**Minutes of the Practitioner & Volunteer Coordinators**

**Breakfast Networking meeting Thursday 22nd August 2019**

**Attendees:** Gaby Aspinall – CBP, Chloe Dobson – Healthwatch, Natasha Morris – CGL, Jade Gregory Haselden– Lancashire Mind, Denise Hayhurst – Age UK Brian Holliday – Whitebirk 2000, Jacqueline McGrew – Whitebirk 2000, Karin Schnabel – CSRF, Chrissie Spencer – BwD Pauline Miller – Medical Detection Dogs, Sherri-Lee Boden – Age UK Becky – Step

Apologies: Tom Duxbury – Lynn Mitchell – Near Neighbours, Rob Richards – Our Lancashire, Kiran Sadiq – BwD Carers, Maggie Asquith – Together Healthier Lancashire, Jeremy Sharples

**Presentation from Gaby Aspinall – CBP**

* CBP have a number of projects – business and community
* **Business** – help starting your business, growing your business, training and events - Lancashire HR Employers’ Forums are supported by HR professionals who are at the forefront of developing and delivering best practice in their field.
* **Community Arm – Sam’s** (scrap art material store) really is an Aladdin’s cave of goodies diverted from going to landfill to the SAMS store that can be used for arts & Crafts
* Sam’s runs on a membership basis – people then come along and fill a trolley with things – fabric, plastic bits, paper cups etc
* We also have the Waste not Want not project working with fare share we help to reduce the waste of supermarkets (helping them fulfil their corporate social responsibility)
* Monday – Thursday anyone can access the service no referrals needed – individuals and organisations can access the food
* **We also have a community café** – we use the food from Fare share to make the meals at our café
* **Charities @ SAMS** we also have a charitable arm - acts as the conduit for surplus stock from businesses who want to donate to Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations. For example, we have received lots and lots of paper cups so any charity requiring or needing paper cups they are able to come and get them for free
* We have also received chocolate swiss rolls, school uniforms, lots and lots of bedding – in order to access these things, you need to be on our mailing list and we send out emails monthly what’s available and also of you have any request that we can help you with (If we can) we will – just email me
* In addition to adhoc donations throughout the year, Charities @ SAMS also coordinates two annual Appeals; **Christmas Wishes** and the **Easter Challenge. –** we collect items working in partnership with businesses, residents etc then distribute the items to charities working with individuals who need them.
* This year we are introducing a new appeal – we have been donated 200 fleece jackets – we were told we had to remove the badge on the front – one of our ladies who volunteers and sews has designed a bag, she has volunteered to do the sewing if she can keep the zips – Each bag will come with hand warmers to go under jackets, a snood to keep you warm – we are appealing for items to put in the bags then we will distribute to the homeless along with sleeping bags that have been donated.
* We are asking for certain items to put in the bags – socks, toiletries, nail clippers etc
* We are looking for volunteers – to help out putting the bags together – sewing but also, we are planning a one-off event – almost like a production line were everyone will help pack the bags etc. So, if anyone is interested please let me know
* For more info please go to <https://cbpartners.org/>

**Presentation form Karin Schnabel from the Civil Service Retirement Fellowship**

* The Civil Service Retirement Fellowship is a national charity dedicated to helping former civil servants and their dependents make the most of their retirement.
* We have groups all over the country – I have met up with Donna and Vicky Shepard from Age Uk to discuss whether starting a group in Blackburn would be beneficial – we don’t want to duplicate what is already happening here.
* Blackburn looks like a worthy area to create a new group – especially for those who are hard to reach
* The groups are not exclusive to civil servants but anyone can access them
* All the groups are different – some just meet up for a coffee morning every week, other groups organise trips to museums, trips – coffee mornings with guest speakers
* We also offer a telephone befriending service and buddy scheme
* If we start a group we will need it to be self-contained – we will need a chair, treasurer and a management board
* There is potentially money available for the group to cover travel etc
* Let me reiterate that we are not here in Blackburn to duplicate something that already exists but create something new
* Theoretically members pay an annual subscription of £16.50 – not necessary but trips wold have to be paid for as we don’t have the funds to pay for trips
* Paying membership offers benefits – It support, Theatre club, Age UK
* If anyone is interested in starting a group please contact Karin on Karin.Schnabel@csrf.org.uk
* For more info please go to <https://www.csrf.org.uk/>

**Presentation form Pauline Miller at Medical Detection Dogs**

* In essence we are a charity were dogs are trained to detect a number of health conditions
* We have the Bio Medical dogs who are trained to detect early symptoms of cancers, malaria
* We also have the medical alert assistance dogs Using their sense of smell, dogs can be trained to identify minute odour changes emitted prior to an emergency and alert the person to take preventative action.
	+ - * Our dogs are currently working for people with:
			* Type 1 diabetes
			* Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (PoTS)
			* Addisons Disease
			* Severe allergies
			* Other endocrine disorders
			* Episodes of sudden health deterioration
			* By assisting individuals with their condition, our dogs help reduce 999 calls and hospital admissions, giving people and their families/carers greater confidence and independence, enabling them to lead a full and happy life.
* Our dogs are paired up with clients
* Our dogs do not live in kennels – they are adopted
* We recruit support volunteers in a number of roles we need volunteer speakers to take our dogs along to shows, fetes, fairs etc to talk about Medical Detection Dogs – our volunteers talk about the history etc
* We need fundraisers, admin
* We also need fosterers for our biomedical detection dogs and puppies
* All our volunteers are 18 yrs. + from any background the only criteria: that they are passionate about dogs and the charity
* For more info go to <https://www.medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk/>

