

## Building NGO Evidence-based Practice Capacity

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**Collaborator:**  
**The Hong Kong Council of Social Service**

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### Objectives

- ▣ To enhance evidence-based practice capacity of NGOs
- ▣ To build a visible brand of evidence-based platform/ community for future development of social service research.

## Event Highlights 1

October 11, 2012

### Conference on Practice and Research for Social Service Excellence

- Prof. Irwin Epstein from City University of New York was invited to deliver a keynote speech at the conference
- 3 local scholars were invited to introduce up-to-date research findings and resources
- 9 services projects from 8 local NGOs were invited to share their experience in evidence-based research and service excellence

#### Objectives:

- ❑ Promote service excellence and use of practice-based research to demonstrate and articulate the values and impacts of social services
- ❑ Introduce latest research findings and related information or resources that facilitate social service development
- ❑ Establish a regular networking platform for workers and social service NGOs to share their experience in practice research

## Snap shots of the EBP Conference 2012



▶ Gift presentation to Prof. Irwin Epstein



▶ Local NGOs sharing on evidence-based practice and service excellence

## Snap shots of the EBP Conference 2012



▶ Presentation by  
Dr. Karen Cheung



▶ Presentation by  
Dr. Steven Ngai



▶ Presentation by  
Dr. Edward Chan



▶ Sharing by  
Prof. Cecilia Chan



▶ Presentation by a Special  
Guest – Ms Camille Lam



▶ Presentation by  
HKCSS

## Event Highlights 2

**October 12, 2012**

**Workshop on Practice and Research for Social Service Excellence –  
“Social Work Data are All Around Us: Using Available Information in  
Practice-based Research for Service Excellence.”**

### Objectives:

- ❑ To introduce participants to the principles, methods, limitations and uses of practice-based research methods such as Clinical-data-mining (CDM) developed by the trainer
- ❑ To encourage participants to conceptualize and conduct their own practice research studies
- ❑ To empower participants as contributors to social work knowledge



## Event Highlights 3

**December 11, 2013**

### Conference on Practice and Research for Social Service Excellence cum Best Practice Award Sharing 2013

- Prof. Ilse Julkunen from the University of Helsinki was invited to be the keynote speaker to share the Finland experience in promoting practice-based research
- 9 service projects from 9 local NGOs were invited to share their experiences on evidence-based practice and service excellence
- 3 NGOs were invited to share their experience in resources and capacity building for practice research at organization level
- Funders were invited to have a dialogue with NGOs on resources and capacity building for practice research

**Objectives:**

- ❑ Widen the sharing platform via integrating with the Best Practice Award 2013
- ❑ Explore resources and capacity building for practice research at organization level and from funders' perspectives

## Snap shots of the EBP Conference 2013



➢ Gift Presentation to Prof. Ilse Julkunen

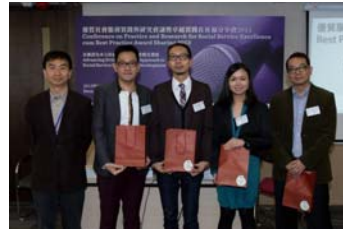


➢ NGOs sharing on resources and capacity building for practice research



➢ Resources and capacity building from funders' perspective

## Snap shots of the EBP Conference 2013



- ▶ Service projects sharing by Best Practice Award 2013 winners and invited speakers from local NGOs



## Event Highlights 4

December 12, 2013

**Workshop on Practice and Research for Social Service Excellence – Combining Practice and Research – a Mission Impossible?**

### Objectives:

- Discuss the possibility and challenges for doing research in and for practice
- Introduce a functional approaches to combine research and practice



## Achievements

With the 2 conferences and 2 workshop organized, we have:

- Brought together overseas and local wisdom on evidence-based practice
- Built up a visible brand of evidence-based platform
  - ✓ More than 200 participants from local NGOs took part in the conferences and workshops
  - ✓ Practitioners, funders and academia were brought together to have a dialogue
  - ✓ A practitioners-researchers group has been formed
- Constructed an **event website** to provide latest information and resources to local NGOs
  - ✓ 26 articles were uploaded to the event website
  - ✓ a EBP fans page in Facebook is maintained to keep the discussion over major issues about evidence-based practice on

**Website:** <http://ebp.hkcss.org.hk/index.php?lang=eng&action=home>

## Impact

- Encouraged the NGOs to attempt using or producing evidence for service development and advocacy through the sharing of best practices among local NGOs
- Consolidated the views on the importance of evidence-based practice to service excellence
- Enhanced the evidence-based practice capacity of NGOs at the individual, the organizational and the sectoral level with regular platforms for best practice sharing at the annual conference and training workshops
- Established a communication/networking platform for dialogues among academia, NGOs and funders

## What's next?

- **Strengthen the evidence-based practice capacity of NGOs**
  - Organize conferences to inform NGO practitioners with up-to-date information related to evidence-based practice
  - Organize training workshops for practitioners' skills enhancement in evidence-based practice
- **Consolidate the brand of evidence-based platform for the development of social service research**
  - Actively engaging practitioners to join the practitioners-researchers group and organize regular sharing sessions once a few months to facilitate learning among practitioners on evidence-based practice
  - Foster a mutual-aid network among practitioners-researchers to provide technical support on handy and everyday issues in conducting practice research
  - Strengthen the network built in the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of ExCEL3 through organizing regular events like conferences and workshops

Thanks!