

Hampshire Children And Families Forum

Branch Coordinator's Report Cathryn Row 1st May 2007

Consultations Event

The Pamper Event took place on the 21st April at Oak Park Children's Services. Booking numbers were low which led to us booking a crèche and doing some last minute advertising. On the day we had seven therapists and five stall holders.

The event itself was a huge success, everyone had a great time, they stayed to enjoy a second therapy session plus manicure and all went home looking relaxed and well pampered, having looked around all the stalls.

As a consultation event it was not very productive due to the low uptake.

Some reasons why people didn't come have been given, including:

Too busy

Not able to leave the children (one person even unwilling to leave her son with his father)

Children will not stay with someone they do not know. (Can't use crèche)

Some people put themselves so far down the line of priorities that they feel they couldn't possibly spare the time to pamper themselves.

Despite the low numbers all the therapists and stall holders expressed their willingness to come again should the event be repeated and the venue has also been offered to us for future use.

I would like to thank all those who gave up their weekend to come to help. It wouldn't have worked without you.

I am taking the questionnaires to support groups to try and obtain more information.

Research - continue to collect data sheets and input generally available information into database

Other tasks

Distributed various items via email,

Have kept aware of what's happening within the Extended Services agenda, by attending some of Jan's meetings and from the minutes of others. It has been agreed to produce a map of Leigh Park showing the various venues where activities are taking place and to complement this with a leaflet of what is going on at the various venues.

Special Needs Forum held its meeting last week

Havant C&YP Locality Partnership group – final draft of the plan has been agreed and this will be going out for wider consultation

I have sent out regular updates to members and health professionals and libraries on the available P&T groups in the area. I am currently updating the list ready for May and will send out with the minutes.

The LNF application has been completed and sent off, I have received a letter asking for more information and some changes to our documentation. The next meeting is on the 16th May so I hope to hear soon after that if we have been successful. In the mean time, the Havant HCFF Directories is available direct online via the HCFF website – www.hcff.org.uk. Please could you keep me informed of any changes that affect the directory so that I can keep up to date as the information we have online is what will be printed in the directories?

Newsletter

All 2500 Spring newsletters were distributed throughout Havant to parents, carers and practitioners, I will be working on a summer 2007 Newsletter in the next few weeks and would appreciate articles, especially information about holiday activities. To me by 18th May, at the latest please. Distribution will be June before the Summer holidays.

Plans for the next Qtr

Jayne should be returning at the beginning of June, and she will be doing the next consultation work towards the end of the qtr. Due to the amount of time this is expected to take the cluster meeting in September has been cancelled.

Continue to gather data to include in the HCFF database

Support the Havant Children's Centres where applicable, and attend the Havant CC group meetings when possible, next meeting 16th May.

HCFF county meeting 9th May