

Recent highlights from the Kent Research Partnership

January



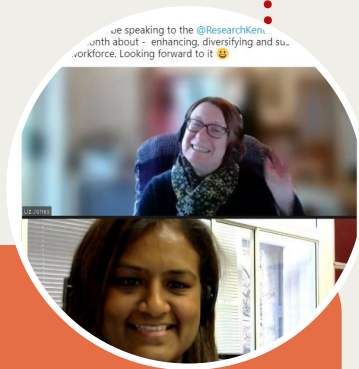
Our Communities of Practice restarted after a Winter break with two great sessions and a diverse range of speakers, including Rebecca from Social-Ability who explained their Happiness Programme technology and research activity they have been involved in and Ade from East Kent Health and Care Partnership who consulted with the Supporting, enhancing and diversifying the adult social care CoP about their plans for a workforce dataset.

We also welcomed Dr Vanessa Abrahamson as our new Researcher in Residence (RiR) as Rasa will now be working on her own dementia care fellowship.



February

We held the funding panel meeting for our fantastic Research and Training Fellowship applicants! The panel was made up of members of our Lived Experience Working Group, KCC social care colleagues and academics. The group had rigorous discussions about all the applications, and offered lots of constructive and supportive advice. Our first Fellows will be starting in April and a second round of applications will open in the summer... Contact the RiRs to find out more!



March

More brilliant CoP meetings in March! Liz Jones from National Care Forum and Dr Reena Devi from NICHE Leeds spoke to the Enhancing, diversifying and sustaining the social care workforce CoP about their research into practical strategies to address workforce retention - you can find out more here: [What to do about care home workforce retention and recruitment? : Niche \(leeds.ac.uk\)](https://www.niche.leeds.ac.uk)

The Supporting people with complex needs throughout the lifespan CoP members had been keen to discuss the experiences of younger adults, so we were really pleased that Matt Bushell, Team Manager in the Leaving Care Service at KCC and embedded practitioner-researcher joined to talk about his operational role and research into using occupational therapy with young people.

What's next?

2nd round of Research and Training Fellowships: applications now open!

If you work in adult social care in Kent, you are eligible to apply, regardless of your role or previous academic experience. We know that applying for a fellowship can be daunting, so we have made some videos to help. You can find the full series [on our KRP YouTube channel](#).

Applications for KRP Research and Training Fellowships now open!

- ✓ Do you have a burning practice question that you want the time to explore and answer with research evidence?
- ✓ Are you interested in learning how to do research while staying in practice?
- ✓ Do you want the opportunity to gain an Honorary contract with the University of Kent (and a desk in an office!) to open up academic resources and opportunities?

Contact the Researchers in Residence today to discuss applying for the second round of Kent Research Partnership Research and Training Fellowships!

What you need to know:

- Funding of up to £30k per proposal to fund salary/backfill costs, training courses, research costs for a small-scale project and one publication. Plus additional funding for meaningful public involvement and engagement throughout your project.
- Applications open Tuesday 2nd May 2023 with a deadline of Friday 23rd June

Communities of Practice: dates for your diary

We have confirmed the dates for Community of Practice meetings until October 2023. Please pay careful attention to the timings as we are trying different times to help those who aren't always available in the usual slot:

	Enhancing, diversifying and sustaining the social care workforce	Supporting people with complex needs throughout the lifespan
April	Thursday 20th April (12:30-2pm) <i>Hannah Kingsford - Social Worker burnout and John Gallimore - getting young people into care</i>	Thursday 27th April (12:30-2pm) <i>Dr Dan Burrows - carers' assessments</i>
	Thursday 18th May (12:30-2pm) <i>Dr Stacey Rand and Sarah Jeffreys & Helen Stone - care needs assessments</i>	Tuesday 23rd May (12:30-2pm) <i>Dr Stewart Morrison - footcare in care homes</i>
June	Tuesday 13th June (12-1:30pm) <i>Dr Serena Vicario and Dr Nadia Brookes - Workforce innovation</i>	Wednesday 21st June (1-2pm) <i>Lorne Power - barriers and enablers to developing impact from practitioner research</i>
	Thursday 13th July (12-1:30pm) <i>Dr Jon Glasby - IMPACT project - recruitment and retention</i>	Tuesday 18th July (12:30-2pm) TBC
August	Summer break	
September	Wednesday 20th September (12-1:30pm) <i>Sally Nieman - my journey as a practitioner researcher exploring the social work role with older people in care homes</i>	Thursday 14th September (1-2pm) TBC

Please email us if you want to join the CoP mailing list to receive links and calendar invites and/or If you have a research-related topic that you would like to share with the CoP, or ideas for other speakers!

And finally, some feedback about CoPs from a regular member and a recent speaker:

“What a great interactive Q&A session! I'm grateful for the opportunity to be involved with the Kent Research Partnership, to make new connections, to listen to comments and to take on further research ideas.”

-Rebecca Champion
Head of Research & Development
Social-Ability

Kent Research Partnership
@ResearchKent

We started today's Community of Practice with some reflections from members about their experiences of participating...
"Most of the time research is from those who are not using the service system. I like our group we have both. That is beautiful to see in research"

Please get in touch!



KentResearchPartnership@kent.ac.uk



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