Family Support Hubs Celebration Event

Templeton Hotel

7th March 2019

Twitter - #FSHubs19
Welcome and introduction
Family Support Hubs – the story so far
Prevention, Partnership and Family Support
Tea / coffee
Regional Context and service delivery
Lunch
Family Support Hubs – the way ahead

#FSHubs19
Family Support Hubs – the story so far

Helen Dunn
Regional Co-ordinator Family Support Hubs
HSCB (CYPSP)
It's been a rough week, but I made it... How about you?
CYPSP Structure

Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

Regional Subgroups

Outcomes Groups:
- Southern
- Western
- Belfast
- South Eastern
- Northern

Parent Reference Group

Locality Planning Groups

Family Support Hubs

Children & Young People

Communities
The Review of F.S Hubs

- Early Intervention and prevention
- Complete coverage
- Not uniform/common practices
- Collaboration across sectors (Over 700 orgs/depts.)
- Robust governance arrangements
- Commitment & goodwill
- Refocuses on role of voluntary/community
• Principles in practice- choice, participation, respect, child – centred, needs-led, flexible, outcomes, informed consent & voluntary engagement
• Safeguarding
• Strategic role of hubs
• Challenges
• Investment
10 Principles

Working in partnership with families, children professionals and committees

• Needs led and strive for minimum intervention
• Clear focus on wishes, feelings, safety and well-being of children
• Strengths based perspective
• Effective interventions
• Accessible and flexible
• Facilitates self referrals and multi-access referral paths
• Involves service users and front line providers in planning, delivery and evaluation
• Promotes social inclusion – ethnicity, disability and rural/urban communities
• Measures of success routinely included

(Dolan, Canavan and Pinkerton 2006)
10 Standards

- Self assessment tool
- Reflective practice
- Understanding, reflecting and working together
- Each question explored by the group
- Debate the strengths and weaknesses in their locality
- A score is agreed – baseline to begin with – self score on a 1-10 scale
- Representatives form a development plan
- Prioritise – agree actions and establish an action plan
- Agree a time frame - review in 6 months and score again in 12 months
The Hubs are an intrinsic part of the continuum of services for families, and it would be difficult to imagine the landscape of children’s services without the Family Support Hubs.
### Reason for Referral

![Bar chart showing reasons for referral with data for different years and services.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emotional Behavioural difficulty support all ages</td>
<td>1511</td>
<td>2449</td>
<td>3133</td>
<td>3868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parenting support</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>986</td>
<td>1215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Support</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Support</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Mental Health Issues</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Top Referral Agencies

![Line chart showing top referral agencies with data for different years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gateway</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Visitor</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Referral</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPs</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Monitoring and Review process

Outcomes based accountability

Service provider on-line questionnaire

Family Samples

Role of the Hub Co-ordinator – relationship based

Meshing with informal support networks

Further research - capturing the soft outcomes
Service Provider and Service User Feedback

“In all my years of working in various services I have to conclude that the Hubs are the best example of partnership working I have ever encountered. They truly represent collaborative working for the child and family who are always at the centre. The networking and development of strong links with other agencies has been extremely beneficial and have resulted in many joint ventures and further collaborative working. The fact that the number of self-referrals have increased is testament to the increased awareness of the Hubs and the needs of children and their families within the community.” Team Co-ordinator (Statutory Sector)

I was referred to the duty team by the PSNI because of Domestic Violence. I was relieved I wasn’t going to need a social worker but I knew I needed some kind of support. The hub was the perfect option and I felt in control of what services I could take up and decline. (mother)
NEVER GIVE UP
thank you
For further information about Family Support Hubs get in touch with

Helen Dunn
Regional Coordinator of Family Support Hubs
Helen.dunn@hscni.net

02895362619
07833717936

http://www.cypsp.org/family-support-hubs/
Systems Change: Tusla’s Prevention, Partnership and Family Support Programme

Dr John Canavan (&Dr Patrick Malone)

Family Support Hubs Celebration Event
Thursday 7th March, 2019

The Development and Mainstreaming Programme for Prevention, Partnership and Family Support Research and Evaluation Study, UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre, NUI Galway

www.nuigalway.ie/childandfamilyresearch
Background / Context

• Long-term partnership with Children and Family Services in HSE latterly Tusla on Family Support
• Funding in 2012-2013 for planning material
• Subsequent grant to Tusla of €8M (AP), with €2M (AP&NUI Galway) available for Research & Evaluation
• Start of Grant in 2014 – programme and Research & Evaluation
• Governance
• Research & Evaluation Study de facto 2015-2018
  – Team, Partnership and Expert Advisory Committee
Figure 3: Single and Multiple Service Providers Nationwide
Figure 4: National Sub-Service Category of Family Support Services Nationwide
PPFS

