

# ADASS CARERS E-BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2013 INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

## 1. CONTINUING CONVERSATIONS

There are a number of initiatives at national level that link to earlier *Caring Conversations* topics. One is *Carers and Employment*. The other is *Carers and Dementia*. Both remain available in PDF format to support local discussions. There are also new materials on these subjects within this E-Bulletin. Copies of all ADASS Carers Network materials are available from the ADASS web site:

[http://www.adass.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=504&Itemid=386](http://www.adass.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=504&Itemid=386)

Do paste into your favourites for future use and reference.

## 2. INFORMATION SHARING/UPDATES

### Carers Assessments - Workforce Development

**Diane Buddery of Skills for Care** has sent a summary paper which was discussed at a further workshop on 23 September. It is attached in PDF format. For further information contact: [carersstrategy@skillsforcare.org.uk](mailto:carersstrategy@skillsforcare.org.uk)

### Caring Matters – Carers Trust Update for Carers Leads

**Kirsty Slack, Policy and Campaigns Officer for the Carers Trust** has shared their latest bulletin for August 2013. It is attached as a PDF and covers a wide range of issues likely to be of interest to network members. It can be circulated freely. For more information please contact: [kslack@carers.org](mailto:kslack@carers.org)

### Carers and Personalisation

**Rachel Mcallister, Information Officer, SPRU, York** [[rachel.mcallister@york.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.mcallister@york.ac.uk)] has shared a summary of their recently published research. She says one of the most important things this research found was that service users, carers and local authority staff all value the involvement of carers, particularly when the service user has a cognitive or communication impairment. Carers were offered separate assessments, but these were often not taken up. This meant that carers own needs, particularly for employment and activities outside the caring role were not necessarily taken into account when planning service user support. The press release and more information can be found on: <http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/news/cp.html>

### Statement: health and social care Integration Transformation Fund

John Bangs, Surrey CC suggested we circulate this and Elaine Edgar, Department of Health has supplied the link. A copy may be found on:

[http://www.local.gov.uk/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=b20e023f-fabb-4f46-b881-31bbe92e74a4&groupId=10180](http://www.local.gov.uk/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=b20e023f-fabb-4f46-b881-31bbe92e74a4&groupId=10180)

### The Carers' Collection

**Luke Addams, Royal Borough of Greenwich**, has shared a copy of *The Carers Collection*, a resource of materials about the experiences of people caring for family or friends with a disability or long term illness. It is being promoted in Greenwich libraries. A PDF is attached.

### **Carers Outcome Star**

**Kirsty Slack, Carers Trust**, has supplied a briefing note by Fergus Arkley, Development Manager Carers Trust, on his Carers Outcome Star work. Fergus will be joining us at the November Policy Network to discuss further. The summary is attached in PDF format. For more information/discussion contact: [farkley@carers.org](mailto:farkley@carers.org)

### **Building Dementia Friendly Communities**

**The Alzheimer's Disease Society** has published this paper. The link for the full report and the executive summary appears below:

[http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/site/scripts/download\\_info.php?downloadID=1236](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?downloadID=1236)

### **Supporting Carers of People with Dementia**

**Sharon Knowles, Policy and Research Administrator, Carers Trust**, has supplied a copy of a recent report **A Road Less Rocky**. This is about support available to carers of people with dementia. The executive summary and full report can be found on:

[http://www.carers.org/sites/default/files/dementia\\_report\\_road\\_less\\_rocky\\_final\\_low.pdf](http://www.carers.org/sites/default/files/dementia_report_road_less_rocky_final_low.pdf)

For further information please contact: [sknowles@carers.org](mailto:sknowles@carers.org)

### **Young Carers on Personalised Care and Support**

**Bernadette Simpson, Collaborative Solutions** has supplied information on the ***Making it Real for Carers*** launch earlier this month. The Think Local Act Personal [TLAP] partnership, in conjunction with Action for Carers Surrey, Carers Trust and The Children's Society, has recently launched ***Making it Real for Young Carers***. This resource has been coproduced with a group of young carers from Surrey Young Carers Forum. Using their own words and through illustrations, the young carers explored the six ***Making it Real*** themes of what good, personalised care and support looks like from their perspective and explain what is most important to them.

