

Research News and Information

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to inform you that we have changed our name from WEDHS to Wales Ethnicity Research Collaboration (WERC). As some of you may remember, WEDHS was established in 2005 with seed funding provided by the Wales Office of Research and Development for Health and Social Care (WORD). Having completed a major 5-year research and development programme, we are currently conducting a review of our core research support services, our community outreach work and our research priorities. The new name better reflects our commitment to deliver high quality health and social research, and to offer a unique and dedicated research consultation, support and information service. The next step will be to review our strategic aims; we welcome and will be asking for your views and recommendations!

We will keep you informed via the WERC research bulletins. Our email discussion group - which is open to all – is, still going strong (<https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=WERC>), and our new website (www.werconline.org.uk/) will be launched later in the year.

Best regards,

Dr Roiyah Saltus

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June 2010

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Articles for this bulletin were received from our sister e-group Minority Ethnic Health (minority-ethnic-health@jiscmail.ac.uk), our PHIRN colleagues (www.phirn.org.uk), Dave O'Carroll of RCN Research and Development Co-coordinating Centre, and the Black Voluntary Sector Network Wales (BVSNW). Please get in contact if you wish to make a contribution.

Dr Roiyah Saltus (rsaltus@glam.ac.uk)

Health and access to health care of migrants in the UK – latest briefing from the Race Equality Foundation

The growing size and diversity of the proportion of the UK population who were born overseas have important implications for meeting health needs and for planning and delivering health services. By bringing together available evidence, this briefing outlines some important issues for the health of migrants in the UK today. It also suggests ways in which research, policy and practice might address barriers to health, well-being and health care in meeting the needs of migrants.

To read this or the Race Equality Foundation's other Better Health briefings in full, visit the Better Health website (www.better-health.org.uk/briefings.htm).

Research Funding

✚ WCVA 'Wales Africa Community Links' SMALL GRANTS ROUND NOW OPEN - APPLICATION

The summer grants round is now open. The deadline is 11th June 2010. The levels of funding that are available are as follows:

Up to £750: Community Involvement Grant – towards running (or set-up) costs of twinning groups, such as admin, communication eg. websites / leaflets, community meetings, attending events, mobilisation activities eg. talks and town stalls.

Up to £1500: Partnership Building Grants - towards subsidising costs of exchanges (and communications) to / from or with African partners; development of plans for joint project activities; formalisation of steering groups, structures and partnership agreements between twinned communities.

Up to £3000: Project Sustainability Grants – towards stimulating active initiatives advancing community development for health, children, livelihoods, the environment or social harmony; engaging the wider

communities in Wales and Africa with link development projects; embedding organisational sustainability; co-ordination with authorities. NB. Only link groups who are already registered with the Gold Star Communities programme may apply for Project Grants.

If you need any further information, contact Ed Howarth, Wales Africa Community Links Development Officer: ehowarth@WCVA.org.uk

✚ ESRC Third Sector Placement Fellowship Scheme

The ESRC Third Sector Placement Fellowship Scheme provides the unique opportunity for social science researchers to spend time within a third sector organisation to undertake practice-relevant research and work with the host organisation on specific projects. It also provides opportunities for third sector organisation employees to work on a project in a setting where they have access to academic resources.

The placements enable third sector organisations to access collaborative funding, academic expertise, innovative ideas and the opportunity to enhance the organisations creativity, effectiveness and impact. All of which are crucial for enhancing and supporting the third sector through a challenging economic climate.

The placements enable the temporary (either on a full time or part time basis), of individuals to/from third sector and academia for one to twelve months in duration. The maximum funding the ESRC will provide for the project will be £24,000.

The call for applications to this scheme opened on 1st June 2010 with a closing date of 5th August 2010. For full information visit:

<http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/KnowledgeExch/ESRCT hirdSectorPilotPlacementCall.aspx>

The Nuffield Foundation Small Grants Scheme in 2010

The Nuffield Foundation's social science schemes are being reviewed in 2010. During this period, the Foundation will run a revised Small Grants Scheme until the end of 2010 or until funds are exhausted – whichever is the sooner.

