**Minutes of the Practitioner & Volunteer Coordinators**

**Breakfast Networking meeting Thursday 26th September 2019**

**Attendees:** Gaby Aspinall – CBP, Tracy Davies – CBP Kirsty Mcloughlin – Step, Dominique Wrigley – Cygnet, Zufran Zaman – DACA, Jason Walmsly – Probation, Lisa Rawcliffe – NWAA, Ken Donlon – Creative Support, Bev Marsden – CVS, Danny Barry – Inspira, Kiran Sadiq – BwD Carers, Zeba Sadhan – BwD Carers, Angel Spratt – Bootstrap, Thelma Tomlinson – Shelter, Ruth McManus – Shelter, Sherri- Lee Petty-Boden – Age UK, Nancy Kinyanjui – Arise, Salma Saleh – Humraaz, Denise Hayhurst – Age Uk, Dawn Reeves – Age Uk, Jackie Mcgrew – Whitebirk – TARA, Callum – Bootstrap, Asia – Blackburn College,

**Presentation from Kirsty Mcloughlin – Step**

* 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
* Q: Where are you based?
* A; Inspire building in Blackburn
* Q: Did you say that clients have to have a doctor? At Shelter we have lots of clients who don’t have a doctor, they don’t get their medication and it’s a never-ending problem
* A; Yes - unfortunately our criteria is that the clients are registered with a doctor.
* DT – I’m sure there is an organisation who provides this service – leave it with me and will try and find out.

*For registering with a GP: WIT service (Wellbeing & Inclusion Team) would be able to support with this. They work out of the Inspire building & can help support, best person to contact would with be Gem Smith Gem.Smith@cgl.org.uk who I believe is the manager, or Susan Bellusci Susan.Bellusci@cgl.org.uk who is one of the workers.*

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

**Presentation Tracy Davies – CBP**

* Community Café has been open a year on the 7th October
* We have been having a look at the running of the café and are looking at changing the dynamics – we have in the past cooked the meals with the food that has been donated and the menu was different everyday
* We have now a set standard menu (see attached)
* We will be serving food 12:00- 1:00pm but will be open from 11:00am – 2:00pm Monday – Thursday
* On Friday we will be serving a breakfast 8.30am – 10.30am
* Prices from £1.50 for a meal – not expensive
* We will launch the new menu on 7th October – we are launching loyalty cards – pay for 5 meals – get one free
* We also have loyalty cards for the coffee
* On the launch day the first 20 customers will receive a raffle ticket and the winner will receive a food hamper
* We need to possibly look at holding an agency day
* Donna would you be interested in possibly holding a network meeting here one month?
* A: We will see

**Presentation Gaby Aspinall – CBP**

* **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
* **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
* Launching the Christmas Wishes Appeal – items are donated and then distributed amongst those that need it, if you would like your clients to receive a gift – please let me know
* Q: what items are you looking for?
* A; Chocolate, gift sets, toys – gifts for teenagers, mums & Dads anything really – as long as its new
* Q: how are you doing for donations – maybe DACA could make it one of their Switch It projects – if every child bought a chocolate for £1 – that would be around 1000 donations – Maybe Zufran can suggest this to the students?
* For more info go to <https://cbpartners.org/>

**Presentation from Ruth McManus – Shelter**

* We are running a new project – working with probation supporting ex-offenders
* Helping with:
* Finance
* Debt
* Benefits
* Mentoring
* We are always looking for volunteers we have a number of roles for our volunteers across Lancashire
* Social media
* Student placements working in custody and the community
* Many students who are studying criminology would benefit from volunteering with us.

For more info please go to: <https://england.shelter.org.uk/get_help/local_services/blackburn>

