

Adolescent Resource Newsletter

***** Seasons Greetings! *****

December 2004

To support professionals involved in the care of young people by signposting useful resources and highlighting opportunities for professional development .

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Disclaimer

Resources detailed here have been identified as potentially useful and whilst every care has been taken to ensure that they are appropriate and/or relevant for adolescents with chronic illness and/or their healthcare providers, the author accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or suitability of their content.

Adolescent Webwatch

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

 www.need2know.co.uk

Useful UK-based signposting site for young people

FOR PROFESSIONALS

 www.jrf.org.uk

Just published on the Joseph Rowntree Foundation website is 'Inter-agency work and the Connexions strategy'. This research examines the problems involved in inter-agency work to help young people facing complex problems, when UK youth policy itself is under review. Read it at:

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/redirect.asp?url=findings/socialpolicy/d24>

 www.plan-international.org

The State of the World's Teenagers [report]

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child had its 15th birthday on 20 November 2004. Plan, The international children's agency marked the occasion by publishing a major new report about the state of the world's teenagers. "I'm a teenager, what happened to my rights?" says that, as they reach their teens, children face numerous new threats that can rob them of their childhoods; ruin their health; or wreck their

chances of a secure future. The study argues that too many of the children who have reached their teens since the Convention was ratified, on 20 November 1989, still know nothing of the rights it promises.

On 20 November 1989, the signing of the Convention on the Rights of the Child promised to guarantee fundamental human rights for the world's children. Yet many who have grown up within its lifetime know little or nothing of what it is to have the protection and freedoms enlisted within its 54 articles. The report focuses on the issues affecting young people today including sexual exploitation, child labour, crime and punishment, HIV/AIDs, early marriage and motherhood. The report advocates for teenagers to be listened to: they are grown-up enough to have a say over their own destiny. The report highlights examples of teenagers taking matters into their own hands to realise their rights and achieve lasting changes.

For more information, contact:

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Website: www.plan-international.org

Visit: www.crin.org/resources/infoDetail.asp?ID=4838



www.selfharmuk.org

UK-based site detailing the national enquiry into selfharm with useful information, reports and links. Young people aged 11-25 are invited to complete a questionnaire on their experience of self-harm.

Forthcoming Dates and Meetings for your diary!

Teenage Suicide and Self-Harm: an introduction to a training pack for professionals

One day workshop to introduce the 5-session training pack for professionals on the topic of teenage suicide and self-harm recently produced by the Trust for the Study of Adolescence (www.tsa.uk.com)

Wednesday 26th January 2005

Lady Anne Middleton's Hotel, York

Costs £156 with reductions for voluntary organizations and students.

For further information, contact the Trust for the Study of Adolescence, 23 New Road, Brighton, BN1 1WZ Tel; 01273 771249 Fax: 01273 729098

December 31 2004

Closing date for abstracts for:

The VIII International Association of Adolescent Health IAAH World Congress, Lisbon, Portugal
11-14 May 2005 "Positive Youth development"

For further details: www.mundiconvenius.pt

2005 *

Bridging the Gaps: Health Care for Adolescents

Dates: 6, 13 , 27 April & 11 May 2005 (see attached flyer)

A series of 4 study days in Adolescent Health are planned at Birmingham Childrens Hospital, Spring 2005 as part of the University of Birmingham multidisciplinary MSc in Child Health but each day will also be open to any interested health professional. The series aims to follow the curriculum as proposed by the Euteach model (www.euteach.com) and the Bridging the Gaps document [www.rcpch.ac.uk 2003]

Adolescent Health Bridging the Gap: Health Care for Adolescents

6 April : *A Primer in 21st Century Adolescent Health*

- Definitions and Epidemiology
- Bio-psychological development
- Context and impact: family, socio-economic, cultural, ethnic and gender issues
- Adolescent Health Service Provision
- Communication skills

Speakers to include Drs Aidan MacFarlane, Janet McDonagh & Russell Viner

13 April: *The Teenage Brain*

- Mental Health in adolescence
- Self harm, chronic fatigues and pain syndromes
- Education, vocation and young people

Speakers to include Dr Jacqui Clinch, Dr Mike Prendergast, Ann Johnson, Emily Watson and Janine Hackett

27 April : *Adolescent Risk and Resilience*

- Substance use and abuse
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Health Education and promotion including school health

Speakers to include Dr Aidan MacFarlane, Beth Houston (Birmingham Drug Action Team, Brook Advisory, Peer educators)

11 May : *Whose body is it anyway ?*

- Common medical conditions of adolescence
- Impact of chronic illness on adolescence
- Confidentiality, consent, rights and personal advocacy

Speakers to include Nell Pegg, Dr Richard Burack, Dr Janet McDonagh.

Come and do the whole course or individual days. To be held in the Education Centre, Birmingham Children's Hospital on 6, 13, 25 April, 11 May 2005

Daily Course fees with lunch and refreshments:

Nursing and Allied Health Professionals £55

Doctors £100

Full course with assessment is also available as a University of Birmingham 20 CAT point accredited Masters level module.

For further details contact Diane Reay, Institute of Child Health, Whittall Street, Birmingham B4 6NH, tel: 0121 333 8710, email: d.reay@bham.ac.uk

Do you know of any other useful resources or opportunities for professional development? If you do, please let us know by email to: j.e.mcdonagh@bham.ac.uk