Social Workers in Primary Care

Committee Members

The Primary Care SIG Committee members during 2018-2019 were:

Chair: Eadaoin Ni Bhroin, Vice Chair: Michelle Losty, Secretary: Aine Delaney.

Training Officer: Barbara McDonough.

Non-Executive Officers: Louise Timmins, Catriona McMahon & Conor Fitzpatrick.

Meetings

The Primary Care SIG held meetings during 2018-2019:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27/07/2018</td>
<td>Naas –SIG meeting</td>
<td>SIG meeting and committee meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/12/2018</td>
<td>Dublin SIG meeting</td>
<td>AGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>07/02/2019</td>
<td>Dublin SIG Committee</td>
<td>Committee meeting-handover meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/02/2019</td>
<td>Naas –SIG Committee</td>
<td>Date</td>
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Membership

The Primary Care SIG membership numbers for 2018-2019 was: 90

Activities / Events for 2018-2019

- The Primary Care SIG organised a Development Day for Primary Care Social Workers in Limerick on 24th October 2018. This event was facilitated by an external facilitator Libby Kinneen, Organisational Development Consultant. The focus the day was on “Defining the role of the Primary Care Social Worker”. This training was followed up with a second day on 27th March 2019 with a focus on following on from outcomes of the first day and focusing on “Articulating the role of the Primary Care Social Worker”. Following these training days, a plan will be developed to implement the outcomes into defined goals. The goals will then be divided into specific timeframes of short-term goals, to be completed with a 12-month timeframe and longer-term goals to be completed within a 36-month timeframe.

- Colette O’Reagen, Training and Information Coordinator LGBTI- presented training on how to work with clients who identify as LGBT at the SIG meeting in Naas in July 2018.

- The Primary Care SIG plans to hold three 3 more SIG meetings in 2019. The committee have once again committed to rotating the location of the SIG meetings, aiming to make them accessible to as many Primary Care Social Workers nationally as possible. To further enhance accessibility, it is hoped to have tele-conference facilities at each SIG meeting to enable members who cannot attend on the day to participate.

- The meetings for 2019 are planned for May (Naas), September (Portlaoise) & December (Dublin). At each SIG meeting there will be a CPD/training element.

- The Chair/Vice Chair of the Primary Care SIG attended all IASW Council meetings.

- Co-working with the HSE Primary Care Managers Group on issues of mutual concern.

- Annual update of Primary Care Social Work database.

- Regular email communication with SIG members. Information emails from IASW/HSE and other relevant community groups/services were collated and circulated to SIG members.
Other highlights from the year

- The two Primary Care SIG motions submitted at the IASW AGM in May 2018 were passed. The two motions were then forwarded by the IASW to the HSE and Department of Health for consideration.

- From December 2018 to February, there was no Primary Care SIG committee, as no Primary Care SIG members volunteered for available positions at the Primary Care SIG AGM in December 2018. On February 7th, 2019, following on from a meeting to discuss the future of the Primary Care SIG a new Primary Care SIG committee was elected.

2018-2019 Publications

- The Primary Care SIG submitted an article ‘Examples of Primary Care Social Work’ In Ireland to the ‘The Irish Social Worker’ in 2018. This article was accepted for publication and will be published in the summer 2019 edition.