Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership



COVID-19: Weekly Family Support Hubs Newsletter



This edition includes:

- · Parenting NI Helpline
- Priority Online Supermarket Delivery Slot Information
- Disability Action Transport Scheme
- Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
- Food Banks Enniskillen & Omagh
- Community Support Craigavon
- South Antrim Community Transport
- · Armagh Rural Transport
- NI Direct Rural Community Transport Partnership Offices Contact Details
- Lagan Valley Rural Transport
- Fermanagh Community Transport
- CDM Community Transport
- · Ashes To Gold OASIS
- African Women Organisation NI
- PHA Resources for Council & Community Responses to Covid-19
- CWSAN & COSTA Rural Support Network – Small Grants Fun
 MEAAP
- Inter Ethnic Forum
- Urban Villages Projects
- Connect Fermanagh
- NI Direct Support with Funeral Expenses
- Home Start North Down
- Barnardo's Child Bereavement Service
- NSPCC 'It's You Call' Training
- Autonomie
- QUB Research What does friendship mean for young people with a learning disability or autism?

- MSCNI Stay Active Stay Creative
- National Deaf Children's Society Family Sign Language Course
- Anti-Bullying Alliance Information & Resources
- Parenting NI
- Family Mediation NI
- Action for Children Co Parenting During the Lockdown
- Family Support NI
- CYPSP Daily Updates
- NI Adoption & Foster Care Information & Resources
- CAUSE
- Dealing with Worry in Difficult Times Resource
- Stress Control Classes
- Anxiety UK Apple Technique to Deal with Anxiety & Worry
- Action Mental Health Mindset Programme & Service Contact Details
- NHSCT Dementia Support
- Stroke Network NI Support Helpline
- Eating Disorder Association NI May 2020 Support Services
- · Addiction NI
- · Men's Shed Befriending Service
- PBNI Support for Substance Misuse
- Women's Aid Belfast & Lisburn
- · Health & Wellbeing Apps
- Extern- Minority Communities & Drug and Support Services
- End Youth Homelessness & MACS Housing Fund/Bursary Fund
- Support with Finding a Job Extern
- NIACRO Working Well
- Good News Story SEHSCT Family Support Hubs

This edition of the newsletter provides advice, resources and project updates as of 13th May 2020.

The Family Support Hubs continue to be open for referrals during the current situation. They will try to access Family Support agencies during this time but this will be subject to individual projects ability to respond.

If you want to advise us of any changes to service provision or have particular needs you want to source during the current situation please contact Helen.dunn@hscni.net and we will try to connect with the appropriate information.

There are 29 family support hubs across Northern Ireland supporting families. www.cypsp.hscni.net/family-support-hubs/#ffs-tabbed-23

If you would like a service to be included in the next edition of the newsletter please send details to: cypsp@hscni.net





Open 6 days a week

Monday-Thursday 9am -9pm Friday 9am -5pm Saturday 9am - 1pm



Register with nidirect.gov.uk for a priority online supermarket delivery slot in Northern Ireland with Asda, Iceland, Sainsbury's or Tesco.

You can register if you:



- · Live in Northern Ireland,
- You or someone you provide care for have been advised by your/their Doctor (GP) to avoid all face to face contact for I2 weeks; and,
- Do not have access to alternative help and support for shopping from family or friends, or other local networks.

These stores will make every effort to offer you an online delivery slot, but it is dependent on demand and cannot be guaranteed.

Click the link in the post to register.



REGISTER HERE





Disability Action Transport Scheme (DATS) are offering a FREE collection and delivery service to both members and non-members during this very difficult COVID-19 period.

www.disabilityaction.org/transport



Enniskillen Foodbank

John: 075 1254 8849

info@enniskillen.foodbank.org.uk (Enniskillen, Dromore, Irvinestown & Ballinamallard)

Enniskillen Elim Storehouse Foodbank Ann: 078 3549 7593

Pastor Nigel: 075 9565 4414

Omagh Community Church Foodbank Pastor Tim: 0797136 2974

Reach Foodbag Service, Omagh Pastor Graham: 0771891 5435 Open Mon – Fri, 12 noon – 2 pm





COMMUNITY SUPPORT **CRAIGAVON**

ST. VINCENT

07919496053

DART-TRANSPORT

Prescription collections & deliveries.

