THINK FAMILY   *Updated 02.02.15*

HIGH LEVEL OUTCOME – LIVING IN SAFETY AND WITH STABILITY

OUTCOME OF THIS PLAN-

We will improve the process for involving children, young people and families in the planning arrangements where a family member has a mental health issue, to ensure that satisfactory supports are available to meet their needs.

How are things now for this group of children/young people & family members?

Family and Staff Experience surveys, communication and information sharing between families and professionals still remain a concern for respondents as well as staff.

There was an identified need to balance professional commitment to patient confidentiality and the wider needs and impact of mental health on the family.

Children indicated that not being informed or included in the planning process caused anxiety, fear and feelings of isolation.

Conversely, results from the survey indicated that where the needs of the ill parent and children/family members were considered jointly by staff involved it lead to better recovery and more positive outcomes for children and parents[1]

[1] Sample- 98 family experiences and 280 staff surveys. *Mental Health Children's Services (Think Child Think Parent Think Family) Project Progress Report pg 5*

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What do we plan to do about it to improve the situation	How will we do this	Who will take the lead	When will it be done by	How will we know if we have been successful? Data Sources/indicators
We will improve communication and information sharing between professionals and families	• Continue reprint of leaflets as appropriate	Mary Donaghy	5th reprint of 60,000 in progress- 125,000 in total. On-going	
	• Review 2016 and consider web based alternative through discussion with young people.	Participation Network		

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	• HSCB will shape strategic direction to influence Think Family Approach within established forums at DHSSPS level	Mary Donaghy HSCB .CO3 Health Special Interest Group &NICVA	On-going	
	• Each Trust (Adults and Children's Services Interface Groups) to continue to progress their action plans based on SCIE. Trusts should not report on a regular basis in future but agree their own internal reporting on any outstanding or on-going actions.	Adult /Children's Interface Chairs	On-going. Consider using people with lived experience on interface groups/	

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	• Interface Groups to update on progress to Regional Think Family Sub Group. Meetings every 3 months.	Adult /Children's Interface Chairs	On-going	
	• Each Interface group to focus on 2 distinct areas of work.	Adult /Children's Interface Chairs	On-going	
	• Implementation/training of Champions models.	Adult /Children's Interface Chairs	On-going	
	• Trust Think Family Comms Plan to support regional Comms Plan.	Adult /Children's Interface Chairs	On-going	

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	• Develop the information sharing protocol on behalf of the DHSSPS	Margaret Burke SBNI	Out for consultation at the end of March 2015	
We will improve access to early intervention family support for children, young people and their families	• Ensure Adult Mental Health and Addictions are represented on Family Support Hubs	Family Support Hub Regional Co-ordinator	March 2014 (most hubs now have core or associate members on the FS hubs e.g. local drug and alcohol groups, SHSCT have Addictions on Hub and all have a combination of Action Mental Health, Together For You and	A focus on early intervention will ensure that children, young people and families will receive the appropriate support at the earliest stage of difficulty.

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	• Develop continued links & integration with Primary Care Hubs & Family Support Hubs	Helen Dunn	On-going	
	• Increase awareness to Adult Mental Health, and Addiction (statutory, voluntary & community) re referral process for family support hubs and uptake of usage.	Family Support Hub Regional Co-ordinator	Quarterly- present to regional sub group	Data regarding the referrals of an Adult Mental Health Issue to FS Hubs is collated in quarterly returns to HSCB

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We will improve the extent to which assessment, planning and treatment is inclusive of a 'whole family' approach.	• Progress the implementation of the Pilot Project in 3 distinct stages.	Mary Donaghy	September 2016	Adopting a 'whole family' approach for parents and children will help reduce the anxiety, fear, safeguarding issues and feelings of isolation among children, parents and the wider family.

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	• Host a "sharing the learning" event to discuss preliminary findings and dissemination of the first stage of the pilot service evaluation.	Mary Donaghy	September / October 2015	

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Performance Measurement	• Develop Performance Indicators using a recognised methodology (Darzi Model) using the themes of Safety, Effectiveness & Experience.	Performance measurement team led by Mary Donaghy	On-going refinement	Measuring outcomes that capture quantative & qualitative data within a Think Family approach will determine how changes are being made and if it is making any difference
	• Performance Indicators under the area of 'safety' will be developed in collaboration with Safeguarding Board NI and Regional Hidden Harm Quality Assurance Group	Mary Donaghy Margaret Burke	On-going refinement	

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	• Develop Think Family Collaboration Group to take forward data collection & evaluation of Think Family NI	Mary Donaghy	Ongoing	

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Completed actions 2014

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We will improve communication and information sharing between professionals and families	• Participation Network will develop leaflets to help inform Children &Young People about Mental Health.	Participation Network	Complete – 4th reprint in progress	Improved communication between staff and the family and also among a range of appropriate agencies
	• Develop Regional Think Family Comms Plan	Mary Donaghy	Completed	

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	• Participation Network and Think Family Sub Group will complete awareness sessions for Adult Mental Health, Addictions and children's staff (Inclusive of voluntary & community) re leaflets and talking to children re mental health.	Network & Think Family Sub Group	Completed	

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	• Provide a 2 page summary of the pilot outline and brief synopsis of the work- Think Family Article.	Mary Donaghy	January 2015	

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