

Research Seminar – 2nd April 2007

The adoption and implementation of Family Group Conferences in child protection in the UK

Presenter: Dr Louise Brown

This seminar will be of interest to practitioners, managers, policy makers, researchers and students who would like to know more about the development and implementation of family group conferencing (FGCs) in the UK. Since the early 1990s FGCs have attracted much interest amongst social work agencies who saw this radical new model having the potential to put into practice the principles of empowerment, participation and partnership. Could it address some of the concerns around the number of children in state care and the poor associated outcomes for these children? Yet how transferable is this model? Would it keep children safe? Would it increase kinship care placements? Do we have enough wise elders in our families to make it work?

Biographical details

Since leaving the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) in 1992, where she was a Child Protection Officer, Louise has worked as a researcher specialising in evaluations of social work services that focus upon outcomes for service users. Louise has been based at the University of Bath for over ten years managing a portfolio of externally funded research and is also the Director of Studies for the social work degree programme. She has undertaken a three-year study exploring 'The Role of Family Group Conferences in Child Protection Practice' alongside more widespread research examining the adoption and implementation of family group conferencing across England and Wales.

Date and time: Monday 2nd April 2007, 4.00pm-5.30pm (drinks and nibbles afterwards).

Location: C3-15, Centenary Building, University of South Australia, City East Campus, Frome Road, Adelaide.

RSVP: For catering purposes, please contact Elizabeth Oram at the Australian Centre for Child Protection on (08) 8302 4030 or email elizabeth.oram@unisa.edu.au by Thursday, 29th March, 2007.

Please distribute this invitation to other interested people in your organisation/networks.