028 3831 7810

CRAIGAVON AREA FOODBANK Emergency food

033 3050 7702

de PAUL Emergency support to those most in

SALVATION ARMY

Emergency support to those most in need.

028 3832 3222

Local Support Services in **Brownlow / Central Craigavon**

During this COVID-19 pandemic a number of organisations and community groups are working hard to assist those in need.

If you know anyone who may require help or support during this time please feel free to use these contacts.

Councillor Thomas Larkham-07510063671



daily good morning

128 3834 274

CHRYSALIS WOMEN'S CENTRE

support to families most in need.

EIRE OG GAC

Emergency support to those most in need.

COMMUNITY ADVICE CRAIGAVON

Free independent, confidential advice.

028 3836 1181

Contact addresses and details for the

Rural Community Transport Partnership offices.

VIEW HERE



South Antrim Community Transport

Community South Antrim Transport on behalf of Disability Action Transport Scheme (DATS), are offering a FREE collection and delivery service to both members and non-members during this very difficult COVID-19 period, who live in Antrim.

Collection and delivery of pre-paid shopping from any of the shops in Antrim town.

Collection and delivery of prescriptions (arrangements to be made by Client/Doctor/Pharmacist prior to collection).

To book please contact our office on 07519323304 between 9.30am and 1.30pm Monday to Friday.



Within Armagh Rural Transport we believe as a community it's important that we look out for one another, especially those who are vulnerable.

If you are over 70 or High Risk (or know someone who is) and having difficulty getting grocery supplies or medication or have a medical appointment, we will do our best to offer support to you.

> Ring the ART office for further information on 028 37 518151





Lagan Valley Rural Transport are pleased to be able to continue to offer the services below to everyone as part of our Covid 19 response.

ALL SERVICES ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO INDIVIDUALS

Using our ACCESS NI checked drivers we can:

- Collect and deliver pre paid shopping from any of the shops included in Lisburn & Castlereagh Council Areas
- Collect and deliver prescriptions
- We can also provide transport for hospital and health appointments
- We can also provide assistance to local food banks in the area, our vehicles are accessible and therefore are tailor made for bulk delivery of boxes.

TO AVAIL OF OUR SERVICES PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICES ON **028 92 622030** MONDAY TO FRIDAY

We are proud to provide these services to the local community





COVID-19 Coronavirus

Member/ Passenger Notice—30th March 2020

www.fermanaghcommunitytransport.com

FREE Pick-Up and Delivery Service for Members & Non-Members

Fermanagh Community Transport is offering the following FREE services to both members and nonmembers in order to support those in 'Shielding' and 'Home Isolation' and to assist with wider social distancing measures and efforts:

- Collection and delivery of pre-paid shopping
- Collection and delivery of pre-arranged prescriptions
- Essential Rural Transport only

Please call on **028 66 324260** or Email **info@fermanaghcommunitytransport.com** between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.



CDM Community Transport are offering the following FREE services to both members and non-members in the entire Cookstown and Dungannon areas:

- Collection and delivery of pre-paid shopping from their local shops
 - Prescriptions (arrangements to be made by client / doctor / pharmacist prior to collection)

To make a booking, contact the office on either – **028 867 67766 or 028 877 29714**









Our text message service... 07860 021 262



Our telephone service... 028 703 43245



Get in touch to join our WhatsApp group...













If you are in the 'at risk of infection' category and can't get to the supermarket, we have a small stock of non perishable food. Call 028 703 43245 for details...

