

## Dear Colleagues in the Pan- Dorset & Wiltshire Teaching Partnership



As the festive season is upon us, the Teaching Partnership wanted to send you not just some greetings but a warm wrap up on what we have done in the past couple of months...And a few 'news snack bites' to keep you going until the next year which will be packed with lots of promises for new beginnings!

### **Masterclasses- Embedding Anti-Racist Practice**

On the 09.12.20 the TP and PELP team facilitated a Masterclass on Embedding Anti-Racist Practice in Social Work. 111 of you signed up to discuss and reflect on what Anti-Racism means for us, critically analysing our own personal bias whilst learning about the history of Black History in Britain. A truly thought provoking and inspiring event that was supported by our colleague Philippa Geddes from Social Work England. Philippa shared her personal and professional experiences of organisational cultures and racism in different parts of the country and pledged that SWE will continue to look at their responsibility as a regulator to be anti-racist and support the profession on the journey.

Here is what you shared with us...

#### **What will I do to challenge and contribute to the eradication of racism within direct work with service users?**

- Acknowledge experiences
- Seek training to feel confident to talk to people without fear of saying something wrong/racist
- Keeping conversations open, listening and speaking up
- Not make assumptions!
- Learning, learning, learning

#### **What will I do to challenge and contribute to the eradication of racism within my learning and/or supervisory relationships?**

- Encourage to 'ask the questions'
- Welcome and invite discussion
- Taking time to learn
- Using supervision as a space to explore personal and professional bias

#### **What will I do to challenge and contribute to the eradication of racism in my organisation?**

- Be brave to challenge!
- Bring in Gypsy, Traveller and Roma strategy to the front
- Continue learning for self- being part of an organisation
- Encourage discussion
- Share learning and ask for more training and development opportunities

**What will I do to challenge and contribute to the eradication of racism in society?**

- Speak up!
- Learn more and understand language and terminology
- Encourage other to listen
- Challenge own prejudices
- Be a white Ally

**Name one element of your work life that you believe to be racist.**

- Lack of diversity leading to colour-blindness
- Recording systems
- Greater scrutiny of BAME workers practices
- Lack of resources in other languages

**Research Opportunities**

There are some really exciting research project planned for the next year with Bournemouth University and the Centre of Seldom Heard Voices. If you would like to be involved by maybe being part of focus group, an interview or even be active as co researcher yourself, we would love to hear from you!

The brief expression of interest form will enable us to get you in contact with the right person. <https://pdwtp.org.uk/resources/practitioner-involvement-in-academic-activities-expression-of-interest-form/>

One research project will be undertaken by Tilia Lenz. Tilia is going to leave her LPC post and start her academic career at Bournemouth University in January 21 as a Senior Lecturer. She will be undertaking a PhD as part of her role and is going to work on ‘Relationship based Performance



Management in Children’s Services’. If this is something that interests you and you would like to share your thoughts for the preliminary stage of the research, please feel free to contact Tilia. [Tlenz@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:Tlenz@bournemouth.ac.uk)

## Practice Education

Are you passionate about social work and interested in working with others to promote best practice? Are you an experienced practitioner with skills and knowledge that you would like to share? Do you enjoy supporting others to learn and grow in confidence? Do you want to be a practice leader? If you have answered yes to these questions you might be just the sort of person who would make a good practice educator.



As the TP and Practice learning teams are busy organising placements for the next semester, we are looking for enthusiastic practitioners who want to support students on their professional journey. Even if you have not got the PE qualification, you can

support a student as a Work Based Supervisor. If you are interested in doing this or if you have any questions you can email the following contacts:

Bournemouth University: [rosdray@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:rosdray@bournemouth.ac.uk) [fcusack@bournemouth.ac.uk](mailto:fcusack@bournemouth.ac.uk)

BCP Council: [nina.akhter@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:nina.akhter@bcpcouncil.gov.uk) [danielle.hp@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:danielle.hp@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)>

Dorset Council: [emma.evans@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:emma.evans@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) [kay.renshaw@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:kay.renshaw@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Wiltshire Council: [Louise.Downes@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Louise.Downes@wiltshire.gov.uk)

And you can find loads more info here... <https://pdwtp.org.uk/pelp/>

## Going Forward

In the future, the TP is committed to work together on projects like Masterclasses, PELP events, resource production and research. As we go into a phase of sustainability with less dedicated staff time through LPCs, your first port of call in the Local Authorities will be your Principal Social Workers. The LAs and Bournemouth Uni have used the funding and resources from the DfE to not just build personal relationships but tools for collaboration. Our Website is just one example of this. The Masterclasses and other events that are currently free for all practitioners, students and academics to attend to learn from, with and for each other have proven to be an excellent vehicle to drive forward evidence-based practice with newest research being provided.

The shared responsibilities for Practice Education and placements have embedded relationships further and we are ever more aware of the challenges in our respective organisations. However, we are also able to share 'the good stuff' and replicate what works well and in the process, we have come together to what feels like a community of Social Workers in the South West.

Without your input, your enthusiasm to contribute to events, teaching at BU and research activities, this would have never happened. So, this is really a big THANK YOU to the students, practitioners and academics who have put energy and commitment to the partnership. Going forward we can rely on this, as the hard work to build the foundations to bridge the gap between academia and practice has been done. We can now continue to make the connections stronger and more stable.

We all look forward to work with you in the future and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

