

NEWSLETTER

Whole Family Wellbeing Team



Introduction (WFWF)

After a rigorous and robust grant's process in which a number of third sector organisations and public bodies came together to discuss, develop and design transformational proposals for children, young people and families, we can now share those who have been awarded Whole Family Wellbeing Funds.

The fund received 26 Transformational collaborative proposals, composed of 65 different organisation / service areas. 6 proposals have been awarded funds. The organisations varied from the smallest in size (under 5 staff) up to public sector bodies. And this range is reflected within the awards, bringing an exciting opportunity for real systems change. Feedback showed that for those who engaged with the process (engagement events, call out forms and discussions), whether successful in an award or otherwise, many have gained far greater understanding of what other services can provide and it has also been a starter conversation for future developments. The support activities and interventions, the seamless approach to delivery and the co-design with families outlined within the awarded collaborations will help move us forward as a city in meeting the needs of children, young people and their families as early as possible and reduce the need for crisis intervention.

These collaboratives have the 10 Principles of Whole Family Support at their core, and those funded by the WFW (including the partnership central team) are committed to sharing learning. The WFW newsletter will provide updates on the activities of the Collaborations and the Partnership team, share impact reporting and provide information on furthering holistic whole family support in Edinburgh. Please find detailed below, a summary from each of the 6 successful collaborations.

The Family Hub Collaborative

Our project is a collaborative between Circle, Home-Start Edinburgh, Stepping Stones North Edinburgh, Home Link Family Support, Citizens Advice Edinburgh (CAE), CEC Early Learning & Childcare (ELC) and NHS Parent & Infant Mental Health Service (PAIRS).

The project aims to develop a transformational partnership approach that will test bespoke holistic whole-family support throughout the early years. The project will ensure that appropriate, universal, and enhanced support is available at the earliest stage possible for families with a child under 5. This will be prioritised by developing a cohesive pathway and menu of support alongside families. Our project is underpinned by early intervention and support. In providing holistic support to parents, we will improve the caregiving experience and infant mental health. Targeting secure attachment will increase the likelihood of children remaining within the family home. We aim to reduce the impact of poverty which helps to improve overall family wellbeing. Citizens Advice Edinburgh will build capacity in local communities by directly supporting families with income maximisation, and Family Wellbeing Practitioners will support by advocating alongside families.

All partners across the pathway will be supported to develop their skills and practice, by the inclusion of a Peep LT strategic development office.

Services will be delivered city-wide through a multi-agency Hub setting in each locality, highly mobile pop-ups (including ELC and community settings) and outreach in the home, according to the needs of families. We will support the above aims and transformational change through a tiered approach from universal groups to specialist PAIRS interventions focusing on improving secure attachment and early bonding, infant voice and infant mental health, and holistic early learning opportunities that we know provide the best start for children and their families.

Contacts

Locality	Contact
North East	Circle – Emma Hinton
North West	Stepping Stones North Edinburgh – Morag Wilson
South West	Home-Start Edinburgh – Eliza Ware
South East	Home Link Family Support – Paula Swanson

Edinburgh Family Support Partnership

The Edinburgh Family Support Partnership is a collaboration between CEC Social Work Service (Social Care Direct and Family Group Decision Making) Children 1st, Barnardos, Safe Families, Citadel Youth Centre (NE Locality) and Edinburgh Community Food.

Our vision is to transform the way families receive early and preventative help and support which is accessible within their local community.

The Collaboration will develop multi-disciplinary teams situated in each of the four localities across the city. The primary purpose of the teams will be to receive contacts which have been directed to the Children's Services Social Care Direct team. This will include a wide range of needs from early help, family support and intervention through to children where concern may have been raised by another professional agency or member of the public.

At the current time, 95% of contacts made with Social Care Direct are not assessed as requiring a formal, statutory social work intervention, however, individual family circumstances can often result in escalation to crisis situations if support is not offered at an early stage.

The Edinburgh Family Support Partnership aims to utilise the skills, knowledge and resources of each of the partners within the collaboration to "walk alongside" families for as long as need be. The teams also aim to be present, visible and easily accessible across the community in non-stigmatising venues, where families can "reach in for support".

The Edinburgh Family Support Partnership will offer a wide range of services including; Family support, Parentline, poverty prevention support, Safe Families respite support, various groups for parents, children and young people, child in need assessments and community initiatives.

A primary element of the partnership will be to develop a Community Social Work approach which reaches out to partner agencies, community groups, faith groups and families in communities, through an engagement and participation model to build on individual and community strengths which builds community capacity and provides solution focussed solutions to shared community issues.

It is anticipated recruitment to the teams will progress over June and July 2024 with the teams being operational in early Autumn.

For further information before the teams being in operation please contact Karen Pedder, Head of Service, Early Intervention at karen.pedder@edinburgh.gov.uk.

Whole Family Wellbeing Hub (Neurodiversity and Disability)

The Collaborative is our first formal partnership project to support families with a child or young person with a disability. We are made up of statutory and third-sector partners including The City of Edinburgh Council, The Yard, The NHS, Tailor Ed, Barnardo's, Kindred and Mindroom. We worked together within the Disability Strategy Group for over ten years identifying the need for support for disabled children. This will be the first time we have had the opportunity to come together to actively deliver a service.

Our collaborative project aims to establish a neurodiversity and disability One Stop Shop (OSS) offering family support and multi-agency services. It will operate from The Yard in the north of the city for two days a week and from Barnardo's in the south of the city, two days a week. We will support children and families regardless of diagnosis and children who are at risk of low school attendance or non-engagement. We will deliver training for families and professionals, links to specialist assessment, Early Years services, youth groups, play services, family support, advice, advocacy and counselling.

