



ECHF Forum Meeting
Date 01/04/21

Attendees: Catriona Wild (Health All Round), Liz Simpson (NHS Lothian), Magda Czarneck (Feniks), Katie Reid (ECHF) , Stephanie-Anne (ECHF), Kristine Armour (Caring in Craigmillar), Ruth Maclellen (C4C) , Suzanne Campbell (The Junction), Charlie Cumming (ELGT), Anne Munroe (PDP) , Helena richards (Carr Gomm), Amie Wilson (MacMillan), Nancy Bryson (The Beacon)

Apologies: Brock Lueck (OPF), Brenda Black (ECF), Biddy Kelly (Fresh Start), Moyra Burns, Maruska Greenwood (LGBT Health)

1. Welcome

Cat welcomed everyone to the meeting, with special thanks to Amie from Macmillan Cancer for joining.

2. Networking in Breakout Rooms

S-A split the group into two breakout rooms to discuss the following questions:

- What are you optimistic about in the next few months?
- What is worrying you?

Generally there was a comunal optimism over the next few months for spring/summer but a sense of anxiety surrounding our emergence from lockdown. Specifically when thinking of those in the elderly community. Next winter is a cause for concern among members of the group as with significant organisational leadership and structural changes. Discussion surrounding Anchor organisations after the first meeting to discuss their construction and implementation. Many members hope it will take a while for the Anchor Organisations structure to come into play as they dont feel they are ready for such a change with the current situation - when trying to priorities individuals safety, shifts in funding aren't what they think they wish to focus on. S-A encouraged all members to attend as many Community Anchor Orgs meetings as possible to ensure that the third sector voices are strong and unified.

3. CHEX Update

Unfortunately Susanne is on leave at the moment.

4. Macmillan Cancer - Aime

Aime presented a powerpoint on the new **Macmillan Project : Improving the Cancer Journey**. Hoping to be live and taking referrals by July, Macmillan funded for 3 years and intending for an exit strategy with NHS Lothian. Project runs in all four lothian areas, mid lothian and west have staff working at the moment with the other areas to follow. The project supports anyone at any point in their cancer journey including parents and carers. They are currently looking to reach individuals with lived experience of cancer to put together a group to help run services. They are running a **'sharing experiences'** online session to gain some insight into this which will run on: **Weds 14th April, Tues 20th, thurs 27th - email Aime or Katie for more details.**

Members are very encouraged to hear that the project is out there and it sometimes seems illnesses such as cancer can go off of the radar when dealing with so many health & inequalities issues. There is a role for community health projects to initiate discussions around cancer screening with their members which we should take action on. When considering minority groups in this way how can we continue to support minority groups like the Polish community, lonely or isolated individuals? How are the appointments going to be accessible and friendly for the individuals they seek to help - ensuring they are friendly, welcoming and reducing the barriers those with inequalities help. Aime encouraged anyone with thoughts on how to make these appointments and services as welcoming and accessible as possible to email her over their thoughts!

5. Forum update

S-A

- **IJB meets on 27th april**, please access these minutes after to look for Linda Irvine's update on extension of core grants for the year. This would mean four years core grants instead of three.
- Innovation Grants meeting to see if they are going to be continued. Lots of great projects on the go at the moment. **Action point to see if Orla would like to come along to share her project with the members of the Forum.**
- Matter of Focus sessions are ongoing and going well. For those that are considering joining in there is a meeting on the **20th of April at 3pm** to come along and chat about the next two years and how we see this going & the long term sustainability.

KR

- Updating the website to a slightly more modern and accessible platform, this will also include some *'member blogs'* which we hope to have up in the next two weeks!
- Member meetings are going well and it would be great for anyone not contacted to get in touch with a day they are available to meet!

Community Anchor Orgs

Lots of discussion on CAO's including worries from members of the groups:

- Didn't want them to be 'one-size-fits-all' or the only way to get money.
- Did want it to be a right fit for Edinburgh, not textbook standard, flexible and supportive.

S-A would encourage all those who made it to the first meeting to check the following report and ensure you feel it accurately represents the conversations we were having throughout the duration of the meeting. It is incredibly important that third sector voices are heard and influencing the discussions surrounding CAO's, however at the moment we have lots of questions and limited answers.

6. Members updates

Marion: Her and Ian brooks and equalities lead have been speaking about the poor vaccine uptake in marginalised groups, there will be info coming out in different languages, they have lots of data about who is taking the vaccine but little about who isn't taking it so could everyone let her know what reasons we know of why people aren't taking the vaccine and the barriers they face towards pick up - **Potential point for next meetings agenda.**

Magda got funding to promote vaccines in polish communities so there will be a campaign for uptakes. The information out there isn't very accessible for Polish individuals and needs to be made more accessible in terms of language and platforms of engagement. Please keep an eye out for these and circulate them to your networks where necessary.

7. AOCB

8. Date of next meeting(s) :

04/05/21