**Meeting: VCFSE Forum**

**Date: 21st April 2021**

**Time: 10-12pm**

**In attendance:** **Angela Allen, Alysia Moorhouse, Charlotte Riley, Wahida Pervaiz, Diane Price, Amanda Meachin, Tom MacPherson, Daisy Dumsday, James Lannon, Michelle Rutherford, Suzanne Wilson, Emma Coster, Paul Scofield, Janet Harrison, Dilwari Ali, Andrew Orr**

**Apologies: Sharon Lucas, Michael Wedgeworth, Tim Birch, Pat Naylor, Simone Taylor, Jan Larkin**

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| **Item** | **Comment** | **Action** |
| **1.** | **Welcome & apologies:**Angela Allen welcomed attendees |  |
| **2.** | **Social Prescribing in BwD - Emma Coster and Michelle Rutherford BwD BC*** Emma Coster, Neighbourhood manager for BwD Council, covering Darwen rural and west Blackburn. Managing community connectors and social prescribers.
* Welcomed James Lennon- newly recruited Social Prescriber.
* Presentation to be circulated with minutes.
* Opportunity to attend alliance meetings to extend the local offer of support.

Q.AA- Do you support young people?EC- support mainly for over 18’s, although can support whole families if required. Can also refer to Transforming Lives if needed. AM- Can we have a list of referral contacts for east area? Also, would you take a referral from us if we thought a family needed support or do, they have to self-refer?EC- yes we can give the list of names, yes we could take a referral but you will need consent from them for us to be able to contact them. EC to send AM list of referral contacts  | **CR****CR****EC** |
|  | **The Making Rooms, an intro - Tom MacPherson*** Presentation to be circulated with minutes.
* If you are interested in getting involved in any of The Making Rooms Projects (see presentation) or can offer any advice or referrals, please contact Tom for more information- contact details within presentation.

Q.AM- Entrepreneurs, do they have access to networks? TM- yes, currently working with Boost. Any more network suggestions welcome.AA- Do you have to make an appointment to come along to the workshops now with COVID rules?TM- yes, get in touch via email if you wish to come down. Saturday sessions currently on hold at the moment but hoping to restart in the near future.  | **CR** |
| **4.** | 5 Ways To Well Being – Frances Riley BwD PH* Unfortunately, Frances couldn’t make the meeting- will be rearranged for future
* Tim Birch to be added to next meeting agenda
 | **CR** |
| **5.** | **Round the table updates*** **DD- The Light lounge**
* a crisis/intervention/prevention and sign posting service based in Blackpool
* work with people who are in crisis or on their way into crisis
* have an open referral pathway and also accept self-referrals
* AA to email DD to link in and look at SN membership
* **AM-CBP**
* Based at The Energy Zone
* Number of projects including Waste not want not- free and subsidised food, has been continuingly operating throughout lockdown
* Have been providing free food to families as well as the free school meal boxes throughout lockdown through the Covid winter grant scheme
* SAMS scrap store, appointment based shopping system, booking only through Facebook page or online.
* Endorsing body for overseas investors for the home office
* Also have a Start-Up programme that overseas companies that want to come to this county to start up, are the endorsing body for this and offer 3-5 years support
* Room to let if anyone is interest, please contact
* **DP- Indigo**
* Work with children and families, children and YP of 0-25 years who have SEN, often who have autism and learning disabilities
* Haven’t been open throughout lockdown, but hoping to resume activities towards then end of June 2021
* DP is chairperson for the BwD Autism Board
* Indigo are currently a partner of the Community Champions Covid and will be looking at the client group of LD and Autism
* **WP- Spring North**
* Working on two projects, including Genetics Programme, which involves zoom sessions with sixth forms and colleges raising awareness about genetic conditions prevalent in the area, some of which can be prevented through screening
* Hoping to go into schools within the near future
* Also work with Blackburn Rovers on the Community Ambassadors Programme, this programme was very successful last year
* Consists of a twelve week programme which welcomes people from different backgrounds/cultures and education, age ranging from 18-80 to encourage community cohesion, to help them build their confidence, negotiating skills, project planning and helping them to access funding.
* Focusing on developing their own social action projects
* Looking to recruit new cohorts, three cohorts, first to start in June
* If anyone could refer clients to the programme, please get in contact with WP or Blackburn Rovers
* **PS- Hose It**
* External cleaning provider within BwD
* Set up CIC alongside business 3 years ago called Hose It Projects
* Taking interviews for first Kick Strat Programme, looking for revenue streams and funding
* Flyer for circulation with the minutes CR to circulate
* Have secured funding to clean King William Street
* Can also provide Covid fogging
* Looking for more opportunities within the third party sector
* Work experience available for young people, opportunity to come away with training qualifications. Currently working with Night safe
* Please refer any YP you wish to get involved
* J**L- BwD Social Prescribing**
* JL gave brief introduction to self as a newly recruited team member of the SP team
* **JH- BwD PIP**
* Co- chair of BwD Children and Young Peoples Parent & Carer Forum
* Working steadily online throughout Covid
* Have been engaging parents to upskill knowledge on how to use Zoom on phones, laptops etc via YouTube lessons
* Bi-weekly zoom quiz on a Monday for families at home through lockdown, as well as that a bi-weekly Thursday morning they hold a coffee morning for parents to chat and listen to advice from speakers.
* Excited about future work around health and key working initiative
* **DA- BwD Healthy Living**
* All projects back up and running
* Just completed Loan sharks initiative programme held in Shadsworth- the findings of which will be sent to public health
* Also completed a citizens jury BAME service, which statistics came back outlining a lot of BAME young offenders that are reoffending, so looking at how this could be integrated better and work better with other services within the borough
* Food provision continues with the Fair Share Scheme
* Running a new programme in the Wendsley Fold area looking at assets in the borough and what’s available for adults within communitive centres
* Youth Ambassadors programme which has just been funded through the integration services looking at social action making sure young people within the borough know their place.
* **AW – BwD libraries**
* Grant given from reading agency for stock and IT equipment.
* Starting new programme called ‘Reading Friends’ targeting people who are socially isolated.
* Hoping to talk to social prescribers to help build numbers for programme.
* All libraries reopened on reduced hours and with limited services abiding by COVID rules and regs.
 | **CR****CR** |
| **6.** | **AOB**None |  |
|  | **Date of next meeting:** **TBC** |  |