

Age Alliance Wales

*working together to support older people in Wales.
cydweithio i gefnogi pobl hŷn yng Nghymru.*



Welcome to the tenth Age Alliance Wales e-newsletter - July 2014

Where possible, briefings will be bi-monthly, so if you have an item you would like included in the next newsletter, please send it to Mal Andrews before September 24th

DIARY DATES

September 9th - Chief Executive's Summit (10am-3pm)

Agenda to follow. Sarah Rochira, Older People's Commissioner for Wales, to discuss how AAW's priorities relate to the Commissioner's work plan and to identify opportunities for joint working. After lunch there will be a facilitated workshop on the formation of an AAW Providers' Consortium. The session will be led by Andrea Elniff-Larsen, a highly experienced strategic development professional and former Chief Executive of Community Enterprise Wales.

October 6th - Intermediate Care Fund (ICF) Seminar (10am-1pm)

The seminar will consider 'Learning from the Intermediate Care Fund' and provide a forum for members and invited guests to discuss their involvement in the ICF, and to debate how the third sector and public service can work more effectively together on any future ICF rounds. Venue - the Future Inn in Cardiff Bay CF10 4JY. Prof. John Williams has been invited to Chair the meeting and Martyn Palfreman, Marcus Longley and Lisa Dunsford have confirmed they will speak to the seminar.

November 11th - Welsh Language Commissioner (10am-1pm)

A free of charge training day for AAW members on Welsh Language Awareness focussing specifically on the linguistic needs of older people. This is open to all staff and can be tailored to particular needs of the Alliance in general and individual members. Venue - Care and Repair Cymru, 2 Ocean Way, Cardiff CF24 5TG

We have recently updated the Age Alliance Wales website. If you have not already done so, you can view our new video by clicking on the link below:
<http://www.agealliancewales.org.uk/Events/2014/>

The Preventative Services document has been extensively distributed to contacts within local authorities and health boards to a good response.

INFORMATION

Health & Housing & Social Care Conference ***‘Doing the Right Thing at the Right Time’***

Frontline Services and the Age of Austerity

From 2010 up to 2014 the Third Sector in Wales has seen WG funding support fall by 24% (34% in real terms); whilst Care & Repair agencies have seen a fall of 4% (13% in real terms) of Welsh Government investment in their services over the same period. This degree of ‘insulation’ has no doubt been due to the strategic priorities our services address under WG’s ‘Programme for Government’. Crucially our front line assessment and advice is an enabler for real change in terms of older people’s independence & wellbeing, providing practical examples of prevention; home improvements that promote healthy living and reduce accident & anxiety; and tangible cost saving benefits to the Welsh Health service.

You can read the full report on our website by clicking the link below:

<http://www.careandrepair.org.uk/news/2014/05/20/frontline-services-and-the-age-of-austerity/>

Care & Repair Cymru partnership with Swansea University, College of Human Sciences

At a time when evidence of outcomes and impact is so important, Care & Repair Cymru has developed a partnership with Swansea University College of Human Sciences. The work with the University aims to achieve the following:

- Proving our worth when the Welsh £ is under pressure
- Providing greater understanding of the impact of community-based Care & Repair
- services for Welsh policy development
- Producing evidence of impact from the ‘link agent’ approach as a gateway to prevention

Dr Sarah Hillcoat-Nallétamby, Associate Professor of Social Policy and Ageing, Department of Public Health and Policy Studies and the Centre for Innovative Ageing at Swansea University, has led on this work, which has resulted in:

A successful bid for an ESRC Doctoral Training Centre PhD scholarship due to begin in October 2014, which will look in more detail at the role of C&R Case workers in the community as “link agents”, working across and with different sectors and partners to facilitate independent living for older people in Wales. The research will also inform Welsh policy and practice.

A follow up reverse placement which enabled further investigation of the research strand of the partnership. This allowed Care & Repair Cymru to be hosted by the Social Policy programme at Swansea University to work towards the development of a collaborative, participatory action research project idea around older people's needs and preferences for moving home within Wales. The project outline is currently in preparation stages to be targeted at an ESRC open call towards the end of 2014.

"The ongoing partnership with Swansea University, Centre for Innovative Ageing is of immense importance to Care & Repair Cymru as it provides an effective blend of authoritative and targeted research and critical reflection to our central ambition of being Wales' Older Peoples Housing Champion."

Neil Williams, Head of Agency Performance and Funding, Care & Repair Cymru

RRAP showcased at Kingsfund Conference

Care & Repair Cymru was invited to showcase the RRAP (Rapid Response Adaptations Programme) at The Kings Fund Conference entitled Innovations in Older Peoples Services on 18th June 2014.

The project was chosen from a number of entries and more information can be found on The Kings Fund website [here](#) and you can read Rachel Gingell's blog on presenting at this major conference [here](#)

Care & Repair Agencies are at the heart of communities in Wales

Home is where the heart is, but with the majority of falls happening in people's homes and with Wales' increasing ageing population, the work of Older People's Housing Champions, Care & Repair is becoming more important than ever. Care & Repair Cymru emphasised the vital role the 22 agencies around Wales play, in helping tens of thousands of older people remain healthy, independent and safe in their own homes, during **Falls Awareness Week** (June 16-20).