Ashes to Gold OASIS-35 Abbey Street, Coleraine Tel: 028 703 43245

"Working to Restore a Life's Purpose"





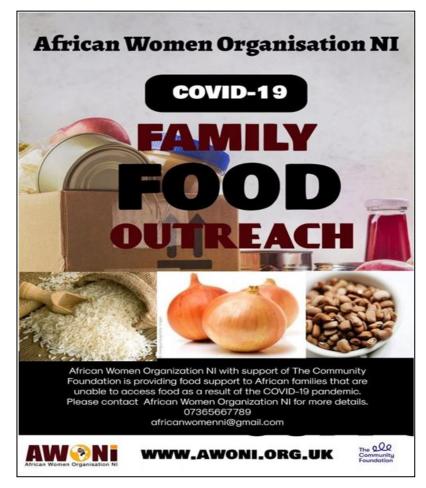


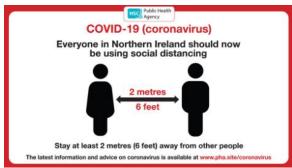
Resources for Council and Community Responses to COVID-19

Items may be useful for Council teams and community groups responding to COVID-19.

Some may be helpful for staff and volunteers for their own wellbeing, and others may be helpful for them in carrying out their role during COVID-19.

View Resources











CWSAN and COSTA Rural Support Networks are offering a small grant of up to £150 towards fuel and or PPE if you are a small group supporting isolated individuals in either small rural areas or Villages within Mid Ulster District.

Further Info

COVIDI9 Advice: Need someone to talk to?

MEAAP are working in partnership with the Good Morning teams across Ballymena, Larne & Carrickfergus to offer telephone befriending services to those who are feeling alone and anxious, with no family or friends contacting them on a daily basis.

Contact MEAAP on 028 2565 8604 for further information.



#COVIDI9 #AgeingWell





We, at the Inter Ethnic Forum, are here to help you at this difficult time

For help/advice contact our advisers as below:

За помощ или съвет моля обадете се на телефон 028 2564 8822 (Вогуапа)



Pentru ajutor sau informatii va rugam sa sunati la 07544 489 310 (Anca)

Pre pomoc a poradenstvo prosim volajte 028 2564 3605 (Anna)



Jeśli potrzebujesz skontaktować się z pracownikiem 1+1 Mental Health proszę dzwonić pod numer 075 444 892 18 w poniedziałek, środa, czwartek (Michalina)

For any other assistance contact Ivy Goddard on 07525 142205 or Natasha Taylor 07776 844876





PROJECTS

A DIFFERENT APPROACH

Adapting to people's needs during COVID-19

Groups and organisations in Urban Village areas have mobilised and adapted with energy and speed to reach out to help and protect the most vulnerable in communities during the COVID-19 crisis, providing a crucial lifeline, while continuing to fulfil on project aims.

Belfast South
Community
Resources now have
a database of over
65s locally so that
they can deliver
food parcels to
vulnerable people.













Footprints Women's Centre have extended the social supermarket's opening hours and distribute free food parcels to those most in need.

North Belfast - a large number of Urban Villages supported groups formed the Crisis Intervention Team initiative delivering food parcels, meals, and prescriptions to the isolated, sick and vulnerable.



New Gate Arts provide online bagpipe and highland dance lessons and delivering food supplies to people feeling isolated.



A team from Colin Neighbourhood Partnership and Sally Gardens have been working together to prepare food parcels for those in need in the Colin Community during this time.



£36k re-allocated to ensure activities were adapted and continued during as the COVID 19 crisis hit.

Stay Home, Save Lives #BetterTogetherApart







Are you over 18 and living in Fermanagh?

Are you feeling lonely or anxious?

or

Are you home alone with your children and missing an adult to chat to?

or

Are you worried about someone and think they could benefit from a weekly check-in to see if they are ok?

Phone Connect Fermanagh and we can provide:

- A friendly chat
- Information and help to link you to the right support and services in your area

www.connectfermanagh.org
E: info@connectfermanagh.org





Support with Funeral Expenses

If you're on a low income you may be able to get help with funeral costs. Further information available at:

https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/funeral-expenses-payment



Home Start North Down Supporting Families through Covid







Do you have young children at home? Would you be glad of some extra support or a listening ear during these difficult times?

One to One on-line Support for Parents - weekly one to one support to parents by phone, offering emotional and practical support.

