

**Children &
Young People Now**
Conferences

A one-day conference

25th September 2019

Cavendish Conference Centre,

22 Duchess Mews, London, W1G 9DT

Early Help: Opportunities, Evidence and Impact



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Early Help: Opportunities, Evidence and Impact

What is the key to providing effective early help and support to children, young people and families in 2019 and beyond?

Join experts and leading practitioners from across the sector and gain practical insights to help you commission and provide services that have a genuine impact for children, young people and families.

The conference will feature keynote talks, case studies and practice seminars providing key insights on:

- Delivering a coherent, effective early help offer amid rising social need and reduced budgets
- Overcoming the challenges in making an evidence-based case for investment in early help
- Using the principles of the Troubled Families programme to transform relationships between families and practitioners
- Tackling serious youth violence and gang involvement through a trauma-informed approach
- Alleviating and preventing youth homelessness through mediation, empowering practitioners and young people in the process
- The role of partner agencies in delivering early help, including public health and the police
- Delivering early intervention and trauma-informed practice in a school setting
- Addressing parental substance misuse through problem-solving mediation
- Supporting parents to address children's speech and language needs
- Understanding relational activism in early help – thinking differently about who helps and what helps

The conference is designed for:

- Managers, directors and practitioners across children and young people's services
- Commissioners of services
- Early help teams
- Charity chief executives and directors
- Policy makers and officers
- Early support co-ordinators
- Troubled families teams
- Public health professionals
- Health and wellbeing boards
- Children's centre managers
- Health visitors
- CAMHS professionals
- Quality and performance managers
- Heads of strategy

08.45 Arrival, refreshments and exhibitor viewing

09.20 Welcome and introduction

CHAIR Christine Davies CBE, Trustee, Early Intervention Foundation

09.30 **OPENING KEYNOTE: Making the case for early help: examining the real impact on children's outcomes**

- The present-day challenges for local authorities and partner agencies in delivering a coherent, effective early help offer amid rising social need and reduced budgets
- Refocusing attention and resources towards early help to ensure statutory prevention duties are met, and avoiding children's social care becoming a 'blue light' service

SPEAKER Rachel Dickinson, President, Association of Directors of Children's Services

10.00 **Unlocking innovation in children's services**

- How the principles of the Troubled Families programme can be used to transform relationships between families and practitioners in our neighbourhoods through integrated place-based teams
- The latest research on redefining the role of children's services with a council and within a community; and practical examples of great practice from across the UK

SPEAKER Donna Hall CBE, Chair, New Local Government Network; former CEO, Wigan Council

10.30 **Giving every child the best start in life: the role of public health**

SPEAKER Penny Greenwood, Associate Lead Nurse Children, Young People and Families and WHO CC Nurse Advisor, Public Health England

11.00 **Questions**

11.10 Refreshments and exhibitor viewing

11.30 **CASE STUDY: Tackling serious youth violence and gang involvement**

St Giles Trust and Islington Integrated Gang Team are working in partnership to develop early help practices which are delivering intensive help to young people exposed to or at risk of violence, vulnerability and exploitation. Using a trauma-informed approach, they are working holistically to support young people with issues around housing, health, employment and education, and challenging offending behaviour.

SPEAKERS Junior Smart, Founder, SOS Project, St Giles Trust; and Catherine Briody, Head of Youth and Community, Islington Integrated Gangs Unit

12.10 **PRACTICE SEMINAR 1 (choose 1A, 1B or 1C)**

1A Public health approach to early intervention in crime and justice

- How Policing, Criminal Justice and Public Health in Wales are responding to Adverse Childhood Experiences through the introduction of trauma-informed practice to both community and secure settings
- How the Welsh partnership approach is rolling out trauma-informed practice across the crime and justice systems; what is the evidence base; and how to apply similar thinking to other kinds of settings

SPEAKERS Dusty Kennedy, National Partnership Lead and Detective Superintendent, and Jo Ramessur-Williams, National Police Lead, Early Action Together partnership between Public Health, Policing and Criminal Justice in Wales

1B Relationships for learning: a case study in developing trauma-informed practice

One in three children in the UK experiences trauma across the course of childhood, so trauma-informed practice for those working with children and young people is vitally important. At the heart of trauma-informed practice are connected relationships. Drawing on discoveries from neuroscience, this session will share knowledge about attachment, trauma and resilience to provide a basis for practitioners and services to develop trauma-informed practice.

