Family Support Hub

• Strategic Context
• What is a Family Support Hub?
• Purpose of Hubs
• Hub Host Agencies
• How to make a referral to a Hub
• Supporting families
Strategic Context to Development of Family Support Hubs

- Focus on early intervention
- Focus on Family Support
- Intervening early and as soon as possible to tackle problems emerging for children, young people and their families... early intervention may occur at any point in a child or young person’s life’ (C4EO, 2010)
What is a Family Support Hub?

Hub Membership includes:

- SHSCT Gateway Service, CAMHS,
- Young Peoples Partnership
- Health Visiting, NIACRO Caps Project,
- Women's Aid, Education Welfare Service,
- Homestart, Surestart,
- South Down Family Health Initiative
What is the Purpose of a Family Support hub?

- To help Families access the support services they need
- To know what services are in our community and know how to access them
Objectives of the Hub

• To identify and help families to access appropriate family support services at the earliest point;

• To coordinate existing early intervention family support services across the statutory, community and voluntary sector;

• To support stronger collaboration between key agencies who provide family support services;

• To improve awareness and increase knowledge about family support services in the local community;

• To identify and address unmet need with partner agencies
Hub Host Agencies

- Three family support hubs were established in the Southern Area in April 2012

- Three interim host agencies from community and voluntary sector
  - Armagh Hub – Barnardos (Young People’s Partnership)
  - Portadown Hub – NIACRO (CAPS)
  - Newry Hub – (South Down Family Health Initiative)

- The hub host agency facilitate a hub meeting once per month in each locality
How to make a referral

- Referrals can be made by completing the family support hub referral form and forwarding this to familysupporthubs@southerntrust.hscni.net
- All referrals should have signed consent;
- Referrals are presented to a hub meeting which takes place once per month in each locality;
- Information treated confidentially;
- Following multi-disciplinary discussion, appropriate support services for the family are identified;
- Family and referrer informed of supports to be offered.
Some needs of families referred to Hubs

Presenting Issues

- Family Breakdown
- Parenting Difficulties
- Emotional & Behavioural Difficulties
- Isolation
- Mental Health
- Unemployment and Debt
- Domestic Violence.

Referral by Age of Children

Approx 30 families referred per month

- 0-4 yrs 24%;
- 5-11 yrs 36%;
- 12-15 yrs 22%;
- 16-17 yrs 20%;
Case Study

- Mum presented to GP – 13 Year old daughter behavioural difficulties. Mum finding it difficult to cope.

- Moved to new area due to marital breakdown and stigma of older siblings criminal record.

- GP referred to Gateway – no child protection concerns so redirected to Hub.

- Hub recommended – Caps Support 12 year old, YPP for 13 year old, CAMHS assessment for both children.
Support provided & Outcomes..

- 1-1 weekly support for 12 & 13 year olds
- Parenting support for mum
- Housing Advice – Damp, Wanted to move area, unhappy in home.
- Budgeting / Debt Advice – SVP & Buttle Trust referral
- Education Support for children – Linked in with EWO & Behaviour Support Team
- Mum – referral to CPN through GP
- Positive engagement with Services – previously reluctant
- Increased confidence/emotional well-being for mum & girls
- Financially budgeting better
- Increased school attendance
- Behaviour at home settled
- Children better linked to community supports
- Support to continue for another 3-6 months
It takes a whole village to rear a child
Keeping families centre stage!
Developing confidence and self-esteem

Collective responsibility - empowering families
Knowledge of services available
Best use of resources, purpose of our work

Family based, non-stigmatising service
Holistic response - one support leads to another
Thanks for listening... Any Questions?