Social Science Small Grants are intended for self-contained research projects in our areas of interest, including pilot studies. They offer funding to meet the cost of research assistance, research materials, data collection and analysis, and travel and subsistence in this country and overseas.

The Scheme does not have a closing date and we accept applications throughout the year. We aim to make decisions within twelve weeks, although it may sometimes take a little longer.

For further information visit:

http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/go/grants/smallgrants/page_123.html

Lifelong Health and Wellbeing (LLHW)

Lifelong Health and Wellbeing (LLHW) is a major cross-council initiative involving AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC and MRC in partnership with the UK health departments. LLHW supports multi-disciplinary research addressing factors across the life course that influence healthy ageing and wellbeing in later life. LLHW has committed £16 million of joint funds so far in the first two phases of the programme supporting high quality multidisciplinary collaborative research, engaging with stakeholders and the public, building research capacity and promoting knowledge transfer.

(Research Grants - Closing date of outline proposals: 30 June 2010. Pilot Studies - Closing date of proposals: 15 September 2010)

NIHR Public Health Research Programme: Outreach programmes for traveller communities (Evidence Synthesis)

Travellers form varied and diverse communities. These may be socially excluded groups, with specific health needs.

The health of the Traveller population is poorer than the health of even the most deprived groups of the non-Traveller population. Traveller communities face: lower life expectancy; higher infant mortality; and higher rates of chronic illnesses.

What is the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of outreach programmes in improving the health of Traveller communities? Which components of outreach programme(s) are the most effective and cost effective?

For further information on this commissioning brief, visit:

<http://www.phr.nihr.ac.uk/fundingopportunities/commissioned.asp?src=em>

Events & Opportunities

Wales for Africa Health Links Annual Conference 2010 Thursday 8 July, Swalec Stadium, Cardiff

The theme this year is “Changing Lives for Good” and will focus on maternal health, child health, environmental health & the challenges involving students in Health Links. There will be speakers from Wales and from partner countries, with workshops to be held across the day.

For further information, visit:

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/home.cfm?orgid=834> or contact Victoria Evans by email victoria.evans2@wales.nhs.uk

Prostate cancer in the African Caribbean community

Sharing knowledge and good practice

The Prostate Cancer Charity would like to invite you to our free African Caribbean Shared learning event on Wed 30th June 2010 at The King’s Fund, London.

African Caribbean men in the UK are three times more likely to develop prostate cancer than white men of the same age, yet evidence suggests lower awareness of prostate cancer, signs and symptoms and available services in this community.

This event aims to share knowledge of the issues of prostate cancer in the African Caribbean community, exploring research, examples of good practice and areas for future work. Guests are also invited to an evening drinks reception which will include speeches from special guests.

A full programme will be available shortly. For more information please email majorevents@prostate-cancer.org.uk or telephone 020 8222 7655.

Faith and Policy Where Next for Religion in the Public Sphere? British Library, London, UK 1st July 2010

This one-day conference explores the rapidly changing relations of faith and policy. It asks 'where next?' for the policy rhetorics of the last decade - community, cohesion, and social capital; prevention of violent extremism/'radicalisation'; the 'sectoralisation' and 'mainstreaming' of faith-based work.

The participatory format will be structured around lively debates between leading speakers representing different points of view, followed by facilitated debate from the floor. The registration fee, which covers tea, coffee and lunch by Peyton catering, is £25 waged and £10 unwaged. The conference is subsidised by the Religion and Society Programme. To register go to:

http://www.religionandsociety.org.uk/events/programme_events/show/faith_and_policy_where_next_for_religion_in_the_public_sphere

BTG UPDATE 2010

In 2010-2011, one key objective of the Bridging the Gaps project is to work with more volunteers and to place them with groups/organisations across Wales.

The volunteers will be older (50 +) disabled or long term ill people from the BME communities who want to make a difference to organisations or community groups whilst increasing their own skills and knowledge. New organisations may receive this

volunteer from us, provided his skills profile matches your needs.

For further information contact:
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Bridging the Gaps Project Co-ordinator

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