



## NCERCC Notes – July 2008

### 1. NCERCC Annual Evaluation

In early September we will be sending out a request for you to take part in an annual evaluation of NCERCC's Information and Advice Services, to be completed by the end of September. We hope that as many of you as possible will give us your feedback.

### 2. Next month's NCERCC News

Next month's NCERCC News is an opportunity for you to share any articles or news items that you or young people have written and that you would like to share with the Children's Residential Network. Please send these to [shorsfall@ncb.org.uk](mailto:shorsfall@ncb.org.uk) by 4<sup>th</sup> August.

### 3. CWDC Grants for small-scale research projects around integrated working

<http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/plr-projects-2008-09>

CWDC would like to commission up to 100 Practitioner Led Research (PLR) projects during 2008-09. These small-scale research projects will focus upon integrated working within the children's workforce, which will help to further inform workforce development through learning from those who deliver and receive services. PLR is keen to find out more about how members of the children's workforce work with each other and with the children and young people for whom they provide a service.

The deadline for applications is 23 July 2008.

### 4. Government & Associated

#### Children & Young Persons Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2007-08/childrenandyoungpersonshl.html>

The Bill had its second reading on 16<sup>th</sup> June, and Committee began on 24<sup>th</sup> June, with further days on 26<sup>th</sup> June, 1<sup>st</sup> July & 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

#### Keeping children safe: bulletin issue 4

<http://police.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/operational-policing/issue-4?view=Standard&pubID=561524>

The latest developments in government policy on safeguarding children and young people. This issue includes information on the review of the UK action plan on tackling human trafficking, the 'Staying Safe' action plan, the Children and Young Persons Bill, Targeted Youth Support, Children Missing from Care, young runaways, the role of the NPIA in tracing missing people, the new government strategy Drugs: protecting families and communities, and updates on Bichard implementation and the IMPACT programme.

#### Tackling young runaways: a role for everyone

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn\\_id=2008\\_0114](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2008_0114)

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/publications/runaways/downloads/YoungRunawaysActionPlan.pdf>

Local Authorities must gather information about young people who run away from home or care to ensure that the right services are in place to help, Minister for Young People Kevin Brennan has said at the launch of the Government's Young Runaways Action Plan. Speaking at an event with the English Coalition of Runaway Children, MPs and key stakeholders in Downing Street, Kevin Brennan set out clear expectations regarding the level of service and support that local agencies should be providing for young runaways. The DCSF Action Plan explores some of the underlying causes of running away as well as setting out the important role that key partners such as the police, local government, voluntary sector and children's services play in helping us to deliver long term improvements for young runaways.

### **Care Orders – Standard of Proof**

House of Lords. In re B (Children) (Care orders: Standard of proof). The standard of proof necessary to establish the threshold for making a care order was the simple balance of probabilities. Neither the seriousness of any allegations nor the seriousness of the consequences should make any difference to the standard of proof to be applied in determining the facts. The House of Lords so held, when dismissing an appeal by two children, N and A, through their guardian, and sending the case back for experts to be instructed and for the judge to complete his hearing in the light of the House of Lords ruling. The guardian appealed to leapfrog procedure from a decision of Mr Justice Charles that a welfare hearing and the instruction of experts should take place on the basis that another child, R, was not sexually abused by the father. (Times, 12 Jun 2008, p67)

### **Government Publishes Action Plan To Implement Byron Recommendations**

[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn\\_id=2008\\_0128](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2008_0128)

A comprehensive plan for how the Government intends to make the internet and video games safer for children and young people was published on 24<sup>th</sup> June by Children's Minister Kevin Brennan, Home Office Minister Vernon Coaker and Culture Minister Margaret Hodge. The Byron Review Action Plan sets out key milestones and deadlines to deliver all of Dr Tanya Byron's recommendations as set out in her landmark report "Safer Children in a Digital World".

### **Looked after children**

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmselect/cmchilsch/uc442-vi/uc44202.htm>

Commons, Children, Schools and Families Committee. Uncorrected transcript of oral evidence given on 2 June 2008. Professor Mike Stein, Social Policy Research Unit, University of York, Martin Hazlehurst, Service Manager, National Leaving Care Advisory Service, John Hill, National Manager, What Makes the Difference? Project, and Steve Hillman, Policy and Research Manager, The Foyer Federation, gave evidence.

