



The November 2013 newsletter brings together details of a range of projects that SWHIN members are currently engaged in. They include a brief report of the LA conference where SWHIN convenor, Kate Karban, was successful in inviting social epidemiologist, Professor Nancy Krieger to give a plenary presentation. The newsletter also gives details of the Joint World Conference in Melbourne in 2014, the development of webpages on social work and health inequalities, a journal special issue on social work and health inequalities and future plans. We think you will agree that the network is a vibrant way of collaborating to promote social justice and equality.

Social Work In Health and Mental Health 2013 Conference at University of Southern California, Los Angeles, June 23-27

SWHIN made a vibrant presence at Los Angeles. Four symposia were led and presented by SWHIN members: indigenous health, mental health and wellbeing, health inequalities in the social work curriculum and LGBT health inequalities. The highlights included a plenary presentation on Social Inequalities in Health by Professor Nancy Krieger. There were 17 papers in symposia and a further 8 members presented papers in other sessions. Twenty-two members enjoyed a meal together in the Hotel Radisson on the Wednesday evening and members met at other times throughout the conference. Details of the conference can be found here: <http://pathways2013.com/>

Joint World Social Work and Social Development Conference, Melbourne *Promoting Social and Economic Equality, 9-12 July 2014*

Social and economic equality is the overarching conference theme, however, there are no symposia planned. Abstracts were due in October. Please let Julie (jfish@dmu.ac.uk) know when your abstract has been accepted. Details of the conference can be found here: <http://www.swsd2014.org/>

Social Work and Health Inequalities on the Social Care for Excellence web-pages: resources for students and practitioners.

During the past year, SWHIN has been working to develop resources and case examples of good practice about the role of social work in addressing health inequalities. To this end, we have joined up with the Social Care Institute for Excellence to make them freely accessible through their website. The pages are organised around Michael Marmot's six UK policy objectives, from *Fair Society, Healthy Lives*, because we believe that they have immediate recognition value for social work practitioners, students and educators. This is the link to the webpages:

<http://www.scie.org.uk/workforce/socialcareandhealthinequalities/index.asp>

We hope there will be considerable interest in these pages and that we will be able to go on to develop similar pages from an international perspective. This is part of SWHIN's commitment to provide further evidence of social work efforts to combat the socially damaging impact of health inequalities and in our active endeavours to support people to live flourishing lives.

The College of Social Work curriculum guide on physical health, dementia and end of life care.

As part of the reforms of the social work curriculum in England, The College of Social Work (TCSW) has commissioned a series of curriculum guides. Julie completed the guide on physical health, dementia and EOLC which incorporates a health inequalities/ social determinants of health perspective. It is available here:

http://www.tcsw.org.uk/uploadedFiles/TheCollege/Media_centre/CG_Health.pdf

Global Agenda for Social Work, UK meeting October 18th 2013

Kate attended the meeting on the Global Agenda in Birmingham that brought together UK-based groups interested in working together to promote this in the UK.

Journal special issue on social work and health inequalities

Call for Abstracts for Special Issue

On Social Work and Health Inequalities/Inequities

We are seeking article submissions for a special issue on social work and health inequalities/inequities. A two-pronged approach will be used, first the submission of an abstract (approximately 250 words) of the proposed article by November 15, 2013 to determine the appropriate journal of five possibilities for the special issue. All the journals are international journals and cover various aspects of health and human development across different age groups such as children, adolescents, or families, or service delivery areas like Public Health. Article submissions may be in the form of review articles, original articles, case reports, short communications, letters to the editor, or book reviews. The special issue is seeking abstracts that address your work or your teams work in the content areas of social work health and inequalities or social work and health inequities. Abstracts and subsequent manuscripts will be primarily reviewed by members of social work and health inequalities network (SWHIN). The International Editorial Board of the journals is dedicated to producing high quality scientific journals of interest to researchers and practitioners from many disciplines and appreciates interdisciplinary work. In addition, this special edition will be published as an edited book by Nova Science Publishers.

To be considered for this special edition (or for any questions about the edition), please submit your abstract to Bruce Friedman (bfriedman@csub.edu) by November 15, 2013.

Michael Marmot's speech on health inequalities: on choice, health behaviours and inequalities. An interesting perspective.

Sir Michael Marmot delivers the opening lecture of the BBC Radio 3 Free Thinking Festival 2013, exploring the traits that determine a healthy life span and arguing that we need to rethink the relationship between health, wealth and self-control.

Professor Marmot is one of the global pioneers of research into health inequalities - how stress, status and diet can affect our wellbeing. His ground-breaking Whitehall Studies followed the health and stress levels of British civil servants over a decade and he coined the term "status syndrome" to describe his discovery that being lower down the pecking order leads to a shorter life span.

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b03f2kzr

Global Observatory – call for practice examples

The EASSW made a call for practice examples to the global observatory in preparation for Melbourne. SWHIN executive members made a number of submissions.

<http://www.eassw.org/global-social-work/6/examples-of-submissions-to-the-global-observatory.html>

Strategic issues and future planning

Social media

At an executive committee meeting last year, we discussed the potential of social media including Facebook, blogs and twitter. Kate, Paul and Julie have joined Twitter in the summer. We are using the hash-tag #socialworkandhealthinequalities to extend the reach of the network and to reach new audiences.

Julie Fish

Kate Karban

Paul Bywaters

Eileen Mcleod

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