***Making it Real for Young Carers*** is available to download from:

<http://www.thinklocalactpersonal.org.uk/News/PersonalisationNewsItem/?cid=9630>

### **Carers and Technology**

**Chloe Wright** has shared information on a **Carers UK** report on technology and its potential to support carers. It was launched on the 10<sup>th</sup> September. More information and a link to the report is available at:

<http://www.carersuk.org/newsroom/item/3271-%E2%80%98switched-on%E2%80%99-generation-switched-off-to-life-changing-care-technology>

### **Supporting Working Carers**

The research report from a joint piece of work between HM Government, Carers UK and employers on how carers can be supported in employment was published in August. More information and a link to the report is available below:

<http://www.carersuk.org/newsroom/item/3264-support-working-carers-to-help-business-and-boost-the-economy>

### 3. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION/PRACTICAL EXAMPLES

#### Local Reviews of Carers Services:

Moira Fraser, Carers Trust, has asked whether network members would be prepared to share information on their local reviews with Liz Victor who is a PhD student at Nottingham. She is researching the effectiveness of carers support services and her work was originally funded by the Princess Royal Trust for Carers. The request from Liz is attached as a PDF.

Please send information/ Contact: Email: [lgxejv@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:lgxejv@nottingham.ac.uk)

#### Local Enhanced Services for Carers

Carers Trust is currently looking for examples of local enhanced services for carers, even if they are not currently being commissioned or are still 'work in progress'. If you can help, please email Julia Ellis, Project Manager for Primary Care at Carers Trust at: [jellis@carers.org](mailto:jellis@carers.org)

### 4. POLICY NETWORK MEETINGS

The next meeting will be at Carers UK on **Monday 18 November 2013** with the usual start and finish times. The draft agenda has been circulated and the final agenda [subject to events and developments] is attached. It is in PDF format.

The afternoon will consist of a workshop session on **Carers and Stroke**. This will include a DVD and a presentation. We will be joined by Patrick Olszowski and Nikki Hill of the Stroke Association our partners on this carers network project.

### 5. EVENTS OF INTEREST

Helen Leadbitter, Deputy Programme Manager for the Include Programme has supplied details of two events. They are:

#### Making a Step Change for Young Carers and their Families

**Carers Trust and The Children's Society Include Programme** are co-delivering a two year project which aims to identify, champion and embed best practice in supporting families with young carers. Funded by the Department for Education, this partnership is delivering a holistic project which evaluates and promotes positive practice and effective pathways through direct delivery; and builds capacity and awareness with key stakeholders and decision makers across England to embed learning in policies and guidance based on the Memorandum of Understanding 2012 and 2010 Carers Strategy.

We are running **free** events nationally for all practitioners working with children and young people and their families, with a focus on issues faced by children who are carers for parents or siblings suffering from chronic illness or disability. Delegates will have the opportunity to explore solutions for 'whole family working', partnership working with other agencies and reaching hidden groups.

We anticipate a large mix of professionals to come together from all sectors including Children's and Adult's services, Health, Education and the Voluntary Sector.

Dates and Locations:

Manchester Kings House M1 7HB: **November 11<sup>th</sup> 2013**

Newcastle Castle Gate NE1 2JQ: **November 13<sup>th</sup> 2013**

Plymouth Holiday Inn PL1 2HJ **January 28<sup>th</sup> 2014**

Brighton Racecourse BN2 9XJ **February 4<sup>th</sup> 2014**

For more information please contact Development Worker Lloyd Meredith-Chapman on 01962 711511, visit <http://www.youngcarer.com/events-and-training> or to make a booking email [conferences.include@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:conferences.include@childrenssociety.org.uk)

### **Opportunities for Young Carers to become Young Carer Champions Nationally**

Young Carers in Focus (YCiF) is an exciting opportunity for young carers to feel empowered and supported to have a say about their lives and facilitate change at a Local and National level. YCiF is a 4 year England wide programme funded by The Big Lottery Fund that will be delivered by The Children's Society, in partnership with: DigitalME, YMCA Fairthorne Manor, Rethink Mental Illness, and The Fatherhood Institute.

