



# THE NET

News, views & updates for the Wider Stakeholder Group

## Welcome to the 7<sup>th</sup> Issue of the London Teaching Public Health Network Newsletter

**This has been another exciting and productive period for the Network.** A big focus of our work has been with the implementation of our project on tackling childhood obesity in London, which is progressing well and nearing completion. We have also had a presence at the 17<sup>th</sup> UKPHA Annual Public Health Forum in Brighton in March, the consultation on the skills passport has been published and our new website is now developed and live. Update on these as well as other news and events is given below.

### Welcome to our new team member:

*Arabella Hayter* joined us in February to help on our childhood obesity project 'Healthy Weight for London's Children'

### And a fond farewell to:

*Claire Williams and Yi Gong* who both provided administrative support for our childhood obesity project. We wish them well.

## Healthy Weight for London's Children Project Update

Level 1 training, to deliver basic one day brief intervention training to people who work with children in some capacity, has been rolled out across a number of PCTs in London. We completed Level 1 training at the end of March 2009, exceeding our target to train 500 people, set by the DH. Early evaluation of the programme has been extremely positive: having completed the training, 95% of participants now feel happy to raise the issue of healthy weight in children with parents/carers and many PCTs are interested in running the training again due to oversubscription.

Our innovative Level 2 targeted intervention, **CHALK** (Creating Health for Active London Kids), is well underway. The CHALK four day 'Train the Trainers' programme was completed at the end of March 2009; training took place across the 3 pilot London boroughs, Brent, Haringey and Southwark, and there are now 35 fully trained CHALK trainers. We have now delivered the programme to more than 90 children across these pilot boroughs, with the addition of Ealing. CHALK has been delivered in a variety of settings, including community and leisure centres, children centres, primary schools, mosques and voluntary organisations.



A scene from one of our CHALK activities

The programme has been very well received by all those taking part: trainers, children and families. Evaluation is ongoing. We have been delighted at the enthusiasm and participation in this project from many people in such a wide range of organisations across London: it has been truly intersectoral from concept to delivery. If you are interested in finding out more about any aspect of LTPHN's Childhood obesity programme, or to get involved with Obesity Brief Intervention training or **CHALK** in the future, please contact Fiona Sim.



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## DIARY DATE

**Faculty of Public Health Annual Conference**  
'Leading for Health – Evidence, Policy and Practice'  
Scarborough, 16-18 June 2009

See our website [www.ltphn.org.uk](http://www.ltphn.org.uk) for other upcoming events

## New public health teaching modules for health professionals

LTPHN has been commissioned by the Department of Health to produce teaching modules on clinical topics, suitable for pre-qualification health professional courses. This new project commenced in April 2009, with a planned completion date of end of December 2009. The project will be to develop and test public health teaching modules in four important clinical areas, designed to be suitable for students undertaking pre-qualification, mainly undergraduate, health professional courses. These will be focused on: heart disease, stroke, diabetes and child health. These modules will complement modules recently developed for [HealthKnowledge](#), a DH sponsored on-line learning resource for public health practitioners. For any further information on the project please contact:

[Fiona.sim@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Fiona.sim@lshtm.ac.uk) or [Lorraine.williams@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Lorraine.williams@lshtm.ac.uk)

## Understanding and Sharing the Third Sector's Essential Contribution to Health and Well-Being

LTPHN, along with the Public Health Resource Unit (PHRU) and the NGO Forum at the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) is organizing a workshop in June with representatives from voluntary and community organizations to better understand and capture the vital role they play in promoting and protecting the health and well-being of the individuals, groups and communities they serve.

A summary of the results of this workshop will be circulated through the NGO Forum and Teaching Public Health Networks and will be available to download from our website. It will also help form a crucial part of the UK-wide public health careers website PHORCaST, a DH funded project currently being developed by PHRU.

For further information please contact [Lorraine.williams@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Lorraine.williams@lshtm.ac.uk) or for information about PHORCaST on <http://www.phru.nhs.uk/index.htm>

## The 17<sup>th</sup> UKPHA Annual Public Health Forum, Brighton.

The regional Teaching Public Health Networks presented a cohesive and unified front at this annual national event, communicating their work through a Region Wide TPHN exhibition stand, individual poster presentations, parallel sessions and workshops. LTPHN held a parallel session on developing the professional workforce: our strategies to building public health capacity among the wider public health workforce in London. Here we spoke about our current work on training the wider workforce to tackle the growing problem of childhood obesity in London as well as our research and consultation on developing a Skills Passport, which could be piloted with the third sector, to enable individual and organizational professional development in public health. The report of the consultation, published jointly with Skills for Health, was distributed following the session and at the conference from our exhibition stand. The report is available to download as a pdf on our website [www.ltphn.org.uk](http://www.ltphn.org.uk) Feedback has been positive and we are currently seeking BIG Lottery Research Funding to take this work forward. For further information, or to request a hard copy of the consultation report, please contact [Lorraine.williams@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Lorraine.williams@lshtm.ac.uk)

## LTPHN Website

At long last our new website is now live at [www.ltphn.org.uk](http://www.ltphn.org.uk). The website includes a new searchable resource database for registered members. To become a member please register on the above, free of charge. Comments and suggestions are welcome, please contact [Lorraine.williams@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Lorraine.williams@lshtm.ac.uk)

## A National Group for TPHN's

The nine TPHNs in England have recently agreed to form a national group to represent the shared interests of the TPHNs and their stakeholders and take forward the agenda of building public health capacity across sectors and in diverse sections of the workforce. The group now has a coordinator, Richard Jerrett, funded by DH for a year, to support development as a valuable collaborative resource for public health capacity building. Fiona Sim is the group's inaugural Chair.

### Contact us....

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