Meitheal and Networks

Public Awareness

Children’s Participation

Commissioning

Parental Participation and Parenting Support
Research Question

The research question for this study is derived from the logic model for Development and Mainstreaming Programme for Prevention, Partnership and Family Support:

*Is the organisational culture and practice of Tusla and its partners changing such that services are more integrated, preventative, evidence informed and inclusive of children and parents? If so, is this contributing to improved outcomes for children and their families?*
Research Objectives

The objectives of this research sought to investigate the *Implementation* and *Outcomes* of the PPFS Programme as these relate to:

- Tusla’s Structures, Policies, Procedures, Roles, and Budgets;
- Tusla’s Service Delivery Framework;
- Tusla’s Culture and Climate;
- The capacity of Tusla and its Stakeholders as this relates to prevention, early intervention and Family Support;
- Parents and Children; and
- Sustainability of the changes achieved by the PPFS Programme
Some Concepts

• Systems: ‘..certain formal and informal structures, functions and capacities that have been assembled to prevent and respond to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitations’ (Bissel, 2012: 3)

• Systems change in Child Welfare and Protection
  – context, components, connections, infrastructure, scale (Coffman, 2007)

• Culture: ‘the shared norms, beliefs, and behavioural expectations that drive behaviour and communicate what is valued in organisations’ (Hammelgarn et al., 2006: 75)

• Climate: ‘as the ‘individual employees’ perceptions of the psychological impact of their work environment on their well-being’ (Glisson, 2007: 739).
Figure 5 Conceptual Framework

Systems Change attributes and initiatives
- Context - political will and public support
- Components - structures, functions, process, roles, funding and procedures
- Capacity - funding, facilitates material resources, skilled personnel, and accountability
- System integration - coordination, cross-sector governance, shared goals/training/standards/information
- Scale - ensuring a comprehensive service is available to as many people as possible
- Conductive Institutional Structures

Outcomes
- Change in organisational Culture
  - Shared norms, values and briefs and behavioural expectations
  - Places the well-being of the client first
- Change in Organisational Climate
  - Shared perceptions on the impact of the working environment on staff
  - Staff feeling supported and engaged in their work

Leadership
- Adaptive
- Collaborative
- Distributive
- Inclusive
- Outcomes-focused

Implementation, Process and Outcomes
Inner and outer organisational contexts
- Embedding of Evidence-Informed Practice
- Ensuring priority, confirming referral processes, and monitoring fidelity
- Relationships and collaborations with key stakeholders
- Ensuring buy-in from external stakeholders

EPIS Framework
- Exploration
- Preparation
- Implementation
- Sustainability
Outcomes

- Prevention and Early intervention are embedded in culture and practice
- Services are more:
  - Integrated;
  - Preventative;
  - Evidence informed;
  - Inclusive of children and parents;
- Improved outcomes for children and their families
Research Design and Methodology

1. Literature Review
   Central ideas and frameworks from systems theory and implementation sciences which provided an interpretive frame for our analysis and discussion

2. Documentary Analysis
   Explored the strategic importance, commitment and orientation towards prevention and early intervention at a national government and Tusla operational agency levels

3. Secondary Analysis of the five Work Packages
   Secondary data from the five Work Packages informed our overall evaluation on the process and implementation, outcomes and sustainability of the PPFS Programme

Combined Methods adopted across all Work Packages
- Qualitative Interviews and Focus Groups
- Surveys (Baseline and Follow-Up) = 7
- Questionnaires (pre, post and follow-up) = 9
- Literature Reviews = 8
- Documentary Analysis = 5
- Stakeholder Organisations
Key Findings on Systems Change

- Capacity and Scale
- Context
- Integration
- Sustainability
- Structures, Functions, Roles
- Leadership
- Evidence
- Culture and Climate

*Systems Change and the Implementation of the PPFS Programme*
MEITHEAL AND CHILD AND FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORKS

Dr Carmel Devaney (PI)
Dr Leonor Rodriguez
Dr Anne Cassidy

UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre

The Development and Mainstreaming Programme for Prevention, Partnership and Family Support Research and Evaluation Study, UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre, NUI Galway

www.nuigalway.ie/childandfamilyresearch
National practice model to identify, understand and respond to the needs and strengths of children, young people and families in a timely manner so that the help and support needed to improve outcomes is provided.
Video

• The perspectives of family members and Lead Practitioners in the research study....

