

Female Matters

July 2009

produced by



Events

Belfast Pride Festival

Belfast Pride Festival is in its nineteenth year and there are lots of events taking place between Saturday 25th July and Saturday 1st August 2009. For more information visit: www.belfastpride.com/guide2009web.pdf

The Nexus Institute 25th Anniversary Conference

For twenty five years, NEXUS has provided counselling to adult survivors of sexual abuse. Today, NEXUS has four regional offices and 33 outreach centres, offering 14,000 counselling sessions each year across Northern Ireland. To mark twenty five years of helping survivors of sexual abuse, Nexus are hosting their 25th Anniversary Conference on Wednesday 21st October 2009, in The Studio at The Waterfront, Belfast. The speakers are Professor Dave Mearns and Dr Tony Humphries. The cost is £90 for a full day (including lunch) or £40 for a half day. For more information or to book a place visit: www.nexusinstitute.org

Advance Notice – Parents’ Week 2009

The tenth annual Parents’ Week will take place from Monday 19th - Sunday 25th October 2009 and will explore the theme: “The Changing Face of Families”. In the coming months, the Parenting Forum Northern Ireland (PFNI) will be in touch with many organisations to see if they have any events organised that PFNI could promote. For updates on Parents’ Week 2009 and the annual conference visit: www.parentsadvicecentre.org/projects/parentingforum/parentsweek.asp



News

Male Victims of Domestic Abuse Questionnaire

As part of a research study into Male Victims of Domestic Abuse, the Men’s Advisory Project (MAP) is distributing a questionnaire during July and August 2009 on attitudes to domestic abuse. The questionnaire should take around 20-30 minutes to complete and can be completed by anyone. It will be available online at www.mapni.co.uk from Monday 6th July 2009, and paper copies can be requested by contacting Daryl on Tel: 02890 241929 or Email: daryl@mapni.co.uk In addition, if your organisation runs groups where members meet together, this would offer a great opportunity for us have a number of the

paper copies completed. Please contact us if you are able to help in this way. We would be grateful if you could take the time to complete the questionnaire and make others in your organisation aware of it, in order to help us to present a picture of current social attitudes about domestic abuse.

Stuck In The Middle

The Centre for Young Men's Studies has carried out a series of consultations with 130 young men aged 13-16 from more than 20 areas and estates across both Catholic and Protestant communities. The purpose of this research is to give a voice to young men's attitudes and experience of violence, conflict and safety; to initiate discussion and debate about both the needs of young men and the problems some young men cause within their communities; and to make tentative suggestions for initiatives and interventions that would increase safety and reduce violence and conflict within communities. The report is available online at: www.mensproject.org/resources/stuckinthemiddle.pdf For more information contact Donna on Tel: 02837 511624 or Email: donna@youthaction.org

Parents' Advisory Group Vacancies

The Parenting Forum Northern Ireland (PFNI) is calling on parents to join a Parents' Advisory Group. Parents are the most important people in children's lives and their voice and experience needs to be heard. Therefore, PFNI is seeking representatives to join the Parents' Advisory Group. In 2006, the Minister for Children and Young People, Maria Eagle, launched the ten year Strategy for Children and Young People which is designed to improve the lives of all children. As part of the Strategy, the Minister established a Parents' Advisory Group to provide feedback and ideas on plans and actions that the different departments will undertake. For more information, or to download an application form, please visit www.parentsadvicecentre.org/projects/parentingforum/pag.asp or contact Gemma on Tel: 02890 310891 or Email gemma@pachelp.org



Courses

Barnardos Parenting Matters Project Parent Facilitator Training

Barnardos Parenting Matters Project offers an accredited training programme for parents and professionals who are interested in delivering parenting programmes. This course is accredited by the Open College Network NI at Level 3. It consists of 14 taught sessions, each lasting approximately three hours. When this stage is completed, participants are expected to deliver a programme to parents. The course covers a range of areas, and includes topics such as: the background to parent education; theories commonly used in group-based parent support; how adults learn; child protection issues; group dynamics; developing a parenting programme. There is a cost attached to this training. For more information, please contact Maighread Kennedy on Tel: 02890 491081 or Email: maighread.kennedy@barnardos.org.uk

Citizens Advice Training on Young People and Money Management

"Young People and Money" is a free, one day, training programme aimed at practitioners who work with young people who are not in education, employment or training. This course is designed to improve practitioners' confidence by equipping them to better support the young people they work with in becoming financially capable. It covers areas such as credit, debt and money management. To book a place, or to get further information, visit the Young People and Money website:

www.youngpeopleandmoney.co.uk or contact the Young People and Money Team at Citizens Advice on Tel: 02890 231120 / Email: ypam@citizensadvice.co.uk If your

organisation has 12 or more staff/volunteers interested in undertaking this training, Citizens Advice can facilitate a course. All costs will be covered by Citizens Advice.



Who's Who in Men's Work

Alan Houston – The Wise Men of the East Network

The establishment of the Network was in response to a survey of needs in East Belfast and Castlereagh which highlighted the marginalisation of men from participating in community groups. It seeks to build on the traditional role of men in the community by strengthening their capacity to take leadership roles in local men's groups. The services provided by the Network include male health clinics, promotion of access to health and related services, information on health issues, nutrition advice, and support for a vibrant local men's group network - utilised on a cross community basis. My role, initially as Coordinator of the East Belfast Healthy Living Centre, and now as Health Development Worker, is to champion men's health and seek its integration into community action plans. I support a variety of projects for men to promote reconciliation, health and well-being, and resourced a four year strategic and development plan for the Network. The Network currently includes representatives from nine local men's groups and representatives from nine statutory, voluntary and community organisations who meet on a monthly basis. For more information, Tel: 02890 451512 to speak to Alan. Our website is: www.wise-men.org.uk



Ideas for Dads and Kids

Quick Ice Lollies

All little ones seem to love ice lollies - and on a hot day there is no treat like them! Why not get them involved in making these quick sweet treats and they will enjoy them even more ...

Ingredients: 1 small pack of jelly and water.

Instructions: Make up the jelly according to the pack's instructions - making sure that it dissolves thoroughly. Pour into moulds, and freeze.

Make a Summer Scrapbook

"Our Big Adventure" is a resource by The Men's Project which gives loads of practical ideas on how dads can spend a great day with their children, and turn even simple activities into a "big adventure". Everything they do can then be recorded, and stored in a scrapbook for them both to look back on in years to come. For more details go to: www.mensproject.org/adventure/index.html



On the Web

[Testicular cancer genetic advance](#)
[Homophobic attacks 'unreported'](#)
[Men warned of greater cancer risk](#)
[Firms urged to give fathers time](#)

[Famous dads and what they can teach us](#)



Website of the Month

Men's Health Week 2009
www.mhfi.org/mhw2009.htm



What are you up to in August? Let me know about it for the next edition!
Email: trisha@mensproject.org

We have a simple template for all articles. Let us know within 150 words: the title, date, time, venue, a description of the event, and your organisation's contact details for further information i.e. a named person, telephone number, email address or web address.

Note to readers: If you know of anyone who is interested in joining our mailing list, or you wish to be removed, or you have any news you want included, please email: trisha@mensproject.org
[The views expressed in Emale Matters are not necessarily those of The Men's Project]

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