The programme is led and informed by young carers themselves. The key aim is to ensure that participating young carers will have improved resilience, confidence, skills and knowledge, improving their wellbeing and quality of life particularly during key educational transition points to independence. Over the course of the programme, the YCiF team will work directly with over 200 Young Carer Champions across England to deliver this aim, as well as reaching out to all young carers across the country through Makewaves ([www.makewav.es/joinycif](http://www.makewav.es/joinycif)), a safe social networking site. We already have over 40 champions from year one and are looking to recruit a further 80 this project year!

Champions will be supported to raise public awareness and promote positive attitudes towards young carers, family illness and disability and to influence local and national systems to deliver support through standardised identification, whole family assessment and services to reduce the number of families relying on children to provide inappropriate levels of care.

Champions start by attending an initial Champions Training Conference:

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November- Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November at PGL, Liddington, Swindon** for all Southern based projects; or

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November-Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November at Hollowford Centre, Hope, Sheffield** for all Northern based projects

Please note that **all accommodation, food, and travel are paid for by us**, and this is a training event not an activity-based residential.

The Conference will include workshops and sessions to enable the Champions to not only build self-esteem and confidence but will equip them with skills around media, leadership, relaxation, and interviewing. We ask that a minimum of one project worker attend with their champions to support them and workshops will be provided for project workers over the 2 days.

If you have any young people aged 10-25 who you believe would benefit from becoming a young carers champion, and someone who is passionate about getting their voice heard then please let me know! We offer places for 2-3 champions per project as we require a geographical spread across England.

If you would like any more info, please do not hesitate to contact [luella.moody@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:luella.moody@childrenssociety.org.uk)

## Carers Rights Day – 29 November 2013

**Chloe Wright of Carers UK** advises that **Carers Rights Day** is taking place on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November and registration is open for organisations wishing to take part. **Carers Rights Day** aims to:

- Increase the take up of benefits – it's estimated that millions of carers' benefits aren't claimed each year.
- Make sure carers know their rights – every year, more than 2 million people become carers, many don't identify themselves as carers and miss out on support. Even those who have been caring for years sometimes aren't aware of their entitlements.
- Guide carers towards practical support - it's not just about benefits. Carers often do not realise practical support is available, like replacement care to give the carer time off, help with lifting and bathing, equipment and home adaptations that can be vital in protecting carers' health.
- Raise awareness of the needs of carers - Carers Rights Day raises awareness of the needs of carers with the public, decision makers and professionals.

For more information and to register go to:

<http://web.carersuk.org/get-involved/carers-rights-day>

## 6. LEGISLATION BEFORE PARLIAMENT

Two workshops were organised by The Department of Health in September. They were attended by a number of network members. The focus was on Assessment. The Care Bill will be an agenda item for the next full meeting of the Policy Network.

Important amendments have been proposed by the Coalition Government relating to assessment of Young Carers within the provisions of the Children and Families Bill. A copy of the proposed draft amendments is attached in PDF format. This is attached. The amendment is subject to Parliamentary consideration and along with other aspects of the these Bills may be subject to change. We will get a briefing and an opportunity to discuss at the November meeting.

**Carers UK** has produced a briefing note on the position of **Parent Carers** and this is attached.

## AND FINALLY...

**NEED MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ADASS CARERS E- BULLETIN  
OR YOU'VE ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES WITH LINKS?**

**Contact\*:** [michaelhake@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:michaelhake@warwickshire.gov.uk)

\*Usually available most Friday mornings