The Meitheal model
Aim

To establish whether Meitheal and the Child and Family Support Networks are established across all 17 management areas with meaningful engagement from a wide spectrum of practitioners and delivering timely, integrated support to children, young people, and families with additional needs.
Research Questions

What impact has the Meitheal and CFSN model had on outcomes for children, young people, and families?

How has the Meitheal and CFSN model been implemented?

What impact has the Meitheal and CFSN model had on the Irish child protection and welfare system?

To what extent is the Meitheal and CFSN model embedded in the Irish child protection and welfare system?
# Methodology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Design</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Sample</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Process and Outcomes Study</td>
<td>Mixed methods</td>
<td>Longitudinal (Time 1, 2, 3)</td>
<td>Children, young people, mums, dads, LPs, Tusla Performance Activity Reports (2014-2018)</td>
<td>Qualitative: 165,138,26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Quantitative: 218,179,30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Data Collection</td>
<td>Qualitative</td>
<td>Cross-sectional</td>
<td>Managers, Stakeholders</td>
<td>118 participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interviews</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child and Family Support Networks</td>
<td>Qualitative</td>
<td>Cross-sectional</td>
<td>CFSN members</td>
<td>9 Focus groups (75 participants)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Focus groups</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
WHAT IMPACT HAS THE MEITHEAL AND CHILD AND FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORKS MODEL HAD ON OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, AND FAMILIES?

I was kind of glad that I had reached out and agreed to do it [Meitheal] because it actually really did open the doors for us because I was kind of, I was at my wits end you know. I was at my breaking point and if something I think didn’t change I’m kind of scared to think where it would have ended up (P49)
IMPACT ON FAMILIES

• **Improved outcomes** for families over time, particularly for mothers

• **Maternal** well-being, significant predictor of family outcomes

• **Empowering** for parents and families
  – Being **listened** to—‘giving a voice’

IMPACT ON THE SYSTEM

• Improved parental **help-seeking** behaviours

• Meitheal **structure** was positive for families and LPs

• CFSNS- facilitate **integrated** support and coordination of services locally
I think the great elements of Meitheal are that they get the relevant people around the table who the family want in the room, and you flesh out a plan; people are given tasks to do, so you are given a responsibility to undertake a certain task [...] There is a review [...] There is an element of accountability for everybody in the room as well, and you can measure the progress of all of that going forward (44, Tusla, Medium)
**Fidelity**
Increased over time

**Most Meitheals**
Initiated - **Direct Access**

**LP** - different sectors (community, voluntary)

**Differences** in implementation nationwide - lack of structure and personnel in specific areas

**Features**
Are crucial - LP, review meetings, voluntary, quick initiation

**Challenges**
Families referred to CPW system, separate Meitheal for every child, thresholds, barriers in sectors

**Meitheal**
Appears operating **independent** of CFSNs

**CFSNs**
Willing to engage, issues with attendance, no uniformity of services nationwide
WHAT IMPACT HAS THE MEITHEAL AND CFSN MODEL HAD ON THE IRISH CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE SYSTEM?

I think it’s had a really positive impact from the front door in [...] the welfare concerns that would have traditionally sat on waiting lists for the intake team, they’re now getting a more immediate response. And not just a response, but an actual appropriate one that is of benefit to the family. (125, Tusla, Middle Manager)
Meitheal activity is relatively low, early stages

By Q4 2016 there were 2288 Meitheals and 99 CFSNs. Discrepancy between staff trained and Meitheals started.

Prevention and early intervention - families

Challenges:
complexity of issues, lack of services, waiting lists

Stakeholders - mixed views connected/not

Influence practice:
shared responsibility, all sectors referrals to Meitheal

CFNS - development of prevention and early intervention in local areas
TO WHAT EXTENT IS THE MEITHEAL AND CFSN MODEL EMBEDDED IN THE IRISH CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE SYSTEM?