### **Smoke Free Care Placements for Looked After and Accommodated Children and Young People**

[http://www.carecommission.com/images/stories/documents/Care%20Services/Childrens%20services/smoke\\_free\\_care\\_placements\\_for\\_looked\\_after\\_accomodated\\_children\\_-\\_1\\_april\\_2008.pdf](http://www.carecommission.com/images/stories/documents/Care%20Services/Childrens%20services/smoke_free_care_placements_for_looked_after_accomodated_children_-_1_april_2008.pdf)

This report discusses smoking prevalence in care placements in Glasgow, and provides recommendations for how this can be improved to protect children and young people from the adverse effects of smoking and second hand smoke.

### **Children's Rights Director Views Report - Parents on Council Care**

[http://www.rights4me.org/content/beheardreports/184/parents\\_views\\_report.pdf](http://www.rights4me.org/content/beheardreports/184/parents_views_report.pdf)

In addition to Roger Morgan's statutory duty as Children's Rights Director under the

Education and Inspections Act 2006 to ascertain and report the views of children, he also has a duty to ascertain and report the views of parents where appropriate. This report aggregates the views and concerns of 190 parents who responded to a postal survey, across 58 councils. The findings give a disturbing insight into how parents perceive their children's care, their own support, the complex issues of communication and involvement, and the emotions of having a child in care. The report shows that while the majority of parents (74%) spoke positively of the way their child was treated in care, many felt excluded from decisions about their offspring. Over a quarter (26%) had not seen their child's care plan and some did not know even know what a care plan was. Notably, around a quarter (24%) did not know whether the council planned for their child to return home.

### **BAAF - repercussions of care experiences reverberate throughout life**

<http://www.baaf.org.uk/media/releases/080612.shtml>

Campaigners are using the current debate around the Children and Young Persons Bill to urge the Government to help people who spent their childhood in care and who wish to discover more about their family and origins. The British Association for Adoption & Fostering (BAAF) welcomed the Government's decision to address the importance of young people leaving care receiving high levels of support in their early adult life (Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000' and Care Matters Oct 2006). However the charity argues that those needs do not disappear at age 21 or 24. The repercussions of a person's care experiences reverberate throughout their lifespan. Further action is now needed to assist post care adults in gaining access to information about their origins and family history.

### **5. GoodEnoughCaring**

<http://www.goodenoughcaring.com>

The third edition is now online. Its principal theme is a consideration of the idea 'love is enough' when it comes to bringing up children wherever they may be living.. Lively and telling positional pieces from Jeremy Millar, Mark Smith and Martin Wigg set the scene while other articles by Jo Nash, (who describes her recent work in India) Jane Kenny and Douglas Cameron explore the idea from direct evidence of their practice. David Murphy and Bob Billingham give courageous and revealing personal accounts of their experiences of residential child care in the 1960s. Jan Noble has provided three poems. goodenoughcaring.com is a real and an online community. It is not commercial or profitmaking and it exists in harmony with others, individuals and groups, who are interested in the care and nurture of children and young people.

### **6. SCIE Strategy**

<http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/corporate/strategy08-11.pdf>

SCIE's new three-year strategy - Capture, communicate, catalyse - sets out their aspirations. SCIE's role is to be a catalyst for change - providing you with the knowledge, inspiration and tools you need to improve outcomes for people who use care services.

### **7. Young people in care shouldn't be abandoned at 18**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/andrew-mulley-young-people-in-care-shouldnt-be-abandoned-at-18-847902.html>

An article in The Independent written by a young person in foster care.

### **8. Raise your hand**

[http://www.coe.int/t/transversalprojects/children/SignatureOnline/form\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/transversalprojects/children/SignatureOnline/form_en.asp)

The Council of Europe is launching a Europe-wide campaign to ban corporal punishment of children. Eighteen European countries have already abolished corporal punishment. Sign the online petition to raise your hand against smacking.

