

# Newsletter and Promising Practice

**Winter 2024** 



## **Education & Engagement Team**



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Click the image above to find out more about our offer of support.





Care Experience and Corporate Parenting E-Learning module now available to Corporate Parents.

The Scottish Government have funded us this year to develop a new and updated 'Care Experience and Corporate Parenting' e-learning module to ensure a breadth of understanding of both care experience and Corporate Parenting within Corporate Parenting organisations.

In the past we may have provided you with a Powerpoint presentation with content that your IT/learning and development team has then made into an e-learning module. We refreshed this approach and are delighted that we can now provide you with an updated, refreshed and fully formed e-learning module which is ready to be integrated into your learning management system. This exciting new 'Care Experience and Corporate Parenting' module is available at no cost to all named Corporate Parents, as per our funding.

If you are interested in accessing this e-learning module, please do get in touch and we can discuss how to make this available to you. If you have previously received e-learning content, we would request that you now stop using this as previous modules are now dated. Just get in touch and we can ensure that the transition to the new module is as smooth as possible.

Please email our Digital Education and Engagement Officer for more information: jflynn@whocaresscotland.org

### **Promising Practice**

## St Peter's Primary School Mini Love rally

To mark Care Experienced week in October, St Peter's Primary School in Renfrewshire hosted a mini Love Rally. Pupils made posters as part of their Communities that Care 'Learning about Care Experience' lessons that were delivered throughout the week. To celebrate, the school held a coffee morning open to parents and carers, and then pupils (alongside special guest Buddy the Bear!) marched around the school grounds displaying their posters and calling for a lifetime of equality, respect and love for all Care Experienced people. The event was also an opportunity for the school community to celebrate winning the 'Changing the Narrative Award' at the recent Corporate Parenting Awards. Well done to everyone at St Peter's Primary for your commitment to Corporate Parenting and creating a community that cares!











## Scouting and Social Security Scotland

We wanted to share this lovely example from David at Social Security Scotland where he has recognised Corporate Parenting in its widest sense and brought the Corporate Parenting values into every aspect of his life, not just in his work.

"I started working at Social Security Scotland in October 2022 and prior to attending a Corporate Parenting training event in February 2023 I had never really come across the concept of this before. I can't remember quite how it came about but it was during this training that I came up with the idea to suggest to our local Scout group (where I am one of the leaders) that we prioritise Care Experienced children for places within our different sections (Beavers / Cubs / Scouts etc.) – at the time we had a very large waiting list.... I had come across this before in terms of schools prioritising Care Experienced children and so it seemed to make sense that we could do this as a Scout Group. I've been a Scout leader for over 10 years and have first hand experience of the benefits that Scouting can give to Care Experienced children.

I discussed this with Laura Hill, the Lead Volunteer for our Scout Group, and she was very supportive of this suggestion. We presented it to the executive committee, who were all also very supportive of this and our policy was updated in March 2023. As of September 2024, we have been able to offer places to 5 children via this policy who would otherwise have likely been left on our waiting list.

Laura has also worked closely with a local youth group to raise awareness of our policy and in April 2024 updated the policy again to allow us to also prioritise siblings of Care Experienced children, who might not necessarily themselves be Care Experienced. This was to enable us to offer places to all the children in a family rather only be able to give a place to just one."

#### **Lifelong Rights Campaign - Issue Papers**



As part of our <u>Lifelong Rights Campaign</u>, we're publishing a series of issue papers which are linked to the top five issues that Care Experienced people, aged 16 and over, raise with us through independent advocacy.

We have just published the third paper in this series which looks into the topic of belonging and connection for Care Experienced people. In the paper we draw on evidence from a variety of sources including an online survey launched in Autumn 2024 and data from our advocacy work over the past year. All of this is supported by composite evidence- based case studies.

You can read all our Lifelong Rights Campaign reports by clicking the images above.

## THEMED LEARNING **EVENTS**

2024 - 2025





Calling all Corporate Parents!! We are excited to announce the next in our series of Themed Learning events.

In this session The Education and Engagement team will explore some key issues and themes that have been identified by the Care Experienced community with regards to health and access to healthcare services. We will discuss what is important to the community when it comes to their physical health, and inspire you as you strive to support Care Experienced people.

This session will take place on Tuesday 25th February, you can find out more and register for this event here.

## Health

Tuesday 25th February

<u>10am - 12pm</u> (>



## **Experience** of Services

Monday 31st March

10am - 12pm COMING SOON





In 2024 the Education and Engagement Team....

**Delivered** 

29

learning sessions

**Trained** 

891

people

**Trained** 

28

Corporate
Parenting
Organisations

**Delivered** 

5

Themed Learning Events

Delivered e-learning modules to

3

Corporate Parenting
Organisations

#### **Get in Touch**



find out more about our training offer please do get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.



corporateparenting@whocaresscotland.org



Click above to visit our website.



## ARE YOU CARE EXPERIENCED OR SUPPORTING SOMEONE WHO IS?

#### Have you heard about our Helpline?

The term "Care Experienced" refers to anyone who is currently in care or has been for any length of time regardless of their age.

This care may have been provided in many different settings, such as:

- Kinship Care: Living with a relative who is not your mum or dad
- Looked After At Home: With the help of social work
- Residential Care: Living in a residential home or school
- Foster Care: Living with foster carers
- Secure Care: Living in a secure accommodation
- Adoption: Living with adoptive parents



Our Helpline is for Care Experienced people and those supporting them.

We offer connection, a listening ear, lifelong advocacy, support and signposting around these issues:

Finances . Benefits . Housing . Health . Employment . Education . Rights.



0330 107 7540



help@whocaresscotland.org

Open 12 noon to 4pm Monday to Friday