SPEAKER Sally Poskett, Director, Kate Cairns Associates



1C Relational activism in early help – thinking differently about who helps and what helps

How local areas are re-orientating the idea of helping early, where helping is a shared endeavour and a collaborative, interdependent effort, and where daily practices and relationships in all aspects of life are the locus for social change. The session will consider Camden’s experience of re-imagining ‘who helps’, co-facilitated by parents with lived experience of giving and receiving help.

SPEAKERS **Becca Dove**, Head of Family Support and Complex Families, London Borough of Camden and **Tim Fisher**, Family Group Conference Manager, London Borough of Camden. Becca and Tim will be joined by two parents with lived experience.

13.10 Lunch and exhibitor viewing

14.00 PRACTICE SEMINAR 2 (choose 2A, 2B or 2C)

2A Changing the Conversation about Language

The Changing the Conversation about Language project helps parents, regardless of background, give their children the best possible start in speech and language. It is led by I CAN in partnership with EasyPeasy and the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists. This session will cover the rationale behind the project, what it set out to achieve, and what was learned along the way.

SPEAKERS **Anne-Marie Cray** and **Susan Richards**, Speech and Language Therapist, I CAN; and **Jane Bradbury**, Head of Education, EasyPeasy

2B Coventry Family Drug and Alcohol Court: preventing recurrent care proceedings

FDAC is a problem-solving court and a model of trauma-informed intervention that can help parents regardless of the outcome of court proceedings to continue working towards abstinence and good enough parenting. The model does not just address the substance misuse but the holistic needs of the individual and underlying traumas, helping them work towards stability, change and recovery, and seeing the world through the child’s eyes.

SPEAKERS **Jane Marie Dunne**, FDAC Team manager, and Dr Jenny Whyatt- Sames, FDAC Clinical lead, and **Tom Borrow**, FDAC Senior Practitioner, Coventry City Council – Coventry Family Drug and Alcohol Court

2C Trusted Spaces: using relationship models to tackle social exclusion

- Trusted Spaces is a Home Office pilot run by St Christopher’s Fellowship to tackle serious youth violence in West London. The co-produced project provides 24/7 support, mentoring and advocacy to young people who are at risk of school exclusion, gang involvement, exploitation and county lines, and allows them to build positive relationships with adults in their own community.
- How having one trusted adult they can speak to is helping them to move away from dangerous situations.

SPEAKERS **Ione Fraser**, Manager, Trusted Spaces Project, St Christopher’s Fellowship and **Christina Evers**, Contextual Safeguarding Coordinator, London Borough of Ealing

15.00 Refreshments and exhibitor viewing

15.20 CASE STUDY: Alleviating youth homelessness

The Bridge (East Midlands) provides mediation for young people and their families to overcome issues, as well as supporting young people to return home or find suitable alternative accommodation. It operates a strength-based approach, encouraging young people to make positive informed decisions.

SPEAKERS **Paul Snape**, Head of Business Development, and **Leanne Fletcher**, Advice Services Team Manager, The Bridge (East Midlands)

15.50 CLOSING KEYNOTE: The importance of evidence to realise the full potential of early intervention

- An overview of the latest ‘what works’ evidence in the early help sector
- Overcoming the challenges in making an evidence-based case for investment in early help

SPEAKER **Donna Molloy**, Director of Policy & Practice, Early Intervention Foundation

16.20 Questions

Promotional opportunities

Exhibiting at the Early Help conference provides an excellent opportunity to engage with key decision makers in services for children, young people and families

To discuss how your organisation can be involved, contact George Hogg on 020 7501 6699 or george.hogg@markallengroup.com

Speaker confirmation and changes

Any speaker updates and further details are on the website www.earlyhelpconference.com

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