Minutes: Care Home Network meeting 22.11.22 10am -12

**Attendees:**

Bellann O’Brien

Helen Oliver

Megan Beattie

Lindsey Brown

Lynda Heddle

Loreen Pardoe

**Updates:**

* **New posts with GWT- please share**

IG Development Worker, Communications & Digital Marketing officer, Funding Specialist.

* **Events:**

Online intergenerational Q & A session on Thursday 24th November 2022, 10:00am - 11:30am

Excellence awards - Nomination forms must be submitted by 13th December 2022. Award winners announced at the GWT Conference in March

Sponsorship of GWT Excellence Awards available

GWT Conference dates for diary - 8th March 2023

* **Training:**

Introductory online modules

Dates IG 1-day training for 2023 have started to go up – Dundee, Edinburgh,

(let Lorraine know if there is a training need in your area or a free venue)

ICIP Tuesday 2nd May - Monday 26th June 2023

* **Date for your diary**

Dates & topics needed for discussion in the care home network for 2023- **any suggestions?**

Introductions:

Everyone introduced themselves: name, organisation, what part of the country they are in and whether they currently monitor and evaluate (M&E) their work.

A mixture of responses as some people have been involved with intergenerational work (IG) longer than others. Some did internal monitoring, another involved stakeholders in the M&E. Most people don’t evaluate and monitor what they do.

To raise awareness of the effectiveness of intergenerational learning we need to get better at capturing what has worked and the impact it has, so that we can share it with others.

Lorraine shared a slide illustrating the number of care homes that were engaged in IG work (58%) and of those how many had accessed training (13%). Perhaps lack of training is why so few IG practitioners feel confident in monitoring and evaluating their work? M&E is covered as part of the one IG day training course.

Lorraine went through a slide busting some myths about M&E, highlighting the importance of discussing M&E at the planning stage with all stakeholders.

We discussed the definitions of evaluation, impact & monitoring so that we all had a shared understanding.

We explored why we need to get better at M&E.

Reflect on existing intergenerational practice

* To ensure we are meeting our aims
* To provide feedback
* To secure time & resources to keep going
* To show benefits, impact & difference
* To give value to what we do
* To bust the myth that IG learning is a nice thing to do, it’s an essential thing to do and can be used as a targeted approach.

We then discussed a range of M&E tools and people shared additional ones that they had used.

* Questionnaires or online surveys that ask participants to answer questions about the learning, changes and differences that taking part in the activity has made.
* Baseline assessments such as age perceptions or gingerbread activity before & after. Loreen pointed out that this activity also reflects our own biases and perceptions which are useful to explore.
* Focus groups or mini-group discussions that inquire about the learning, changes and differences that participants form each generation has gained.
* 1-2-1 interviews.
* A log of written or voice recordings of quotes
* Case studies such as those used in the Play & Storytelling toolkit
* Observations
* Leuven Scales & Arts/Obs scale – capturing
* well-being & engagement
* Film/photos
* Loreen suggested building in protected time at the end of sessions for reflection which is what they had done at Jedborough.
* Tom Drummond Learning Stories
* Using coloured buttons to get people to feedback about specific activities and then generate these into data

Lorraine explained about the US Generations Utd toolkit- and she’ll send out the link.

Discussions:

We talked about the importance of sharing the results from M&E to raise awareness about IG work and making sure that we involve all stakeholders in the M&E process.

Using the Kaplan Levels and quality standards in the planning stages as an evaluative tool. This is why the categories for the GWT Excellence Awards are now linked to the quality standards to raise awareness of them.

Supporting others just starting their IG journey.

Acknowledging partners expertise and knowledge regarding the generation they support. We need to involve staff in M&E because they hold the detailed information about the participants and the change that may occur.

Following process of step 1 – what are you aiming to do. Step 2- choosing activities that are linked to the aim. Step 3 – deciding what the indicators are to measure linked to the aim.

Next steps:

* Discuss monitoring & evaluation with others
* Decide which tools are the best for your participants & your project
* Think about any training that people may need to take part in the monitoring & evaluation process- use the M&E module as an induction for staff & volunteers
* Involve everyone
* Don’t leave it to the end of your project
* Share your results widely- send case studies to GWT so that we can add it to the resource library

Lastly:

Email Lorraine with suggestions for care home network meetings topic discussions

Email Lorraine if would like to offer a venue to meet or if there are lots of people that need training in your area

Lorraine to send out links and add minutes & recording to website