During the week we highlight how the preventative services for older people also directly support and assist the cash-strapped NHS. You can read more about how Care & Repair 's work helps prevent older people from falling [here](#)

Care & Repair Cymru link with Swansea University

A social research partnership between Care & Repair and the College of Human & Health Sciences (Swansea) is set to 'go live' in October 2014. That one of Wales' leading academic institutions regards Care & Repair as a third sector organisation with sufficient reach, credibility and potential, is enormously significant. You can find out more about the research and its aims [here](#)

Vera Brinkworth - Head of Events / Pennaeth Digwyddiadau Care & Repair

Cymru

Optimising Resources through the use of independent advocacy.

Age Connects Wales along with the Welsh Institute of Health and Social Care (WHHSC) delivered a workshop at the National Social Services Conference Wales, on June 27th, 2014

Facilitated by Jeff Hawkins, Chair, Age Connects Wales and Dr Mark Llewellyn, Deputy Director, WHHSC, the workshop addressed the central theme of the conference, how voluntary sector-led independent advocacy services have given voice to vulnerable older people and placed them at the centre of decisions about their care.

This was especially important given the enhanced role for independent advocacy as prescribed within the Social Services and Well-being Bill.

Drawing on independent research evidence, data was presented about the impacts (including resource implications) of this work, and offer insights into how this way of working can positively enhance the human rights of older people.

The workshop was based on the programme of independent advocacy that has been led by Age Connects and Age Cymru organisations in Wales and discussed the evaluation evidence that has been collected independently by the WHHSC. The session covered both the instructed and non-instructed advocacy services, and presented findings from a specific research study undertaken with the support of ADSS Cymru to analyse the resource implications for public and independent sector partners of this way of working.

Resource material, including a report produced specifically for the event can be viewed at www.ageconnectswales.org.uk

Jeff Hawkins - Chair Age Connects Wales

RNIB - National Eye Health Week

"The fifth National Eye Health Week will take place on 22-28 September 2014.

Over 50 per cent of sight loss can be avoided, and yet many of us don't know the best way to look after our eyes. National Eye Health Week aims to change that by promoting the importance of eye health and the need for regular sight tests for all.

We're hoping that you'll help us by raising awareness of eye health amongst your staff and customers during the week. In particular, we're asking if you could:

- Include information on eye health on your staff intranet/ in your staff newsletter; and/or
- Put National Eye Health Week leaflets and posters around your organisation;

and/or

- Include information on eye health in any newsletters/ magazines etc that go out to your service users/ customers.

We can provide you with the leaflets and posters and also with the information for your newsletters, and are happy to tailor the articles to suit your particular audience. If you already work towards the Corporate Health Standard or your own health and wellbeing strategy then these activities could fit in well with your existing programme of work.

To find out more, please contact Alexandra McMillan at RNIB Cymru – alexandra.mcmillan@rnib.org.uk; 02920 828560.”

Stroke Association



This QCF Level 2 Award in Stroke Awareness is comprised of two contact teaching days and guided distance learning.

This qualification is composed of two units:

- Unit 1 – Stroke Awareness (3 credits)
- Unit 2 – Understanding the impact of acquired brain injury on individuals (3 credits)

Open all those wanting to gain a stroke specific qualification

To book your place today, visit our website:
www.stroke.org.uk/training

Contact us:
01527 903 911
stroketraining@stroke.org.uk

Stroke
association



The course covers:

- Understanding the stroke care pathway
- Vision and sensory impact of stroke
- Physical needs post stroke
- Family, carers and relationships
- Cognitive effects of stroke

Open to everyone, whether you are a professional working with stroke survivors or an individual who wants to learn more about stroke.

To book your place today, visit our website:
www.stroke.org.uk/training

Contact us:
01527 903 911
stroketraining@stroke.org.uk

Stroke
association

We have booked some Individual access courses to run from Cardiff in August. These are open to anyone who wants to book onto them individually, typically we get a mixture of people attending from therapists and care staff to students wanting to learn more about stroke.

Greenmeadow Springs Business Park
Unit 8, Cae Gwyrdd
Tongwynlais
Cardiff
CF15 7AB

Helpline 0303 3033 100

Textphone 18001 0303 3033 100



Age Alliance Wales
Tŷ John Pathy
13/14 Neptune Court
Vanguard Way
Cardiff
CF24 5PJ

029 2043 1555

rachel.lewis@agealliancewales.org.uk
malcolm.andrews@agealliancewales.org.uk

www.agealliancewales.org.uk

Cynghrair Henoed Cymru
Tŷ John Pathy
13/14 Cwrt Neptune
Ffordd Blaen y Gad
Caerdydd
CF24 5PJ