Email support programme focussing on your emotional and mental wellbeing with virtual group support.

Join a Family Whats App Group - emotional support, play ideas, signposting and a chance to check in with other parents with at least 1 child under 5.

Specialist Virtual Support Groups-Using zoom, we are developing virtual groups where parents can participate in workshops focusing on issues such as mindfulness, managing children's behaviours and coping skills.

Family resource packs issued by post every fortnight—provides ideas to do at home and the resources required.

For more information: contact: alison@homestartnorthdown.org.uk, call 07710466379/07308026576 or visit our Facebook page



Range of on online information, including advice and resources to help parents, carers and children during Covid19.

Visit Website

Child Bereavement Service



Advice Line for any adult (parent, carer, professional etc) concerned about a child or young person bereaved Tel. 07867372711

Barnardo's Child Bereavement Service have produced a useful document for dealing with bereavement

http://www.cypsp.hscni.net/wpcontent/uploads/2020/04/child-bereavement-servicegrieving-during-covid-19.pdf

NSPCC

Free Safeguarding Awareness Training for Workers who Enter People's Homes

Children and young people are normally seen by lots of different adults every day, like neighbours, grandparents and teachers. Due to Coronavirus (COVID-19), if a child is experiencing abuse, there aren't as many opportunities for adults to spot the signs and help. You might have that rare opportunity to visit families' homes. You might be able to help if you see something wrong.

It's your call is an online learning course, created to help workers who visit homes, to understand more about possible signs of child abuse. NSPCC have temporarily made it available for free for you to access, so you can help keep children safe during lockdown and whilst social distancing is in place

https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/training/safeguarding-awareness-course







Self-confidence, life-skills and social activities for young people aged 16-25 years in Belfast and surrounding areas with a physical disability



Virtual exercise classes and quizzes

Telephone counselling & helpline

Arts & crafts and singalongs

Well-being resources

Contact: autonomieorg@gmail.com or telephone 028 9591 8051

Registered Charity Number 100421 www.autonomie.org.uk





to face-to-face in

September 2020

Help us to learn more about friendships for young people with a learning disability or who are autistic

Who can help?

- · Young people with a learning disability or who are autistic and aged 14-25
- · Parents of young people with a learning disability or who are autistic and aged



- Teachers of young people with a learning disability or who are autistic and aged
- · Youth workers of young people with a learning disability or who are autistic and aged 14-25

Purpose of the Research



We are a group of peer researchers (seven young people from Mencap, two youth workers from Mencap and one PhD researcher).

We want to learn more about what friendship means for young people with a learning disability or autism, how having a learning disability or being autistic impacts friendships, the training or teaching on friendships that is offered and the support young people need for friendships.

This research is being completed to allow Christine to complete her PhD thesis and to allow the peer researchers to think of ways to better support young people with their friendships.

How to take part

There are two ways to take part, you can choose to do an online interview (video call or skype) or an online survey.











Contact Christine (PhD Researcher) for an interview or more information about the research:

can be found here: https://survey.sogosur vey.com/r/JNfuLz

Young people's survey

found here: https://survey.sogosur vey.com/r/JNfuLz

can be found here:

be found here:

Email: cbower01@qub.ac.uk

Tel: 07595051775





https://survey.sogosur https://survey.sogosur





Thank you!

Edition 9/2020







Family Sign Language Course

NDCS tutors have filmed themselves in lockdown so families can still learn British Sign Language (BSL) to use at home.

Watch new lessons every Friday.

https://youtu.be/-L7-P7dpmdM





With many children spending more time online at the moment, safeguarding is a rising concern among parents. Anti-Bullying Alliance has a wealth of information on how to keep your child safe online, including advice on dealing with cyber-bullying.