So I think it is embedded, but maybe there is probably pockets [...] of really good practice where it has taken off, where the staff [...] are really committed to it and they are making the time for it. So hopefully that will become uniform practice then... (165, Tusla, Senior Manager)
Embedded to varying degrees - hard to measure at early stages

Meitheal as 'divert' and 'step-down', some LPs lost contact with families referred to CPW

Sustainable in some areas. Challenges for some areas: additional resources, structured supports, voluntary engagement, LPs

Internal and public awareness of overall supports still relatively low

Inconsistent engagement across departments and sectors
Recommendations

- Clear definition and boundaries for Meitheal
- Support for Meitheal by other statutory and government sectors (Education, HSE, Housing)
- Meitheal as a national model of practice - in all areas
- All services working from a prevention & early intervention approach - integrated public health model
- Meitheal and CPW system - increased connection
- Continue to develop a culture of research, evidence-base and best practice within Tusla
PUBLIC AWARENESS

Prof Caroline MCGREGOR
PUBLIC AWARENESS

Team: Patricia O Connor Saoirse
Nic Gabhainn, John Canavan,
Carmel Devaney

The Development and Mainstreaming Programme for Prevention, Partnership
and Family Support
Research and Evaluation Study, UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre,
NUI Galway

www.nuigalway.ie/childandfamilyresearch
Public Awareness Study Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESEARCH QUESTIONS</th>
<th>INTENDED OUTCOME</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do the public understand its role, purpose and processes (of how to access services, for example)?</td>
<td>Children and families are increasingly aware of available supports and are less likely to fall through gaps, as all relevant services are working together in Tusla’s prevention and early intervention system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How can the public be made more aware of Tusla with a view to ensuring the service is maximised as a means of enhancing child and family well-being?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What impact will a publicity campaign have?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What mechanisms work best for informing the public?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How has the public’s level of awareness changed at end of 2017?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Methodology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Literature review on the design, implementation, and evaluation of public awareness campaigns – Formative Internal Document &amp; used in output reports.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline and follow-up population surveys. (See McGregor &amp; Nic Gabhainn 2016; 2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A content analysis of the reporting of parenting, prevention, and family support in the media via newspapers was carried out for the period 2014–17 (see O Connor et al 2018).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-depth interviews with key stakeholders as part of a common data collection process undertaken in relation to the overall PPFS Programme (see McGregor et al, 2018).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A secondary analysis of HIQA reports for the period 2014–16 (see McGregor et al, 2018).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Baseline and Follow Up Survey
2015 & 2018

Demographics: including questions on age, gender, ethnicity, social class, region, and prior service engagement.

• Knowledge: including questions on knowledge about family support

• Help-seeking: including questions on where supports could be accessed, and which supports, if any, have been accessed.

• Perceptions: including questions on current attitudes to the provision of PPFS services, and perceptions of whether and how services may improve.

2018 survey only: how best to inform the public about services.
Sample Frame and analysis

- The adult population of the Republic of Ireland

1000 PARTICIPANTS

Controls on age, gender, social class, and location.

One hundred nationally representative sampling points
X 10 interviews conducted

Inferential analysis techniques: Statistical vs practical Significance
Key Message: Public Are More Aware

- Increase in knowledge of Tusla in general from 25% to 56.4%
- Increase in response to ‘Have you heard of PPFS’ from 15.3% to 28.6%
- Increase in knowledge of Meitheal from 5.9% to 10.5%
- No significant change in knowledge of what a family support services is (51.1% to 50.4%)
People rely mostly on their own families for support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Support</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Family</td>
<td>60.9</td>
<td>73.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extended Family</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>28.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends*</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>25.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person in local area*</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>18.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional help</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online or social network*</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nobody*</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‘This finding should be used to advocate strongly for partnership working and improved general support services to families from other Government departments responsible for family and community support’. (McGregor & Nic Gabhainn, 2018)
People rely on local community services if they need outside help by % 2015-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ask the GP</td>
<td>38.7</td>
<td>47.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend the local family resource group</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact another agency in my area</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>12.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact my local community group</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ask the teacher</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>15.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Consideration be given to how to ensure high levels of knowledge and awareness of PPFS services among GPs and PHNs for example for adults, and among schools and teachers for young people.*

*p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001
Differentiated Findings

Social Class Categorisation

Gender

Parenting/Non-Parenting

Age

Rural Urban
Newspaper Articles on PPFS per year

Apx 50:50 negative: Positive/Neutral (More + Locally)