Our One Stop Shop approach will provide emotional and practical support from birth to adulthood to address some of the challenges experienced by families. We are thrilled to be working together to deliver a holistic service where families feel empowered and held. The One Stop Shop will be available from September 2024.

Parent Infant Partnership

A collaboration between:

- PrePare (City of Edinburgh Council);
- Dean and Cauvin Young People's Trust (3rd Sector);
- Lothian PAIRS (NHS); and
- Family Group Decision Making (City of Edinburgh Council).

Our collaborative has a focus on the early years and will work with families from conception, until the child's 2nd birthday (the first 1,000 days) where risk and need is high. There is significant evidence acknowledging the importance of the first 1,000 days on future health, learning and employment opportunities.

The Parent Infant Partnership will create a clear pathway of specialist support that:

- Increases direct support available;
- Is clear to access by universal and additional support services;
- Brings together skilled and experienced parent-infant services;
- Has defined intervention and assessment processes; and
- Reduces drift and delay by planning for all eventual outcomes.

We will build parenting capacity and strengthen attachment through a process of timely assessment, intervention and support to identify the next best steps for infants and families.

Our collaboration will create a multi-agency screening forum to coordinate unborn baby referrals in Edinburgh to engage vulnerable parents as early as possible. New parent-infant social workers will be created as the lead professionals in unborn baby cases, with additional support from Family Practitioners, residential Mother and Baby placements, and Residential Outreach Workers to provide intensive, whole-family support flexibly.

We will create an Edinburgh Parent-Infant assessment that will assess and build parental capacity. This will include the voices of parents, family members, and the Voice of the Infant.

Practitioners will be upskilled in evidence-based practices to develop a shared knowledge base of parent-infant observation and assessment. We will also provide clinical supervision and support to staff members to provide reflective practice opportunities and trauma-informed support.

Lead contact: Michelle.Kirkpatrick@edinburgh.gov.uk (until August). Operational time scales: August 2024

Youth Work and Mental Health Hubs (Time to Talk)

The project aims to support and improve young people's mental health and well-being across the City of Edinburgh using youth work approaches. Supported by NHS Lothian, this service brings five youth and community organisations together from different geographical locations across the city for the 1st time to deliver innovative work. Organisations include The Junction, Granton Youth, Wester Hailes Youth Agency, Canongate, and 6VT Youth Café.

The collab will expand existing services for young people, implement new services, and ensure families are linked into support for a holistic service. It's also an exciting opportunity for organisations to learn from each other's wealth of experience and gather independent evaluations on the project's impact, working with Northern Star.

Our services will provide one-to-one support for young people (aged 12 – 25) to support their mental health and wellbeing across the city using youth work and counselling methods, as well as NHS Health Scotland recommended tools.

Support and referrals for young people's parents and wider families, supporting their wellbeing and family dynamics.

Youth workers in hospital emergency departments (The Royal Hospital for Children and Young People and the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh) support family wellbeing when it's needed most.

Project development will start in July 2024, with all services fully operational in August 2024.

If a young person needs support, please get in touch. Contact Cara Spence, Director of The Junction.

cara@the-junction.org, 0131 553 0570.

Edinburgh Parent-Led Childcare Collaborative

We have a plan for a Transformation programme as part of the collaboration supporting parent-led after-school clubs in challenge areas: governance, fundraising, business development, Care Inspectorate and SSSC compliance.

There is also a plan to develop a new parent-led after-school club in the Craigmillar area, based on recent work with A Place in Childhood.

Implementing both these elements of the project will lead to sustainable affordable childcare provision across local communities. We will provide one new parent-led after-school club provision based in the Craigmillar area.

The Plan for Transformation programme with current parent-led after-school clubs, will focus on four challenge areas and engage senior leaders and Management Committees of Clubs. Beyond the life of the project, this work will have a legacy supporting future Clubs and leaders within the existing provision.

The lead contact/s for accessing services and an indication of when they will be operational

Laurene Edgar laurene@layc.org.uk or Sabina McDonald Sabina.McDonald@nhs.scot.

Current parent-led services are already operational, the Plan for Transformation programme will commence in August, and the new provision will be operational before the end of 2024, although work is starting on the foundations of this new registered charity and regulated provision.

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Collaborative Organisation Details

Youth Work and Mental Health Hubs (Time to Talk)

The Junction - Young People, Health & Wellbeing

NHS Lothian

6VT Edinburgh City Youth Cafe

Wester Hailes Youth Agency

Granton Youth Ltd

Canongate Youth

Northern Star Associates Limited

Edinburgh Family Support Partnership

City of Edinburgh Council Children's Services

Barnardos Scotland

Safe Families

Edinburgh Community Food

Citadel Youth Centre

Children 1st

The Family Hub Collaborative

Circle

Stepping Stones North Edinburgh

Home Link Family Support

Home-Start Edinburgh

Citizens Advice Edinburgh

NHS Lothian - Parent and Infant Relationship Service (PAIRS)

CEC Early Learning & Childcare (ELC)

Whole Family Wellbeing Hub (Neurodiversity and Disability)

The Yard

NHS Lothian

City of Edinburgh Psychological Services

Kindred Advocacy

Barnardo's

Salvesen Mindroom Centre

Tailor Ed Foundation

City of Edinburgh Social Work

Edinburgh Parent-Led Childcare Collaborative

Lothian Association of Youth Clubs (LAYC)

NHS Lothian

Liberton After School Club

Trinity After School Club

Parent Infant Partnership

City of Edinburgh Council - WHHLC

Dean and Cauvin Young People's Trust

NHS – Lothian Parent Infant Relationship Service (PAIRS)