VIEW HERE





Northern Ireland's leading parenting support charity

Parenting NI continue to provide a range of supports to families online and over the phone during the pandemic

Contact us for free Support Line: 0808 8010 722 parentingni.org



www.parentingni.org/resources



Grandparents role during COVID-19 pandemic

Studies show that when grandparents are actively involved in their grandchildren's lives, children have fewer emotional and behavioural problems and so it is important that this involvement continues during these challenging times. Here are some suggestions to help you stay connected:

Write letters

This is an exciting way to send news on what you are both doing, express emotions and make plans for fun activities after the pandemic. grandparents can use their creative talents to can be kept and re-read to remind us of the connection and love you share.

Social media

If you use social media this is a good way to keep in touch and see what your family are up to. You can also share messages, photos and videos for your family to see what you are up to and how you are keeping.

Family dinners

In many families meal times provide an opportunity for everyone to talk about their day and share family news. Set up family platform. Arrange a time for everyone to sit down for dinner in their respective homes and share virtual family time.

Phone calls

anxiety about family members health and wellbeing so use these if technology is not possible.

Bedtime stories

Record yourself reading a short bedtime story for younger grandchildren and send it to be played at bedtime. This will create a bedtime routine and help your grandchild know that you are thinking of

Family trees

It can be challenging to find an activity that interests teenagers. This is a perfect opportunity to ask for their help to capture family history and stories and will provide ample opportunities for of belonging in them.

Technology

While some grandparents may struggle to understand and use technology, for children and young people technology is their natural communication tool. Ask them to give you guidance on how to download apps and use social media. This is a perfect opportunity to bond and also to build their self esteem.

grandparents and the child to see each other and know they everyone is safe and well. Family scavenger hunts or a quiz allows the whole family to take part. Choose a time that suits everyone as





f 9 6

parentingni.org Support Line: 0808 8010 722







Co-Parenting During the Lockdown

For families where parents are separated, many arrangements can carry on as normal during lockdown.

We have information on:

- Access arrangements
- Maintenance and money
- Childcare

Further Information



If you would like to find out more about family support services in your area please see the Family Support NI website at: www.familysupportni.gov.uk







We're still here changing lives

Call us today to have a friendly chat about fostering 0800 0720 137 adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net





FOSTER CARE FORTNIGHT 2020

#ThisIsFostering

Monday 11-24th May 2020

Head over to HSC Northern Ireland Adoption and Foster Care Facebook and Twitter to keep up to date with Foster Care Fortnight.

We will be sharing videos and photos from Foster Carers, staff and young people over the fortnight and we would love you to get involved!

Facebook: @HSCAdoptionandFosterCare Twitter: @HSCAdopt_Foster

adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net



COVID-19 CONTACT
NUMBERS FOR ALL
HSC NORTHERN IRELAND
ADOPTION & FOSTER
CARE
FOSTER CARERS

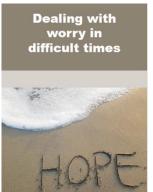
adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net

VIEW HERE









Help with worry in these challenging times

This booklet provides some ideas on how to look after your well being and provides links to other resources that you might helpful.

<u>Download Here</u> <u>Listen on YouTube Here</u>

A new course of FREE online

Stress Control Classes

start on Monday 11th May

For details and to register visit:

WWW.STRESSCONTROL.ORG

Are you anxious today...?

AnxietyUK suggest the APPLE technique to deal with anxiety and worries...

- Acknowledge: Notice and acknowledge the uncertainty as it comes to mind.
- Pause: Don't react as you normally do. Don't react at all. Pause and breathe.
- Pull back: Tell yourself this is just the worry talking, and this apparent need for certainty is not helpful and not necessary. It is only a thought or feeling. Don't believe everything you think.
 Thoughts are not statements or facts.
- Let go: Let go of the thought or feeling. It will pass. You don't have to respond to them. You might imagine them floating away in a bubble or cloud.
- Explore: Explore the present moment, because right now, in this moment, all is well. Notice your breathing and the sensations of your breathing. Notice the ground beneath you. Look around and notice what you see, what you hear, what you can touch, what you can smell. Right now. Then shift your focus of attention to something else on what you need to do, on what you were doing before you noticed the worry, or do something else mindfully with your full attention.



"Working to Restore a Life's Purpose"











The Mindset programme from Action Mental Health is moving to online delivery!