TOP 5 THEMES:
- Support Services and Programmes
- Child Protection
- Children in Care
- Funding
- Policies and staffing
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Number of Articles</th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
<th>Both</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support Services &amp; Programmes</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children &amp; Young People in Care</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tusla Policies &amp; staffing issues</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whistleblowers</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childcare, Services &amp; Crèches</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schooling &amp; Homeschooling</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advert for Foster Carers/Carers/Staff</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adoption &amp; Mother &amp; Baby Homes</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foster Carers</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tusla Legal Spend</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young People’s Mental Health</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retrospective Abuse</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>34.2%</strong></td>
<td><strong>47.2%</strong></td>
<td><strong>18.6%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Macro Level Findings

Child Protection and Family Support: Media and Public do not differentiate CP and FS as we do ‘intellectually’ and ‘in policy making’

Role of supporting the FAMILY and COMMUNITY: One quarter rely on own Family and informal networks in 2018 (increased)

Responsibility of ALL government and allied social Services: Most people rely on GP, Schools PHN’s for their FAMILY SUPPORT..especially in RURAL contexts
Where did we get to?

Our strong conclusion is that the organisational culture of Tusla is changing such that it is becoming more preventative in focus and inclusive of parents and children. This is demonstrated in the findings:

• Across all of the Work Packages;
• From our data on systems change;
• In key documents setting out the strategic direction of the organisation
Challenges Ahead

- Work Package Level Recommendations
- Culture and Climate
- Integration
- Evidence
Further Information on our Research

http://www.childandfamilyresearch.ie/cfrc/projects/completedprojects/preventionpartnershipandfamilysupportppfsprogramme/researchpublications/
Acknowledgements

• Children, young people and families
• Tulsa and other stakeholder staff
• Our colleagues at UCFRC
• The Atlantic Philanthropies Ireland
• Galway University Foundation
• NUI Galway
Tea/Coffee

Belfast Family Support Hub Animation

Southern Area Family Support Hubs video
A Belfast FS Hub Perspective On Family Finance Pressures

Examples of issues the hub can help with:
- School Attendance
- Social Isolation
- Stress/Depression
- Anti Social Behaviour
- Challenging Behaviour
- Debt
- Alcohol Abuse
- Childcare/Family Benefits
- Drug Abuse

Services available through the Hub may include:
- Emotional Health & Well Being
- Family Support
- Employment Support
- Advice & Guidance
- Mentoring
- Education

How can I contact my local hub co-ordinator? For further information contact:

Belfast Family Support Hub Network

- Emotional Health & Well Being • Family Support
- Employability Support • Drug & Alcohol Support
- Being • Education • Mentoring • Advice & Guidance
- Gender & Alcohol • Behaviour Support • Youth Support
HOW POVERTY FEELS TO CHILDREN

- Worried about parents
- Unhappy
- Frustrated
- Anxious

- Few opportunities
- Worthless
- Hopeless
- Social insecurity

- Aspirations
- Hopes
- And dreams
- Resilience

- Insecure, overcrowded homes
- No place for homework or play

- Important
- Bullied & judged
- Teachers don’t understand
- No school trips
Impact of Austerity

• Real average earnings are only set to return to their pre-crisis peak (2007) by the end of 2022 – 15 years on

• This is set to be the worst decade for pay growth for 210 years, with lost pay growth of £12,000 by 2020

• The combination of pay stagnation and rising inequality driven by benefit cuts means that this parliament (2016-17 to 2020-21) is on course to be worse for the poorest third of households than the four years following the financial crisis (2007-08 to 2011-12)

• Some households will feel the pinch more than others. The combination of weak pay growth and over £12bn of benefit cuts means that for the poorest third of households this parliament is actually set to be worse than the years following the financial crisis (RESOLUTION FOUNDATION March 2017)
### Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017

- 50 of the 100 most deprived SOA’s are in Belfast or 29% of Belfast total.
- Waterworks SOA 2 - number 2 out of 100
- 5 of the 10 most deprived SOA’a are in Belfast

### Health & Disability Domain

- 59 of the 100 most deprived are in Belfast or 34% of the Belfast total.
- Whiterock SOA 2 – number 1 out of 100
- 9 out of 10 most deprived SOA’s are in Belfast
Belfast Family Support Hubs:

