has emailed us with news stories, comments and suggestions. If you have any information or ideas for the bulletin please contact [Ruth Kent](#) at the Eastern Development Centre. If you have any difficulty accessing this bulletin or its contents please contact us so that we can help.


The following links will help you to move between the sections providing information about national and regional news, development centre updates, forthcoming events and opportunities.

[Regional News](#); [National News](#); [Development Centre Update](#); [Events](#); [Useful Resources](#);

Regional News


Centre for Wellbeing

The University of Hertfordshire has given funding and the green light to setting up a Centre for Wellbeing at the University, a virtual centre delivering a range of evidence based psychological therapies, including art psychotherapy, psycho-dynamic counseling, body oriented psychotherapy, cognitive behavioral therapy and groupwork.

 For more information please contact Professor [Helen Payne](#)

Evaluation Event for Cambridge Celebrates Age 2008 on 22 January 09

Cambridgeshire Celebrates Age is an initiative that promotes the health and well-being of older people and promotes opportunities for participation and involvement in the local community. A programme of activities were held throughout throughout October and an evaluation event has now been set to discuss what went well and to make plans for next year. This event will take place on Thursday 22nd January 9-1pm at the Meadows Community Centre Cambridge.

 For more information please contact [Claire Harris](#)






National News

NIACE Digital Photo Competition

NIACE are running a competition to collect creative positive images of people using Direct Payments. Do you have experience of Mental Health problems and use Direct payments? If you do, this competition is your chance to help give other people who have mental health problems and are eligible to receive Direct Payments ideas about the ways in which they can be used to get more out of life.

 Please click [here](#) to view the competition flyer

Your chance to contribute to the Government's action plan of support for the third sector

On 24th November Kevin Brennan, the Minister for the Third Sector, chaired a summit with NCVO on the impact of the economic downturn on the third sector. Sector representatives highlighted a number of challenges they were facing in the current economic climate, and more importantly discussed how Government and the sector could work together.

Building on these discussions, the Minister announced plans to publish an Action Plan in the New Year. This represents a real opportunity for the sector and Government to work in partnership to address current and future challenges. It is crucial to involve the sector from the onset in the development of this action plan

The Office of the Third Sector (OTS) is welcoming suggestions from the sector on innovative ways the government could help support the environment for a thriving third sector in the coming months and years, with a particular focus on the 6 key themes raised at the summit:

- Meeting demand for public services particularly in deprived areas
- Good quality contracting and commissioning
- Addressing potential income issues through local and national level funding and maximising charitable giving
- Modernisation of the sector to cope with financial pressures
- Building social capital (volunteering, for example) and tackling worklessness
- Role of social enterprise.

 Please send any comments to actionplan@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk by 31st December 2008.

Nacro launches comprehensive directory of mental health liaison and diversion schemes

Crime reduction charity Nacro has produced the first national directory of criminal justice mental health liaison and diversion schemes for a decade to encourage the diversion of offenders with mental health needs away from the criminal justice system and into appropriate treatment.

In the early 1990s the Home Office issued guidance encouraging health, social care and criminal justice agencies to work together to provide services for offenders with mental health needs within an area. Provision remains patchy across England and Wales, but Nacro's new directory brings together information and contact details of all existing schemes.



Criminal justice mental health liaison schemes bring local partners together to ensure that, where appropriate, offenders with mental health needs are diverted from the criminal justice system into care and treatment from the health and social care sectors. They also seek to ensure that, where a prosecution is to be pursued, relevant information about an offender's mental condition is made available to the courts and the Crown Prosecution Service.

Nacro has produced the directory with the following aims:

- raising the profile of the valuable work of these schemes with commissioners, potential referrers and defendants;
- ensuring appropriate referrals for assessment for defendants and offenders with potential mental health needs;
- increasing the communication between the schemes to help them to share practice and overcome any operational difficulties;
- assisting areas with no provision to benefit from shared practice and establish new arrangements.

Launching the directory, **Paul Cavadino, Chief Executive of Nacro**, said:

"There are at least 5,000 people with serious mental health needs in prison receiving inadequate support and treatment or none at all. Criminal justice mental health liaison and diversion schemes are a vital element in ensuring that offenders' mental health needs are recognised and receive the right treatment for the problems that are causing or contributing to their offending behaviour.

