



# IRISS Workshops: What Works: Putting Research into Practice

*The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (IRISS) in Scotland is hosting a series of FREE workshops around the theme of What Works in delivering positive outcomes in the social services.*

The workshops are intended to be practice oriented, with the aim that attendees can take home at least one strategy on how to apply research and evidence effectively in their practice. These free, half-day morning events will include lunch and will take place at the Surgeons' Hall, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh EH8 9DW

## **Effective User Involvement -20th Jan 2010**

User involvement in public service design and management has been widely promoted as a means of improving the quality and responsiveness of services. This workshop examines the role of the user in service planning.

Peter Beresford OBE will lead this workshop. Peter is a long term user of mental health services and also Chair of Shaping Our Lives, the national independent service user controlled organisation and network. He has a longstanding involvement in issues of participation and empowerment as writer, researcher, educator, service user and campaigner. He is Professor of Social Policy and Director of the Centre for Citizen Participation at Brunel University, a member of the Department of Health Transformation of Adult Social Care Programme Board and the Adult Social Care Workforce Strategy Board.

## **Youth Justice - 5th Feb 2010**

This workshop examines the range of practices and procedures for dealing with young people involved, or at risk of being involved, in offending.

Professor Fergus McNeill will lead this workshop. Fergus is Professor of Criminology and Social Work in the Glasgow School of Social Work (a Joint venture of the Universities of Glasgow and Strathclyde) and a Network Leader in the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research at the University of Glasgow. He has worked in residential drug rehabilitation and as a criminal justice social worker. His research interests and publications have addressed a range of criminal justice issues including sentencing, community penalties, ex-offender reintegration and youth justice. Most recently, Fergus' work has focused on the policy and practice implications of research evidence in the process of desistance from offending.

## **Mental Health and Employment - 17th Mar 2010**

This workshop examines the important role employment plays in both improving and maintaining mental health amongst those who have experienced mental health problems.

Miles Rinaldi will lead this workshop.

Miles is the Head of Recovery and Social Inclusion at South West London & St. George's Mental Health NHS Trust. Since working within mental health he has established employment services to help people with mental health problems gain and retain employment. These services have been recognised by government as models of good practice. He has worked on mental health policy in the Social Exclusion Unit (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister), the Department of Health, the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit (Cabinet Office) and more recently in the Department for Work and Pensions.

## **Childhood Resilience - 15th April 2010**

This workshop examines the ways in which resilience can be successfully promoted in children through an emphasis on the provision of coping tools rather than risk aversion interventions.

Professor Brigid Daniel will lead this workshop. Brigid is a trained Social Worker who specialised in children and families before moving to the Centre for Child Care and Protection at Dundee University where she taught on multi-disciplinary post-qualifying courses in childcare and protection. Brigid is now Professor of