- 10 Family Support Hubs across Belfast since 2014
- Based on existing Partnerships, eg. Neighbourhood Renewal
- Importance of collaborative approach C/V, Statutory sectors
- 2,136 Families referred 2017-18
- 3,264 children with 1,390 children in the 5-10 year old age group, 42%
- Families present with multiple issues
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent in prison</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Carer</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Health/Disability Parent</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance abuse</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parental separation/Relationship difficulties</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability/Developmental delay CYP</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic violence</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Support</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daycare</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bereavement</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing/homeless</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prenatal support</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance support/advice</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behaviour management 12-18 years</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behaviour management 5-11 years</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Parent</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health/Well-being CYP</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADHD</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASD</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Support</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Isolation</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BME/Newcomer Fam</td>
<td>70</td>
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</tbody>
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Multiple Issues

Parental Stress

- Parental Separation
- Child with behavior difficulties
- Parental Mental Health
- Debt
- Benefit Changes

- Debt
- Benefit Changes
- Child with behavior difficulties
- Parental Separation
- Parental Mental Health
Nadine Kane (Senior Social Worker – Children’s Early Intervention Service (CAMHS)–NHSCT).

Phil Joyce (Service Coordinator - Northern Area Family Support Hubs – Action for Children)

“Children and Young People’s Mental and Emotional Health”
Fermanagh & Omagh Early Intervention Family Support Hubs

Presented by Seána Connor & Karen McHugh Hub Co-ordinators
Action for Children

7th March 2019
Fermanagh & Omagh Hubs
Current operational position in N.I.
Co-ordinating Hubs in Rural areas

The aim of the Hubs is to ensure that families in need of support can choose the right help from the right service at the right time.

This presents challenges and opportunities for both Hubs.
Fermanagh & Omagh Hub Partners

- Action for Children
- ADHD NI
- The ARC Healthy Living Centre
- Brain Injury Matters
- Breakthru
- CAMHS
- Community Family Support Programme
- Devenish Partnership Forum
- Mindwise Family Wellness Project & Mums Wellness Project
- Fermanagh & Omagh Women’s Aid
- F.I.N.D. Centre
- Home-Start
- Locality Planning
- Men’s Action Network - MAN
- Mencap
- Mindwise Family Wellness Project & Mums Wellness Project
- New Horizon – Action Mental Health
- Oak Healthy Living Centre
- NICCY
- Parenting NI
- Positive Futures Brighter Futures Project
- PSNI Youth Diversion
- Sense
- Support 2gether
- Sure Start
- Start360
- Tiny Life
- Educational Psychology The Youth Service (Education Authority)
- Educational Psychology (Education Authority)
- The Education Welfare Service (Education Authority)
- The Youth Service (Education Authority)
- WHSCT RISE NI
- WHSCT Autism Spectrum Disorder Service
- WHSCT Children’s Disability Service
- WHSCT Erne & Riverside Family Centres
- WHSCT Gateway Social Services
- WHSCT Sensory Support
How do we do it?

• All referrals to Hub are screened by Team leader
• Home visits available for parental self-referrals
• Signpost families to services
• More complex cases are brought to Hub Quorum meetings – held monthly with Hub members with the purpose of identifying & coordinating family support services available locally
• Unmet needs captured & recorded by Hub members and shared with Locality Planning Coordinator
• Annual Hub Planning Meetings to evaluate & measure progress
• Agency networking & information-sharing
• Local partnerships with: Drug & Alcohol Forum, Neighbourhood Renewal & FIND Centre
What have we done?

Fermanagh Hub
From 1\textsuperscript{st} April 2017 to 31\textsuperscript{st} March 2018 there were 155 referrals for 227 children and their parents.

The majority of referrals received were self-referrals (40) and from health visitors (39). Following this our main referrers were from voluntary organisations, GP’s, Gateway and Schools.

Omagh Hub
From 1\textsuperscript{st} April 2017 to 31\textsuperscript{st} March 2018 there were 107 referrals and enquiries requesting support for 216 children & parents.

The main referral sources were self-referrals (29), GPs (18), Schools (13) & Gateway Social Services (10).
Main Issues presenting to Hubs

• **Parents experiencing difficulties in dealing with behaviours in children** – disrespect, challenging behavior, non-compliance, attention, listening…

• **Compromised parenting** – parental mental health needs, economic/social difficulties, past domestic abuse, separation

• **Loss** – bereavement, parental separation

• **Special needs** – pre-diagnosis & initial diagnosis ASD, ADHD, Special Educational Needs

• **Poverty** – access to social activities for kids, essential household goods etc.