Mindset is funded by the Public Health Agency. In response to Government guidance the programme will not be available for face to face delivery but will be delivered online and is open to youth and community groups across the Northern, Southern, Belfast and South Eastern Trust areas for groups of 8 to 12 people.

The online programme can be delivered in a format to suit participant needs and will be agreed prior to booking confirmation:

 $({f 1})$ A one-off interactive workshop - the full Mindset programme Duration: 3 hours (with breaks)

(2) Mindset sessions

 The full Mindset programme in bite size **Duration:** 2 or 3 sessions over separate days

Emotional Health and Well-being Raise awareness of signs and symptoms of

Raise awareness and increase knowledge

and understanding of Mental and

- Promote self-help/resilience techniques and how to maintain a safe level of positive mental and emotional health and well-being
- Promote self-care

mental ill health

Aims

 Information and/or resources on mental health support organisations available (locally and regionally)

For more information or to register your interest contact:

nimenssana@amh.org.uk or tel: 07740403724

action mental health



www.amh.org.uk @amhNI 😈 🚮 🔘

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T 028 9039 1630

https://www.amh.org.uk/new-life-counselling/



Belfast, South Eastern, Northern & Western Trust Areas

T 028 9032 9150

E nimenssana@amh.org.uk

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/menssana/

Southern Trust Area T 028 3839 2314

E menssana@amh.org.uk

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/menssana/



AMH New Horizons Antrim T 028 9442 8081

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/new-horizons/antrim/

AMH New Horizons Belfast T 028 9027 8283

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/new-horizons/belfast

AMH New Horizons Craigavon & Banbridge T 028 3834 2220

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/new-horizons/craigavon-banbridge

AMH New Horizons Derriaghy T 028 9062 9759

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/new-horizons/derriaghy

AMH New Horizons Downpatrick T 028 4461 3791

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/new-horizons/downpatrick

AMH New Horizons Fermanagh T 028 6632 3630

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/new-horizons/fermanagh

AMH New Horizons Foyle T 028 7137 3502

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/new-horizons/foyle

AMH New Horizons Newry & Mourne T 028 3026 6117

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/new-horizons/newry-mourne

AMH New Horizons North Down & Ards T 028 9182 2410

https://www.amh.org.uk/services/new-horizons/north-down-ards







EDA's Upcoming Support Services May 2020

12/05/20 Anorexia, Bulimia, OSFED
Online Support Group

19/05/20 Carers and Parents
Online Support Group

26/05/20 Anorexia, Bulimia, OSFED

Online Support Group

28/05/20 Binge Eating Disorder
Online Support Group

Phone and Email Support Services are operating as normal

Phone: 028 90 235959
Email: info@eatingdisordersni.co.uk

Please visit our website for more info : www.eatingdisordersni.co.uk





OUR COMMUNICATION MIGHT BE DIFFERENT BUT WE ARE STILL HERE TO SUPPORT YOU

YOU CAN CONTACT OUR TEAM VIA EMAIL OR PHONE TO REFER TO OUR SERVICES

www.addictionni.com or call 028 9066 4434

① /addictionni







Every Wednesday from 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 4pm





PBNI CONTINUE TO WORK WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE ADDICTIONS.

We work with partners to tackle substance misuse and provide support and interventions to those under probation supervision.



Women "stay" for many reasons

Women may fear losing custody of their children.

They fear **not being able to provide** for their children financially.

Other women fear the **upset** it will cause their children if they have to leave their home or school.

Many women fear that they, or their children, will be killed or injured if they try to leave.

> If you are feeling trapped at home with a partner who is being abusive, please call **02890 666 049** for confidential support and advice.