## **9. Close the gap – attainment campaign**

[http://www.ndcs.org.uk/about\\_us/campaigns/attainment\\_campaign/](http://www.ndcs.org.uk/about_us/campaigns/attainment_campaign/)  
<http://www.ndcs.org.uk/document.rm?id=3276>

A report on educational under achievement by deaf children - Must do better! The report sets out the barriers holding deaf children back, and a dozen recommendations for action. Two statistics that illustrate the problem are that deaf children are 42% less likely to get 5 GCSEs at grades A to C and are 300% more likely to leave primary school without a basic understanding of literacy.

## **10. Tooth Fairy Inflation Index**

The tooth fairy has been giving money to children who leave a recently lost tooth under their pillow for centuries. More than 3000 parents were quizzed for the Children's Mutual Tooth Fairy Inflation Index. A child's tooth now averages £1.22, up 16 per cent on last year. Several parents confirmed the Tooth Fairy left a pound each time, although one parent explained that the first tooth was worth £2 because it was "a special time in their lives

Over the course of their childhood, British kids could receive a total of £24 for their missing teeth. London teeth are most valuable, with almost one in ten children there getting £5 or more for a tooth. Some parents in London gave their children £5 or more a tooth, which works out at £100 for the full set. While the price of petrol has risen by 218 per cent during the past 25 years, the average "cost" of a tooth has risen by 258 per cent.

But parents can suffer from "fairy pressure" with 16 per cent feeling compelled to give a tooth's market rate. David White, chief executive of the Children's Mutual, said the Tooth Fairy could help teach children how to finance. He said that parents could "stick to their gums and avoid fairy pressure" by encouraging children to save their tooth money.

## **11. UN Committee on the Rights of the Child**

<http://www.crae.org.uk/cms/dmdocuments/England%20NGO%20report%20summary%20June%202008.pdf>

The Children's Rights Alliance for England's submission to the UN Committee on the rights of the child makes 152 recommendations. The report is endorsed by over 100 non-governmental organisations.

<http://www.11million.org.uk/resource/31f7xsa2gjf319t808qfsi.pdf>

The four children's commissioners for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have reported widespread infringements of the UN convention on the rights of the child (UNCRC). In a submission to the UN Committee they have highlighted: a punitive juvenile justice system; public attitudes that demonise teenagers; lack of protection against physical punishment in the home; and one of the highest levels of child poverty in Europe.

## **12. BAFTA Celebration for Media Allstars**

[http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx\\_4241yd\\_24663341088486121u\\_200858815s](http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_4241yd_24663341088486121u_200858815s)

Young people from undersupported backgrounds were brought together for a Celebration Evening in May to view screenings of films they had written and produced for the Media All Stars project. The event was held at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (Bafta) headquarters in London. Media All Stars is an intensive film skills course, which equips children in care with skills and knowledge to produce their own films to broadcast standard. It has been run by the National Centre for Excellence in Residential Childcare (NCERCC) and Young NCB, based at NCB with the support of Bafta, Cut+Run editorial group, Media Trust and Yeast Culture.

## **13. Drugs: Hull FC promotes anti-drug message**

Hull City Council's Children and Young People's Service has teamed up with Hull FC to deliver a programme of activities to deter young people from using drugs and alcohol. The rugby league club's community foundation team has been working with young people who attend the drug and alcohol service ReFresh. The young people have been given the chance to attend matches and meet the players as part of the Hull FC vs Drugs initiative. Jo Bonds, social worker at ReFresh, said: "A lot of young people cite boredom as a reason for using drugs and alcohol. At ReFresh, we want to help them consider the alternatives to substance use, such as getting involved in their community."

#### **14. Former Children's Home head charged**

John Darby, 71, the former head of Hollydale Children's Home in South London, has been charged with 46 offences of rape, indecent assault and possessing abusive images in relation to seven boys between 1971 and 1983. Lewisham Council closed the home in 1983. Andrew Chambers, 65, a former supervisor at the home, faces ten charges of child sex abuse. The abuse came to light after one of their victims, a man now in his 40s, recognised his abuser in the street and attacked him. Police said the man who was abused never told anyone about what had happened, but 'snapped' after seeing his abuser. (Sun, 11 Jun 2008, p23)

#### **15. Criminal Records Bureau figures**

<http://www.crb.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=4790>

<http://www.crb.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=5094>

More than 20,000 unsuitable people were stopped from working with children and vulnerable adults last year, according to figures from the Home Office. Checks by the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) have meant that, over the past four years, 80,000 people have been stopped from working with vulnerable groups. A spokesman for the Home Office said it does not break down the figures to show how many people have been stopped from working with children or young people. The 2007 Customer Satisfaction and Impact Survey carried out by Mori for CRB showed 92 per cent of people were happy with the service they received from the organisation. The results are published alongside the agency's Business Plan for 2008/09, which says it wants to develop and expand its existing services through the development of new electronic application services.