• **Bullying, Online Safety/Sexting, LGBT+ issues…**
Case studies

Case study-Challenges of signposting in rural areas

- Parental self referral
- Request for support for Mum with MS, new born baby-needing practical and emotional support. No statutory services involved.
- Mum rurally isolated, farming background
- No Transport available
- Lack of family support

Despite the challenges there have been many achievements
What have we achieved?

- Partnership working – relationships have been built up & there is now a forum for peer support for professional who would have previously felt more isolated.
- Creative thinking - reduce waiting times for families accessing services
- CAMHS & GP’s - more appropriate referrals
- Shared learning - training opportunities, free training & awareness sessions
- Meetings rotated/ guest speakers
- Fundraising opportunities
- Hub booklets
- Attendance at Local community events/ networking
- Community Award
Fermanagh and Omagh Hub photos
Emotional Health and Wellbeing Taster Session for Fermanagh Hub Partners

Wednesday 21st June 2017, Fermanagh House, Enniskillen
10:30 am – 12:15pm

This is an opportunity for Hub Partners working under pressure to focus on the importance of looking after their Emotional Health & Wellbeing. This session will provide a brief taster of Emotional Health and Wellbeing with emphasis on Mindfulness and staff wellbeing. This will be delivered by our Hub Partners working within emotional wellbeing field who will be promoting positive and proactive approaches to good Emotional Health & Wellbeing, including techniques to use daily along with providing you with the opportunity to experience a Mindfulness taster session. Where a person’s wellbeing reduces, typically so does his or her performance and effectiveness. If you look after your emotional wellbeing this will help you support your team and families to the best of your ability.
Thank you for listening! 😊

- Seana Connor
  Fermanagh Hub Coordinator
  028 6632 4181
  Seana.Connor@actionforchildren.org.uk

- Karen McHugh
  Omagh Hub Coordinator
  028 8225 9495
  Karen.McHugh@actionforchildren.org.uk

Any Questions??
Family Support Service
Across the SEHSCT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Down</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisburn</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ards</td>
<td>19%</td>
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Majority of Young People we see are experiencing adolescence.
What happens in adolescence?

- Physical / emotional / hormonal changes
- Changes in the parent – child relationship
- Social changes like school and friends
This makes it difficult to manage:

- Emotions
- Impulses
- Behaviour
40+ different main reasons for referral

- Anxiety/coping/resilience: 23%
- Confidence/self-esteem: 16%
- Anger/frustrations/emotions: 10%
- Behaviour: 25%
- School issues: 3%
- Other: 3%
26% of SEHSCT Hub recorded to have a disability

30% of YMCA cases on referral
Parent issues can include:

- Domestic Violence
- Separation
- Mental Health and Addiction
- Indifferent, indulgent or authoritarian parenting styles
So...
How do we do it?
First: We build a relationship
Write your name

Sharon
Sharon
Then:
We explore the issues
Thoughts / Feelings Balance

Thoughts

Feelings

Thoughts

Feelings

Thoughts ↔ Feelings
Often we also:
Build on the positives, maybe even a reward system
Nuts and Bolts
We will also:

• Help to ‘Normalise’
• Encourage self-help
• Encourage acceptance and moving on
• Refer or facilitate introductions to other services
All aiming to build Resilience
Addressing the needs of the BME community

Southern Trust
Ronan Garvey (NIACRO) and Andrew McCreery (Community Intercultural Programme)
Mum

Grandparents

Cousins
Challenges facing New Communities

Limited support network
Reduced sense of belonging
Lack of knowledge of local services
The impact of being educated in a second language
Increased pressures on BME Children
Short term or zero hours contracts
Shift patterns & working conditions
Not understanding the systems
Thank You
Addressing the needs of the BME community

Southern Trust
Ronan Garvey (NIACRO) and Andrew McCreery (Community Intercultural Programme)
Family Support Hubs Celebration Event

Marc Baillie

Family Policy Unit
Family Support Hubs Celebration Event

Hubs the way forward

Small Group Work
Maurice Leeson
Transformation Officer HSCB

Family Support Hubs Celebration Event