"This is the first such directory to be published in a decade, and coincides with the forthcoming Bradley Review into the diversion of people with mental health needs. We believe that it will be a useful resource to practitioners, commissioners and people experiencing mental distress in the criminal justice system."



For further information please visit the website: www.nacro.org.uk

Rethink Politics project needs your help!

Rethink Politics is a three year project funded by the Electoral Commission aimed at raising awareness, creating understanding and encouraging participation in politics by people who experience or have experienced mental illness. To date over 300 service-users, carers, staff and volunteers have undertaken a Rethink Politics training programme to become 'Rethink Politics Champions'.

Rethink needs your help! They are now launching a voter registration campaign and need your help to join 'Rethink Politics Champions' in encouraging others affected by mental health issues to register and have a political 'voice'.



Please click [here](#) for more information





Eastern Development Centre Update

The Equalities Regional Development Programme January – March 2009

This initiative is aimed at Community and Voluntary Organisations (CVO's) that represent any of the 6 equalities strands.

It is an exciting opportunity to explore how to influence the local service commissioning process to secure services that are appropriate and responsive to their needs.

The first 3 of these 7 ground breaking sessions have already taken place — we are now opening up registration again, this will mean that all registered delegates will need to re-register. The limit for this group is 30. As further details are confirmed the information will be filtered on.

 Please click [here](#) for more information



Events

Upcoming events include:

Making the Transition: Learning to support young adults leaving care

15th January 2009


London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Moving forward through sharing and learning

29th January 2009


London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Working to Recovery Ltd

January to March 2009

Glasgow & Fife

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Commissioning Mental Health Services

5th February 2009

London

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Two day Mental Health First Aid Course

5th and 6th February 2009

Great Yarmouth

 Please click [here](#) for more information



Respiratory Management in Motor Neurone Disease (MND) – Advanced Study Day

*6th February 2009
Cambridge*

 Please click [here](#) for more information

CPS Public Policy Exchange: The Equality and Diversity Symposium

*25th February 2009
London*

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Social Care, Health and Supported Housing Conference

*18th March 2009
Newmarket*

 Please click [here](#) for more information

Please check the events section on our website to keep up to date



Useful Resources

Better Commissioning: What's New? Newsletter

 <http://networks.csip.org.uk/BetterCommissioning/BetterCommissioningLIN/WhatsNewNewsletters/>

Eastern Region Public Health Observatory: Improving access to population health data, methods and expertise

 <http://www.erpho.org.uk/>

Expert Patients Patients Programme

 <http://www.expertpatients.co.uk/public/default.aspx>

Health Intelligence East – December 2008 Newsletter

 <http://www.erpho.org.uk/Download/Public/18154/1/December%202008%20FINAL%20A4%20with%20live%20links.pdf>

Housing and Support Directory 2009

 <http://kc.csip.org.uk/viewresource.php?action=viewdocument&pid=0&doc=104190&grp=1>



MHRN East Anglia Hub Newsletter 25

 <http://www.eastern.csip.org.uk/silo/files/hub-newsletter-25.pdf>

Open Up: e-bulletin - 28th November 2008

 <http://www.open-up.org.uk/OUe-bulletin2811.html>

The Department of Health Bulletins

 <http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Bulletins/index.htm>



Please Note:

Hyperlinks:

If you find the links do not work this may be because your computer is not compatible. Click on the internet and type the web address into the address box on the internet tool bar.

Address Box





Other information about the Eastern Development Centre

We are currently running the following programmes of work (in alphabetical order):

- Children and Families (including Change for Children and the National CAMHS Support Service) – **Tracey Cogan 01206 287586**
- Health and Social Care in Criminal Justice – **Neil McIntosh 01223 597551**
- Mental Health (National Institute for Mental Health in England, NIMHE) – **Susannah Howard 01206 287592**
- Social Care – **Amanda Reynolds 07775 631510**



For access to our website click on the link: <http://www.eastern.csip.org.uk/>

This bulletin was created by the Eastern Development Centre. If you have any queries about the bulletin, or would like to be taken off the mailing list contact:

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