



With Financial Support from the DAPHNE III Programme of the European Union

Children Rough Sleepers and Young People on The Street: Sharing Experiences of What Works

Date:

18th December 2014

Venue:

**New Horizon Youth Centre,
68 Chalton Street, London NW1 1JR**

Children Rough Sleepers [CRS] focuses on children who run away, leave or are thrown out of their home or supported care accommodation and so wander and sleep rough upon the streets of the UK / Europe owing to their resultant homelessness. CRS are vulnerable minors who, as such, can become victims of sexual exploitation and abuse and even perpetrators of crimes in order to survive on the streets. They may have mental health/psychological problems and are very vulnerable.

The Children Rough Sleepers [CRS] is a 2-year European Project being led by the University of Wolverhampton and being undertaken in the UK, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Portugal, Italy, Slovenia, Spain and Hungary.

The conference will look at the extent of the problem in the UK and Europe, present our 2-year research findings, offer recommendations of best practices and what works in tackling the issue of CRS, allow an opportunity for delegates to contribute to the development of a key set of messages that can be fed back to Government and European Parliament, Policy Makers & European Networks.



**This is a FREE conference that has been funded by the
European Union DAPHNE Programme**

Conference Objectives

- 1) To share our findings from the 2 year research project in UK about the needs of CRS, the issues they face on the street, service provision including accessibility, vulnerabilities, street violence and exploitation, etc.
- 2) To share knowledge, developments and issues relating to CRS and what is happening across UK and Europe.
- 3) To discuss issues that services are currently experiencing in the current economic climate and how different services are delivered.
- 4) To share best practice, what works and experiences from the range of different services providers.
- 5) To provide an opportunity for delegates to participate in discussion workshops on specific issues that can be fed back to national Government(s) and European Policy Makers in Brussels.
- 6) To contribute ideas for further research or developmental work in the area of homelessness and rough sleeping.

Workshops

Workshop 1

Experiences and support of young LGBT rough sleepers: Finding Safe Spaces
Michael Nastari (Advice Manager) and Maria Sookas (Development Manager)
Stonewall Housing

Workshop 2

Emergency accommodation: Nightstop and community hosting
Yvonne Jones (Community Host Project Manager) and Ailsa McWilliam
(Support & Development Manager), Depaul UK

Workshop 3

Reaching young people in prisons and on the street
Peter Middleton (Senior Outreach Worker) and Alison Morgan (Outreach
Worker), New Horizon Youth Centre

Conference Programme

| | |
|-------|---|
| 9.30 | Registration |
| 10.00 | Welcome Shelagh O'Connor, Director, New Horizon Youth Centre |
| 10.15 | Introduction to the Project Paramjit Singh, Director for Research, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Wolverhampton |
| 10.30 | Children Rough Sleepers Research Project: Findings Professor Kate Moss, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Wolverhampton |
| 11.15 | Coffee Break |
| 11.45 | Children Rough Sleepers Research Project: Question & Answers Professor Kate Moss |
| 12.15 | Safe Places UK Research Sarah Lanchin, UK Programme Officer, and Jane Thompson, UK Research & Policy Officer, Railway Children |
| 12.45 | Lunch |
| 2.00 | Working Holistically with Children Rough Sleepers Dean Harris, Advice & Outreach Manager, and Claire Kew, PRS Coordinator, New Horizon Youth Centre |
| 2.30 | Workshop Breakout Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshop 1 – 'Experiences and support of young LGBT rough sleepers: Finding Safe Spaces'• Workshop 2 – 'Emergency accommodation: Nightstop and community hosting'• Workshop 3 – 'Reaching young people in prisons and on the street' |
| 3.15 | Coffee Break |
| 3.30 | Key Messages To Take To Government / European Policy Makers |
| 3.50 | Closing Remarks Professor Kate Moss |

Booking Your Conference Place

Places are limited, so please book as soon as possible. To reserve your place please complete the attached booking form & email to dean.harris@nyouthcentre.org.uk

Conference Enquiries

Dean Harris, Advice & Outreach Manager, New Horizon Youth Centre, 68 Chalton Street, London NW1 1JR

Email dean.harris@nyouthcentre.org.uk

Tel 020 7388 5560