Welcome to the April edition of the Connect Centre newsletter. We are keen to hear about any new campaigns, major new research initiatives and opportunities for collaborations, and the best research you have recently read and we can include in our newsletter. Please send to: lradford@uclan.ac.uk

COMING SOON: FIRST CONNECT CENTRE CONFERENCE

Thursday 12 May, Brockholes Centre, Preston

We are looking forward to our first conference in May. Guest speakers include: Bragi Gudbrandsson, General Director of the Governmental Agency for Child Protection, Iceland Polly Neate, Chief Executive, Women’s Aid.

Connect Centre staff will be presenting findings from their recent research.

To book a place contact Lorna Burrow LMBurrow1@uclan.ac.uk

Recent Events

Centring Love in Domestically Violent and Abusive Relationships: Reframing the Duluth Power and Control Wheel

On the 2nd February, Catherine Donovan, Professor of Social Relations, University of Sunderland, presented a well-attended seminar at the Connect Centre. It is available to watch online at: https://vls.uclan.ac.uk/Play/12489

Pictured from left to right are: Professor Nicky Stanley, Dr Khatidja Chantler, Professor Lorraine Radford, Professor Catherine Donovan and Dr Rachel Robbins.

A NEW CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION POLICING HUB

The Connect Centre is one of four regional partners working with the University of Bedfordshire to enhance police responses to child sexual exploitation, other forms of child sexual abuse and associated vulnerabilities in adolescence through collaborative working between academia and policing at both national and regional levels. The work is funded by the College of Policing. In the north of England, the project covers Cumbria, Northumbria, Durham and Darlington, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Cheshire. Led by Professor Lorraine Radford, first steps will be to organise round table events with police and professionals working against child sexual exploitation to establish priorities and inform the programme of work. For further information contact Lorraine Radford at lradford@uclan.ac.uk
NEW RESEARCH

Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse
The Connect Centre has been commissioned by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (Goddard Commission) to conduct a rapid evidence assessment of what can be learnt from other jurisdictions about effective prevention and responses to child sexual abuse and exploitation. The desk based rapid evidence review is led by Professor Lorraine Radford ifunded by the Crown Office and is due to complete in autumn 2016.

C-MAP: Randomized Controlled Trial to evaluate the clinical and cost-effectiveness of a culturally adapted manual assisted problem solving therapy (C-MAP) in patients with a recent history of self-harm
Khatidja Chantler was pleased to be a co-applicant on this RCT which was funded by the Medical Research Council, Department for Innovation and the Wellcome Trust in November 2015. This is a multi-centre Pakistan based study focusing on women patients who have recently self-harmed. The Principal investigator is Nusrat Husain, University of Manchester.

Springboard
Rachel Robbins is leading an evaluation of ‘Springboard’ a partnership arrangement for the South Lakes area, which supports victims of domestic abuse in South Lakeland. The project aims to bring together the research expertise of the Connect Centre with the practitioner expertise of Springboard and its partners to evaluate progress on a range of domestic abuse initiatives to date and to consider strategies for developing services in the future. The evaluation includes interviewing stakeholders and service-users as well as a focus group with young people.

Protect Report
The PROTECT report on provider responses to trafficked people has just been published. Nicky Stanley, Connect Centre, was a co-applicant on this study with particular responsibility for the research addressing the health needs and health care response to children and young people trafficked into the UK. She delivered a paper based on this research at the European Conference on Social Work Research in Lisbon in April 2016. This independent research was funded by the Department of Health Policy Research Programme. The report is available to download at: http://www.kcl.ac.uk/ioppn/depts/hspr/research/CEPH/wmh/assets/PROTECT-Report.pdf

Connecting with the Connect Centre
If you want to join our Connect Network contact Lorraine Radford for further details. Membership is free and open to all who share our values and interests in doing and using research to end interpersonal violence. Connect welcomes applications from those interested in postgraduate study for MPhil or PhDs in the area of interpersonal violence. To talk informally about the benefits of PhD study at Connect contact Lorraine Radford lradford@uclan.ac.uk