#### **16. Disability Discrimination**

A girl who was expelled from school at 13 was the victim of disability discrimination, the Court of Appeal was told in June. It heard that the girl has attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and should not have been removed from school. Her behaviour led to three temporary exclusions before she was permanently excluded from a school in east London. The girl's counsel accused Barking and Dagenham Council of ignoring a ruling by the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal, which said that the 'school had failed to make reasonable adjustments in dealing with her disability before imposing a fixed-term exclusion'. Despite this ruling, the school went on to permanently exclude the girl. The Court of Appeal gave permission for the girl, who cannot be named for legal reasons, to pursue her case. A date for the full hearing has not yet been given (Telegraph, 12 Jun 2008, p11).

#### **17. KIDS National Development Division**

KIDS National Development Division has a variety of ways to support you in your work towards improving inclusion for disabled children in your service. They host the National Inclusive Play Network which hosts regular termly meetings and seminars. Members receive regular bi-monthly e-bulletins on inclusive play and leisure for disabled children and young people, and are able to attend free regional network meetings for professional development.

If you would like to join the Network you will find the form at: <http://www.fontstuff.com/kids/nipn/> and you can submit your response online, don't forget to include your email address or you will not receive the information.

Despite the huge apparent increase in awareness around inclusion, disabled children are still regularly left out of discussions around play, and play is regularly left out of discussions around the needs of disabled children. Thus, it is more important than ever to demonstrate the growing support and action on inclusive play. One way of doing that will be by collating information from Network members which will provide a detailed picture of the state of inclusive play, childcare and leisure provision across England.

## **18. Resources**

### **Getting it right for children and young people who present a risk of serious harm**

<http://cci.scot.nhs.uk/Resource/Doc/223323/0060122.pdf>

A publication from the Scottish Government, *Getting it right for children and young people who present a risk of serious harm* is being published as a working document with the expectation that it will grow and develop: as new research is published; as agencies use the self assessment tool and provide feedback on it's effectiveness in guiding continuous development; as SWIA (Social Work Inspection Agency) introduce their self assessment toolkit; and as Getting it right for every child drives change in children's services.

### **Looking after HIV: considering the needs of HIV positive looked after children**

The Children and Young People HIV Network has just published a document which reports the findings of research which it has undertaken over the past year into the experiences of looked after children who are HIV positive. This research considered how the needs of these children are understood and responded to by the professionals involved with their care as looked after children. The practitioners and young people interviewed offered many of the recommendations, these include training and awareness; the need for policy and practice changes, especially on confidentiality and information sharing, and the responsibility of the looked after children's sector to de-stigmatise HIV and that all discriminatory practice to be dealt with accordingly.

To receive a copy of this document please email: [hiv@ncb.org.uk](mailto:hiv@ncb.org.uk), sending full postal address. The document is free of charge, although for large orders you may be requested to cover postal costs.

### **Young People's Transitions from Care to Adulthood - International Research and Practice.**

<http://www.jkp.com/new/9781843106104>

<http://www.jkp.com/catalogue/index.php/ser/childwelfareoutcomes>

The transition from care into adulthood is a difficult step for any young person, but young people leaving care have a high risk of social exclusion, both in terms of material disadvantage and marginalisation. In *Young People's Transitions from Care to Adulthood* leading academics gather together the latest international research relating to the transition of young people leaving care, outlining and comparing the range of legal and policy frameworks, welfare regimes and innovative practice across 16 countries. The book also highlights the variations that exist between different groups leaving care.

