

Lothian Care Home Innovation Partnership [CHIP] UPDATE – Winter 2020

The Care Home Innovation Partnership (CHIP) has now been in existence for two years. This last year has seen us extend our contact from the original six care homes partly because of requests for support as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Leadership:

The leadership team has increased and now consists of:

- Jo Hockley, The Usher Institute, University of Edinburgh
- Lucy Johnston, Health & Social Care, Edinburgh Napier University
- Susan Shenkin, The Usher Institute, University of Edinburgh; NHS Lothian
- Julie Watson, School of Health and Social Science, University of Edinburgh

Our partner care homes [Braeside; Cluny Lodge; Erskine Edinburgh; Linlithgow CH; Newbyres Village; St Raphael's Viewpoint and Leuchie House] who have joined us over the last couple of years ago have already achieved a lot

TESTS OF CHANGE undertaken by partner care homes	
Braeside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented electronic care planning (PCS: PersonCentred software) • Monthly reflective debriefing sessions
Cluny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated student placements [Edinburgh Napier; UoE] • Monthly reflective debriefing sessions • Changes in Resident's Condition [CIRC] tool
Leuchie Hse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented electronic care planning (PCS: PersonCentre software)
Linlithgow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macmillan Foundations in Palliative Care for Care Homes training (day a month/4 months)
Newbyres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macmillan Foundations in Palliative Care for Care Homes training (day a month/4 months) • Namaste Care (interrupted by Covid-19 pandemic but will re-start in 2021)
St Raphael's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented electronic care planning (PCS: PersonCentred software)

For more information on our work, please **contact:** jo.hockley@ed.ac.uk

The Covid-19 Pandemic

For the majority of staff in care homes, this last year has been an extremely difficult and often traumatic time. The CHIP leadership were involved with three CSO-funded rapid research projects in relation to Covid-19:

- Avoiding Burn Out - the need for external and internal support: RAILS [Resources, Activities, Initiatives & Learning Shared]
- Online Supportive Conversations and Reflection Sessions (OSCaRS) A Feasibility Study with care home staff during the pandemic
- Understanding and reducing the psycho-social impact of Coronavirus social distancing and behavioural changes on families of care homes residents in Scotland.

Short reports are available on all the above pieces of research – just email us. We are currently writing them up for peer reviewed journals. The OSCaR project has been highlighted by the assurance visits to care homes as being helpful; we are hopeful for funding to extend OSCaRS to up to 50 CHs across Lothian.

Further Research:

In December 2020 the SBRI Care Home Data Platform Innovation Challenge was launched. This study is co-funded by HISES in collaboration with the CSO to both identify the innovation opportunities in the Care Home sector, as well as mapping the current data collected in Care Homes. It builds on the findings of a scoping study completed by CHIP and will assess if currently collected data by care home staff provide a holistic digital picture of a resident's health, wellbeing and care needs.



Lucy and Susie were delighted to film the promotional video with one of the amazing residents in one of our partner care homes (Cluny Lodge), and representatives from two other homes are on the Steering Group: [Care Home Innovation Challenge - East Region Innovation \(edinburghbioquarter.com\)](https://edinburghbioquarter.com/care-home-innovation-challenge-east-region-innovation):

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AIMS & REMIT of CHIP

The original AIM of CHIP partnership was to undertake 'tests of change' that would inform the teaching/research-based care home (ToRCH) centre. During 2020 we have realised that the CHIP 'remit' has extended. Not only are we as originally planned continuing 'tests of change' but also, we are undertaking much more research both in the CHIP care homes + other care homes so extending our reach.

The ToRCH Centre remains central to our vision as it has the potential to be the backbone to the sustainability of quality improvement initiatives, learning, support and research to involve all care homes across SE Scotland. Recent meetings with Queen Margaret University have confirmed that plans are moving forward for the centre to be built on the campus at Queen Margaret University.

Plans for 2021

When we met in December 2020 to discuss priorities, those at the meeting want to consolidate the 'tests of change'. However, we also discussed re-contacting care home managers who completed a CHIP questionnaire a couple of years ago and those who have contacted us during 2020 to see whether they want to join the group. We have many other exciting plans in the pipeline for the future including creating our own specific web-page for easy access to activities; but meanwhile do look at and use the care homes website being created by Juliet MacArthur (Chief Nurse, Research & Development – care homes – Lothian): <https://services.nhslothian.scot/CareHomes/Pages/default.aspx>

Edinburgh Napier University will host our 3rd Care Homes Conference on **Wednesday, May 19th 2021** (this year it will be *online*). WATCH THIS SPACE!

As a leadership, we want to say a huge '**thank you**' to you all for your invaluable and extremely hard work during 2020's pandemic but at the same time remaining part of CHIP throughout.

We look forward to new and exciting things for 2021.



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