

# All Learners Celebration Event

## An inter-professional learning opportunity

By Andy Morris (WBEF) 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017



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## Background

On the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017 an all learners celebration event was hosted by Liverpool John Moores University and sponsored by Health Education England. The event resulted from the collaboration of the Work-based Education Facilitators Network, Placement Development Network and Practice Education Facilitators Network in the Cheshire and Merseyside area. The day brought together learners from different disciplines, studying on health and social care programmes across a number of HEIs. The event celebrated the opportunity for inter-professional learning for our future Health and Social Care Workforce.

### The event

The event was held in the spirit of transforming learning environments and created an opportunity for learners to network with each other, hear from key note speakers, learning from each other and accessing experts in the field to enhance their understanding of the NHS and Non-NHS sector.

The day opened with a presentation from Dr. Mike Farrell Head of Education Transformation (HEE working across the NW) who discussed the vision for transforming learning environments and the key issues and considerations that needed to be addressed when contemplating the needs of our current learners and future workforce. Mike highlighted the 'Big Ticket Issues' for HEE and what must be reflected in Health and Social care programmes, such as person centeredness, integration of services and changes in funding. He concluded that 'quality, quality quality' and the effectiveness of multi-professional learning are at the heart of transforming learning environments.



Gaynor Westray, Director of Nursing and Midwifery (Wirral University Teaching Hospital) was the second speaker and discussed her own personal learning journey and career progression from cadet to director. Gaynor shared her challenges and acknowledged that she is still learning to this day. She highlighted the importance of learning to improve quality and how the Trust celebrates its achievements at all levels. Gaynor described how the Trust as a team implements their learning into practice resulting in national acclaim for some of its services.

The Physician's Associate (P.A.) is a new and innovative role in Healthcare. The third speaker, Judith McGregor Physician Associate Programme Lead (HEE working across the North West, took us through the journey of the new role and the benefits it brings to the medical team. Judith informed the delegation with regards to what the role is and how it has grown in popularity over the last two years here in the North West. Judith gave a glimpse into the curriculum the P.A.s study along with what sort of activities the P.A. carries out once qualified.

The final presentation of the morning came from the Student Quality Ambassadors (SQA). Ffion Lloyd and Katie Gannon are both Pre-registration nursing students who are also part of the ambassador programme. They talked about the history of the initiative and its success in the North West. They shared how the work of the SQA's focused on quality improvement and their

commitment to excellent patient care. Their presentation discussed their commitment to both national and local initiatives and how they champion agendas such as the '6 C's' and '15 steps'. Ffion and Katie concluded their talk by examining what being an SQA had meant to them; both acknowledged how they felt privileged to be a part of the scheme and how it had increased their confidence.

## The Student Panel



The main focus of the day was the learners in the Cheshire and Merseyside region, their journey and the concept of learning with each other and from each other. The student panel offered an opportunity for learners across different programme and from different Universities exchange thoughts and learn from each other's experiences. The panel was composed of the health care workforce and represented Nursing, Allied Health Professionals, Trainee Assistant Practitioners, Medical and Health Care

Sciences. The delegates were given the opportunity to ask selected panel members their views on a range of subjects. Hot topics included placements, mentorship, public health exposure and mental health.

## Our Expert Table sessions

The afternoon offered delegates the opportunity to speak to a number of experts across different disciplines to hear about their roles and gain insight into different professions and potential career opportunities. Delegates selected three tables, where the professionals discussed their career journeys, roles and passions for their roles. There were fifteen options of expert speakers for delegates to choose from, representing nursing and allied health professions, working across a range of statutory and non-statutory services, which included the NHS, Independent sector, Primary care and Local Authority. Delegates were encouraged to include options outside of their mode of study to gain a more holistic understanding of how different disciplines contribute to excellent patient care. There was of course also the opportunity to speak to staff within their chosen field to gain insight into how it is to work in the field and how they might put their learning into practice.

## Evaluating the event

The day was evaluated continuously throughout the day using 'mentimeter', interactive presentation software. This allowed the delegates to evaluate at key points during the day offering a more spontaneous and dynamic experience. Initially delegates were asked to offer up their hopes for the day using single words or phrases. Themes such as 'networking', 'information' and 'learning' were key priorities for the day. Throughout the event, delegates were asked to express their opinions on how the day was progressing with overwhelmingly positive responses, with the majority of the delegates indicated that they felt that the day was 'on track to be a good day' as the morning session closed. Final evaluation gave the delegates chance to identify their overall satisfaction and preferred session of the day. 88% of delegates indicated that they thought the day was 'great' or 'good' and whilst enjoying all the sessions, time with the experts had been particularly useful. A final thought on the day was requested and presented as a word cloud. The overall feedback was that the day had been 'informative'.

