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](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 1st phrase of ExCEL3 through organizing regular events like conferences and workshops

Thanks!