



London Teaching Public Health Network

Newsletter No.4 Autumn 2007

Events

The Network held its first Stakeholder event in December 2007. This one day event was attended by 100 people from all LTPHN constituencies. In addition to some inspiring plenary presentations, the parallel sessions included an amazingly diverse collection of examples of teaching and learning innovation, well prepared and professionally delivered. We have asked speakers to share their presentations and will be available on our new, soon to be re-launched, website. This event has encouraged us to arrange further capacity building events for our members and associates. We are planning events as follows:

General network events

- October 2008

Inter-professional public health education

- December 2008

Focus on building capacity for tackling Obesity in London

Planned special interest events

- meeting the needs of 3rd sector workers
- e-learning and public health

- CVD prevention - workshop for DsPH/PCT Leads, 22nd April 2008

Please watch our website for further details.

Other events

UKPHA Annual Public Health Forum:

1-2 April 2008, Liverpool. LTPHN will have a Poster presentation to share the work of the Network. We hope some of our members will be at the Conference. For details and registration please see www.ukpha.org.uk

Projects

Assessment of public health skills of third sector workforce

The first strand of this work, development of a web-based self assessment of public health skills tool, is nearing completion and should be piloted by the end of March 2008. The second phase, carrying out focus groups with the third sector workforce to assess 'felt' public health skills needs and gaps are currently being organised and will be held on March 20th at the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health headquarters in London and March 28th at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London. If you would like more

information on this project please contact Lorraine Williams at lorraine.williams@lshtm.ac.uk

Undergraduate Teaching

A series of qualitative interviews is in process with course developers exploring how and if course developers use the National Public Health Skills and Careers Framework Competences, identifying cases of excellence in public health teaching, and investigating different learning practices and models.

The Working Group will shortly be making available on our website teaching resources suitable for clinical students, on a range of topics including smoking and mental health. A directory of courses which have public health content will also be made available, building on the results of a mapping survey undertaken in 2007. This will form the basis of a searchable library once the database behind it has been built.

Kathryn.oliver@lshtm.ac.uk

Tackling Childhood Obesity

We are all aware of the increasingly worrying trends in population obesity rates, often starting in childhood. LTPHN is embarking on work, funded by the Department of Health, to develop, in partnership with members and other stakeholders in London, capacity to help tackle

childhood obesity. If you have relevant expertise or experience or have an interest in being involved in this project, please contact Fiona.Sim@lshtm.ac.uk

The National Public Health Skills and Careers Framework

The Framework has now been approved and formally endorsed by key public health stakeholder organisations. It will be launched at the UKPHA conference in April 2008. The final document can be viewed and downloaded as a PDF on www.skillsforhealth.org.uk.

A series of information leaflets has just been published to support implementation of this Framework. The work of LTPHN is cited in two of these leaflets. Please see our website, where they will be available shortly.

Fiona Sim
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fiona.sim@lshtm.ac.uk