### **Who's Who of the Brain - A Guide to Its Inhabitants, Where They Live and What They Do**

<http://www.jkp.com/new/9781843104704>

Meet the inhabitants of the brain in this reader-friendly introduction to what it is and how it works. Residents include Frederick Foresight (the frontal cortex), Mayor of Cephalton-upon-

Ridge, who is the 'big picture' person responsible for planning and decision-making; Sage Seahorse (the hippocampus), who has an astonishing memory for times, names and places; Annie Almond (the amygdala), the community's alarm system who is always on the alert; and many other fellow citizens. Each character is introduced and their appearance, role and key functions in the brain explained. The authors also show what happens when things go wrong in the brain, and illustrate the work using examples of classic clinical cases. This book provides an immediate and entertaining way for anyone to gain a basic understanding or to refresh their knowledge of the inside workings of the brain.

### **Speaking about the Unspeakable, Non-Verbal Methods and Experiences in Therapy with Children.**

<http://www.jkp.com/new/9781843108795>

Children do not always have the capacity or need to express themselves through words. They often succeed in saying more about their feelings and experiences by communicating non-verbally through play and other expressive, creative activities. The basic premise of *Speaking about the Unspeakable* is that life's most pivotal experiences, both good and bad, can be truly expressed via the language of the imagination. Through creativity and play, children are free to articulate their emotions indirectly. The contributors, all experienced child therapists, describe a wide variety of non-verbal therapeutic techniques, including clay, sand, movement and nature therapy, illustrating their descriptions with moving case studies from their professional experience. Accessible and engaging, this book will inspire child psychologists and therapists, art therapists and anyone with an interest in therapeutic work with children.

### **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Today: a handbook**

<http://www.pavpub.com/pavpub/trainingmaterials/showfull.asp?section=1&SubSection=0&Product=930>

The mental health of children and young people is of increasing concern to us all. This handbook introduces the subject to the wide array of frontline workers in health, education and social services who have regular contact with children and young people, and need some knowledge of the mental health issues that affect them, and the services available.

### **Helping looked after children to boost their identity and raise their self esteem**

[http://www.baaf.org.uk/res/pubs/books/book\\_buildid.shtml](http://www.baaf.org.uk/res/pubs/books/book_buildid.shtml)

Many children in care will have suffered neglect, rejection or abuse, and a number of moves between different carers. Such disruptions to early relationships have far-reaching effects on the way children see themselves and relate to other people, and can cause long-term damage to their sense of identity and their self-esteem. Carers and social workers need to undertake the challenging task of helping children and young people to make sense of their troubled histories, and build a positive identity. Understanding how we form our sense of identity gives carers insight into why this might be difficult for a child whose early attachment experiences were disrupted. With knowledge, understanding and skill, it is possible for a child to grow up into an individual with a positive sense of who they are and where they have come from, someone who is tolerant of, and can celebrate, "difference" in themselves and others.

### **How to Involve Children and Young People with Communication Impairments in Decision making**

[http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx\\_4153gg\\_1841150472138s40r\\_20086173616m](http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_4153gg_1841150472138s40r_20086173616m)

A new publication from Participation Works, hosted by NCB, provides information and ideas on how organisations can involve children and young people with communication impairments in decision-making. Participation Works has produced a series of free "how to" guides available to anyone with an interest in youth participation. *How to Involve Children and Young People with Communication Impairments in Decision making* outlines key policy and

legislation, talks about barriers to youth participation, suggests how to create accessible information and make participation a reality by giving practical ideas.

### **Circle of security**

<http://www.circleofsecurity.org/>

<http://www.circleofsecurity.org/downloads.html>

The COS is a user-friendly, visually based (utilizing extensive use of both graphics and video clips) approach to helping parents better understand the needs of their children. It is based extensively upon attachment theory (from the work of John Bowlby and Mary Ainsworth) and current affective neuroscience. Key themes mentioned: attachment theory, building observing skills; increasing sensitivity to cues; building reflective dialogue; exploring defensive process. These require specific training and ongoing supervision. The Circle of Security™ gives permission to use the downloadable very good graphic handouts from their web site for personal use or teaching with stipulations.

## **19. Conferences/Training/Events – in date order**

### **Annual International Meeting of the Association of Therapeutic Communities**

<http://www.therapeuticcommunities.org/WIN%202008%20FLY.htm>

The theme this year will explore how, within the life and work of their communities, their experience of the key elements, processes and potential outcomes enhance the journey of professional and personal learning and development. Traditionally, there has always been an “experiential” dimension to the Windsor Conference. Although the large group can be difficult and challenging, it provides us with a unique opportunity to make sense of the prevailing attitudes and atmosphere that exist in both our own organisations and in our national institutions. If we can withstand the inevitable discomfort, and allow ourselves a leap of faith, it is possible to make new and energising connections that might sustain us in our everyday work.