Find us on twitter @UCLanConnect
Email lradford@uclan.ac.uk to be added or removed from the list.
Conferences

Lorraine Radford
- Lorraine presented a paper on lessons learnt at a two-day seminar on next steps in measuring violence against children organised by UNICEF/CDC/Together for Girls in Washington, New York in October.
- Participated in an expert consultation meeting on regulating the demand for child sexual exploitation in Geneva Switzerland in October. The event was organised by ECPAT and the UN Special Rapporteur as part of the work to mark the 20th Anniversary in 2016 of the first World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC).
- Took part in a round table on the evaluation of early help and domestic abuse organised by the Early Intervention Foundation in London in October.

Khatidja Chantler
- Understanding Forced Marriage, Police Scotland, December 2015
- Mental Distress, Insecure Immigration Status and Gender, Safety4Sisters, Manchester Metropolitan University, March 2016

Rachel Robbins
- Implementing the New NICE quality standard for Domestic Violence and Improving the Effectives of MARACS – March 2016, London. Rachel spoke at the HC conference in London detailing research about MARAC and highlighting the complexities of safeguarding and domestic abuse in adult social care. The conference was attended by a range of practitioners from various agencies and highlighted good practice in the sector.

JAPAN VISIT

Nicky Stanley is just back from her lecture tour of Japan where she spoke in Okayama, Nagoya and Kanazawa to mixed audiences of practitioners and researchers. Her presentations covered her work on pornography and sexting in young people’s intimate relationships and prevention of domestic abuse for children and young people. The picture shows her in Nagoya where she opened an event held to celebrate a new one-stop shop for victims of sexual assault.

Included in the picture are, from the left: Miyoko Nagae, Nihon Fukushi University, Nagoya; Haruko Kato, Hannan Chuo Hospital, Osaka; Nicky Stanley, Connect Centre, UCLan; Emiko Kataoka, Japanese Red Cross Nagoya Daini Hospital, Nagoya, and Mutsuko Takahashi, Kibi International University, Okayama (who hosted these lectures).
Welcome to Dr Christine Barter who joins the Connect Centre in May

Christine was an NSPCC Senior Research Fellow at the School for Policy Studies, University of Bristol before moving to UCLAN’s Connect Centre. Her most recent work has focused on youth violence and specifically violence and abuse in teenage intimate relationships. She led on a major European research project focusing on the use of new technologies in young people’s relationships (see www.stiritup.eu).

Her work currently addresses prevention in this area. She acts as an expert for the Children in Need/Premier League prevention programme on youth violence.

Training in Domestic Abuse, Doncaster

Connect Centre staff have delivered an innovative interagency training course for practitioners in Doncaster working with domestic abuse. Doncaster Children’s Trust is developing new ways of working with families and the Growing Futures initiative, funded by the Department for Education’s Innovation Fund, has introduced the new role of Domestic Abuse Navigators (DANs).

The Connect Centre module is entitled ‘Developing Practice with Children and Families living with Domestic Abuse’. As well as providing participants with access to recent research and opportunities to reflect on and develop their practice, the module offers the chance to gain 20 Masters Credits from UCLan. The course has attracted 28 participants from across the city, including police officers, social workers, health visitors and the newly appointed DANs.

If you or your agency would be interested in a similar course, contact Rachel Robbins at RRobbins1@uclan.ac.uk

Recent Publications


Lasrado, R., Chantler, K., Jasani, R. and Young, A. (2016) ‘Structuring Roles and Gender Identities within Families as Explanations of Suicidal Behaviour in South India’ Crisis, advanced online view DOI: 10.1027/0227-5910/a000379


New PhD Student

We also welcome Nicola Farrelly who has returned to the Connect Centre as a PhD student.

Nicola was formerly a residential social worker supporting adolescents in care and has since carried out research on issues affecting children and young people for the past ten years. Her PhD will be a study of a domestic abuse prevention programme for primary school children.