**Presentation form Chrissie Spencer – Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council**

* Our Community Our Future grant
* A grants fund is available for local groups and organisations that want to deliver projects to help make a stronger borough.
* Our Future grants are on offer, and groups can bid for as little or as much as they need to make their projects happen, from under £100 up to a maximum of £2,000.
* We’re looking to fund projects that get people involved with their local ward and bring communities together. We’d like to support new projects, or ones ready to expand, that will make a lasting difference whether big or small. We particularly welcome innovative bids.
* The aim of the funding is to:
	+ - * + help local organisations deliver projects that bring people together
				+ building stronger, more resilient and more inclusive communities
				+ benefit the environment, health or wellbeing
* Funding is available to apply for from 1 August to 6 September 2019, and possibly again by October 2019 (subject to funding being available within your ward).
* There is no lower limit, which means you can apply for the amount you need up to a maximum of £2000.
* The projects must be completed and delivered by 31 March 2020.
* Eligibility Funding applications will be accepted from the following:
	+ - * + Voluntary organisations
				+ Community organisations
				+ Faith sectors
				+ Schools or other education providers (must benefit the wider community)
				+ Scout/guide groups (must benefit the wider community)
				+ A combination of any of the above (however one partner will need to identify as the lead and budget holder)
* The funding can pay for the costs associated with your project and must be listed clearly within the application form.
* Some examples of your costs might be:
* Training
* Equipment and materials
* Staff costs
* Hire of premises
* Capital as well as revenue expenditure
* Applications will be assessed and evaluated by the Social Integration Team and/or members from the Our Community, Our Future Partnership Board, including the Youth Forum.

Q: will this fund be a rolling programme?

A: At the moment it is a one-off fund

Q: Could a larger charity apply for a group that they are supporting?

A: the group would have to apply and explain in their application that the charity is holding the money for them but the money will be spent by the group not the larger charity.

Q: Please could you explain what your new role at the council is?

A: Blackburn with Darwen is one of five national Integration Areas invited by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to work closely with them on innovative plans to address social integration. The borough was selected because of its strong track record for building bridges between diverse communities and its willingness to try new approaches.

* The Youth Ambassadors programme, delivered by the Strategic Youth Alliance, will equip young people with the skills they need to become leaders in their local communities and empower them to work with others to set up positive social action projects that make their neighbourhoods better places to live. A similar programme is being offered to adults through the Families Health & Wellbeing Consortium.
* Community Voices and Youth Voices events will give people across the borough an opportunity to take part in discussions that help to break down any barriers between people from diverse backgrounds. We have 12 events planned
* Community Ambassador Programme training (10-week programme)
* For more info go to

<https://blackburn.gov.uk/about-council/social-integration>

**AOB**

**Gaby – CBP**

* We are holding a table top sale on Saturday 7th September at Energy Zone, Newfield Drive Blackburn BB2 3UA – stalls cost £6 if you would like one please contact me gabrielle@cbpartners.org
* Everyone welcome – Free Entry

**Jacqui – Whitebirk 2000**

* We have finally secured a dancer for our kids 6yr-11yr old thanks to Donna putting the word out to her mailing list– Thank you
* We are making good links with the local mosque and trying to work with everyone to make our area better
* We have decided to organise a sports day in Witton Park in2020 we would like it to be for everyone in the community and hope to involve everyone.

**Jade – MIND**

* **Time to Change** – project aimed to end stigma and discrimination faced by individuals with mental health issues through a number of targeted campaigns, work with organisations, young people
* The project is run by Time to Change Champions who have lived experience of mental health some of the ways you can help by being a champion
	+ - * + Conversations
				+ Speaking up
				+ Sharing your story
				+ Forming a campaign group
				+ Organisng an activity in their community
* **World Suicide Day** -

Blackburn with Darwen Council is to host annual public vigil outside Blackburn Town Hall to mark World Suicide Prevention Day on Tuesday, September 10th 2019.

This year’s proceedings will begin with a multi-faith service at Blackburn Cathedral at 10.55am followed by a procession to the town hall where the vigil will begin from 11.30am.

If you would like to attend please follow the link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/world-suicide-prevention-day-activity-blackburn-with-darwen-tickets-68162950219>

**Chloe – Healthwatch BwD**

* We have held our first Domiciliary Care summit which went really well
* Will let you have the dates as soon as I have them

**Becky – Steps**

* We have a change to our Steps project – historically we only accepted the top 100 frequent flyers – the individuals who turn up regularly at the hospital etc
* The CCG have asked that we change our remit and broaden our referral pathway
* We are now working with individuals with:
	+ - * Physical Needs
			* Mental Needs
			* Emotional Needs
			* Social Needs
			* Long term illnesses – COPD
			* End of Life
* We can now take referrals from anyone but not the individual it has to be an agency/organisations – which is new way of working for us.
* We have a referral form (see attached)
* We can work with individuals from 3months up to 6 months
* We have a number of case navigators who offer hand holding into positive activities.
* We also have a Gold Card – which is a fast track to mental health team & Services
* We have a “Living Room” which will be relaunched in a month – will run Tuesday/Thursdays
* We also have drop ins starting soon one day per week
	+ - Offering: Free entry
		- Free refreshments
		- Outside agency drop in, discussing their service and how to access support with them
		- Free training such as Connect 5 Mental health awareness, First Aid, Alcohol awareness and more
		- Weekly arts, crafts and games
* These will be held at Accrington @ Wood nook Community Centre, Blackburn Morrisons and also at the Community Kitchen in Burnley

For more information please go to <https://penninestep.org/>

Next Networking Meeting

Thursday 26th September 2019

@ Boulevard Centre 9.00 to 11.00am