8 – 11 September, 2008, Windsor Great Park

### **Children and Young People with Disabilities & Special Needs: Ideas into Action**

<http://www.icwhatsnew.com/services/events/IDEAS.htm>

Interconnections UK conference, including presentations on: Making sense of complex service provision; Fighting for the right to education and care; When a child dies; SRE issues for young people with learning disabilities, for their families, and for those who work with them; Team Around the Child in Rural Australia.

Wednesday 10th September, 2008, London

### **Spearheading The Next Phase Of Children's Trusts**

<http://www.haymarketevents.com/conferenceDetail/285/the-next-phase-childrens-trusts-new-policies-best-practice-successful-outcomes?aid=EMMM&cid=1711608URL2>

Prepare for the next phase of Children's Trusts at Children & Young People Now's forthcoming conference. Gain insights from senior government officials and professionals working at a strategic level to facilitate pooled budgets, encourage joined-up working, and improve outcomes in your local area.

16<sup>th</sup> September, London

### **Calcot Services for Children Open Day**

<http://www.csfc.co.uk/>

Calcot Services for Children, who offer safe therapeutic environments for children and young people troubled by past experiences, are hosting a one day event to celebrate our unique achievements and show case the work of CSfC. Transport will be provided between the

communities so you can see the whole organization. Please call Delia Donovan on 01189 417091 for further information and to confirm attendance  
17th September 2008

### **Healthy Care Matters**

<http://www.sircc.strath.ac.uk/conferences/healthycare2008.html>

This national cross-sector event will bring together practitioners, policy makers, children's services planners, residential and foster carers, staff and managers from health, social care, education and other services.

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September, Glasgow

### **Sex and Relationships Education for Young People with Physical Impairments**

[http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx\\_5536bd\\_45486526696999t79t\\_20061013724b](http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_5536bd_45486526696999t79t_20061013724b)

NCB have come together with fpa and Contact a Family to deliver a two-day training course for practitioners and advisors who work with young people with physical impairments. The course enables participants to develop practical and sensitive approaches to delivering Sex and Relationships Education.

6 & 7 November 2008, London

### **Involving Disabled Children in Planning and Reviews**

[http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx\\_896sr\\_21632731210086u49j\\_20074232525t](http://www.ncb.org.uk/Page.asp?originx_896sr_21632731210086u49j_20074232525t)

This one-day training course looks at various forms of communication from verbal to emotional, with a view to improving participants' engagement with the disabled children with whom they work.

12 November 2008, Bristol

### **Including Me: working with children with complex health needs**

[www.ncb.org.uk](http://www.ncb.org.uk)

Based on the highly popular book, Including Me – Managing complex health needs in schools and early years settings, this course is designed for those working with children with complex health needs.

26 November 2008, Reading

### **The social educator in a globalised world**

<http://www.aieji2009.dk/>

AIEJI - the international association of social educators (social pedagogues) - will hold its next world congress in Copenhagen, 4 - 7 May 2009. The National Federation of Social Educators in Denmark will host the event. This is a unique opportunity to meet social pedagogues from all over the world. The congress will gather 700 social pedagogues from all over the world.

#### *Call for papers for workshops and paper sessions*

This will be an opportunity for people involved in developing Social Pedagogic ways of working in England to showcase their work. There will be 50 minute workshops and 20 minute paper sessions on Tuesday and Thursday at the congress. Your abstract must be submitted in English. However, at the congress you may use English, French or Spanish for your oral presentation. Deadline for abstract submission is 1 December 2008.

You will be notified whether your abstract has been accepted or not by 15 January 2009.

Themes - Children and young people with special needs; Adults with physical or mental impairments; Homeless and socially excluded; Culture as an aim and method in our work as social educators. The website offers the opportunity to hear Benny Andersen, President of AIEJI, welcome you to the 17th World Congress for social educators in Copenhagen, Denmark, in May 2009.