**Presentation from Danny Barry – Inspira**

* I have worked 20 years in the third sector – I worked for the Groundwork Trust
* We partner with and work on behalf of many organisations across the North West to manage and deliver comprehensive programmes which produce results.
* Our programmes prepare young people for life after school and connect educational institutions with business to drive careers guidance from those in the know.
* We help to solve local skills shortages, invest in the young people of our future or help reduce unemployment numbers in targeted areas
* Previously the responsibility of careers fell on the shoulders of the local authority now under the conservative government the statutory responsibility falls on the schools to provide adequate career advice to all school children.
* The picture nationally looks very patchy
* In 2013 Sir John Holman was commissioned to research what pragmatic actions could improve career guidance in England and subsequently he developed the Good Career Guidance Benchmarks.
* What does good career advise look like? – there are 8 pillars of good practice
* 1. A stable careers programme
* 2. Learning from career and labour market information
* 3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
* 4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
* 5. Encounters with employers and employees
* 6. Experiences of workplaces
* 7. Encounters with further and higher education
* 8. Personal guidance
* Lots of FE and He students are leaving school with the right qualifications but they don’t possess the right skills
* Model we have now adapted is businesses and education working together to ensure that when students are leaving school they not only have the good exam results but they have the skills that will secure them employment
* We have 135 schools and 200 enterprise advisors signed up to our network
* The third sector is under represented and we would like to educate the students that third sector/ charity jobs are not just working in a charity shop or shaking collection tubs
* We work on the pillars 5 and 6 – meaningful encounters with employers – not just like the traditional work placement – you went to the business spent half the week wondering what to do and then on your last day you finally had got your head around the experience to but it was too late.
* We look at what is meaningful for the student – students who are not academic may shine in apprenticeships – but the businesses are struggling to fill them – lack of knowledge of what is available and also the idea that it has to be college – then uni then job – it could be start an apprenticeship at 16 then study and gain both the qualifications and skills at the same time
* We also work with Students with SEND – there is something for everyone and we look to ensure meaningful experiences for everyone.
* There are some challenges – schools however are taking note especially when it it comes around to inspections
* We also have the ‘Give an Hour’ campaign
* Business people in Lancashire SMEs are being asked to ‘Give an Hour’ to help young people make career decisions and succeed in working life.
* Launched by The Careers and Enterprise Company (C&EC) in conjunction with the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) the campaign aims to increase the number of businesses engaging with schools and colleges across the county.
* Activities can include attending careers fairs, giving talks in assemblies or lesson time, hosting workplace exploration visits or talking one to one with an individual who has expressed an interest in a particularly relevant sector or industry.
* We are doing well in Lancashire and we have been placed 5th in the country
* Q; Thelma – Shelter – I have never thought of approaching schools – what age are the students that would be looking for volunteering?
* A: 15 yrs. +
* Lisa – NWAA – we have been working with Altrincham Grammar – that’s where the future of volunteers lies with students.
* Yes, many students have their Duke of Edinburgh Awards and volunteering is part and parcel of the awards
* We need to get the students involved with the third sector – its been great coming along today and I’m sure we can do some good work together

For more information go to <https://www.inspira.org.uk/>

***AOB***

**Jackie McGrew from Whitebirk TARA**

* I would like to thank Donna for helping us find our dance teacher – the classes will be starting this week
* As I mentioned last month we are organising a Sports Day for all the local children to get involved with on 16th May 2020
* The event will be held at Witton Park and the charity that we are collecting for on the day will be Help Our Hero’s
* We are working with the Mayor Jim Shorrock, the fire brigade, together housing and Forbes Solicitors
* I will keep you posted

DT by all means Jackie if you would like our help – sourcing something or if you need stall holders etc. just let me know and I will send it out to everyone.

**Salma Saleh from Humraaz**

* We have education providers who come in and teach our ladies lots of different skills
* We are offering some of these classes to a wider audience and would like to invite more ladies to come and join us in our self esteem and confidence building classes
* See poster attached
* For more info please go to <http://www.humraaz.co.uk/>

**Kiran Sadiq – BwD Carers**

* We have our new volunteer Academy starting soon (see attached)
* Accredited training offer over 6 weeks. An opportunity for volunteers to access taster sessions in the many diverse areas of work within the Carers Service
* We have a new LGBT group that has recently been set up they meet once a month

**Donna Talbot – Community Wall – The Mall**

* Not sure if you are all aware that CVs has a new community wall in the Mall
* The wall is there for everyone to advertise their events, volunteering roles, training etc.
* The official launch will be on Friday 4th October at 1pm – the Mayor of Blackburn with Darwen Cllr Jim Shorrock and Kate Hollern MP will be cutting the ribbon – everyone is invited
* We are looking at a weekly theme that ties in with National & international days so services relevant to the theme will be able to advertise on the notice boards – we haven’t put the list together as of yet – we think this way will ensure that everyone gets a turn
* By having a theme, we can ensure that the residents of the borough will find out all about the wonderful services relevant to them available in Blackburn with Darwen
* I will email more info after the launch

Next Networking Meeting

Thursday 24th October 2019

@ Boulevard Centre 9.00 to 11.00am