Belfast and Lisburn

Even during lockdown, you have options. #YouAreNotAlone



at apps4healthcareni.hscni.net

Service provided by ORCHA











Extern Drug & alcohol support services:

Alcohol Housing Support

Based in Belfast, Extern's Alcohol Housing Support works with adults who are homeless or at risk of homelessness as a result of their chronic/severe alcohol use. Further information

Drugs Accommodation Support Project (DASP)

Based in Belfast, Extern's Drugs Accommodation Support Project (DASP) supports IV drug users to stabilise their lives by accessing temporary supported accommodation. <u>Further information</u>

Dual Diagnosis Street Team (DDST)

Extern's Belfast-based Dual Diagnosis Street Team supports individuals around drug, alcohol and metal ill- health issues while working to secure accommodation. Further information

Low Threshold Teams

The Low Threshold Team provides short or long term support for adults affected by alcohol or drugs misuse. <u>Further information</u>

Ormeau Homeless Centre

Base in Belfast, Extern's Ormeau Centre provides temporary accommodation and support to mean and women experiencing homelessness. <u>Further information</u>

Step 2 Service

The Ballymena-based Step 2 service provides advice and support to anyone who has been impacted by alcohol or substance misuse. Further information

Extern Minority communities support services:

Homeless Traveller Project

Extern's Homeless Traveller Project provides intensive support around housing and homeless issues to members of the Travelling Community in the Greater Belfast Area.

Further information

Refugee Floating Support Service

Extern's Refugee Floating Support Service officers support advice to individuals and families who have been granted refugee status. Further information

Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme

Extern's Refugee Support Service is a dedicated service for individuals and families forced to flee their homes and who have neem granted refugee status.

Further information



www.extern.org





For more information contact: 028 90 313163 or info@macsni.org





Looking for a job and need some extra support? Here's the place to start.





land European Social Fund Programme 2014 - 2020

Do you live in the Belfast or Newtownabbey area and need help finding a job?

Find a job that is right for you with our advice on where to search, CV's and much more.

To find out more, contact our team on:

07484515353 or email rodney.barbour@extern.org

E-learning & One to One Support Available Now!

Do you have a conviction? Have you been furloughed? Would you like support with your education?

- Warehousing Safety
- · Food Hygiene & Safety
- Starting a Business
- First Aid At Work
- COSHH

- Employability Support
- Disclosure Statements
- CV Writing
- Job Sourcing
- Interview Skills

#timeforchange

To register contact: 02890320157 or workingwell@niacro.co.uk









Working



HSC South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust

The South Eastern Trust Family Support Hubs are continuing to provide a bespoke support service to families during the COVID19 period.

- 1. Family Support is being provided by telephone/Zoom calls weekly for 4-12 weeks and covering:
 - Behaviour management advice and guidance including sleep disruption/boredom etc at this time
 - Household routines
 - Play skills
 - Practical support eg fruit and veg scheme, foodbanks, signposting to other service eg benefit entitlements
 - Visuals
 - Resource packs which include a social story about COVID19
- 2. Therapeutic Support is being provided by telephone/Zoom calls weekly for 4-12 weeks and covering:
 - Anxiety
 - · Sleep advice and guidance
 - Routines, eating, exercise etc.
 - Confidence and self esteem
 - Anger
 - Containing and motivating parents so they become stronger and more able to cope with their child's behaviour

A range of therapeutic tools/strategies are used to help young children to explore feelings. Staff are innovative and creative in their approach to this ensuring that they tailor the work to the needs of each child. At this time evening calls are also taking place as the children are in bed or otherwise occupied to allow parents time to talk.





CASE EXAMPLE:

Young boy, aged 5, was overwhelmed with school prior to COVID19 and even with visuals in place he was struggling to communicate his fears and anxieties. Parents reported a regression in behaviour and challenging routines since lockdown. Family Support Worker completed 4 sessions by telephone covering using the visuals more effectively, behaviour management and calm down techniques. She also suggested making up a sensory box and when and how to use that. A resource pack was sent out to the family which included a social story about COVID19, information on appropriate Apps and websites and tips for home schooling and being active. Outcome: Mum reported they still have good and bad days but things are much more settled, with a better routine in place. Mum found the resource pack very useful. Dad now more involved taking his son out for exercise.

For further information on Family Support Hubs in your area?

Contact: Helen Dunn, Regional Coordinator of Family Support Hubs Email: Helen.dunn@hscni.net