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**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January**

## **CRISIS RESOLUTION/ HOME TREATMENT CONFERENCE**

On Thursday 31 January and Friday 1 February 2008 the Centre for Community Mental Health and CSIP (Care Services Improvement Partnership) West Midlands is presenting a conference at the Edgbaston Campus of Birmingham City University

The conference is split over two days and on day one will focus in on themes raised in a recently published National Audit Office (NAO) report *Home Treatment: Process, Themes and Recommendations*.

Frazer Clark and Mark Davies from the NAO will be attending the conference to explain more about the background and process of the report. There will also be some group work to look at tackling the current reality for local services and using themes of the report to identify tensions and possible solutions for the way forward.

Day two will incorporate the regional network meeting and will focus on interventions and therapies used in a 'crisis' setting. A number of international colleagues will be in attendance to provide the opportunity to network and discuss different approaches together and share experiences of Implementing 'Home Treatment' style services in each context. Presentations on the day will include presentations from two distinguished guests in Jaakko Seikkula and Phil Thomas.

Jaakko Seikkula, PhD, is a professor at the Institute of Social Medicine at the University of Tromso in Norway and senior assistant at the Department of Psychology in the University of Jyväskylä in Finland. Between 1981-1998, he worked as a clinical psychologist at the Keropudas hospital in Finland where he and colleagues developed a highly successful approach for working with psychosis known as Open Dialogue Treatment (OPT). Studies on the OPT programme include outcomes of reduced use of medication, improved social recovery and evidence of a decline in the incidence of schizophrenia.

Dr Phil Thomas, Professor of Philosophy and Diversity at University of Central Lancashire will be presenting on Soteria Crisis Houses. Professor Thomas worked as a community based psychiatrist for many years, and published many papers and texts that bring new perspectives to mental health, both developing understanding of cultural diversity as well as alternative approaches to working with psychosis.

For more information about the event and the speakers, please contact

Kevin Heffernan, Programme Lead at CSIP West Midlands on 07810 798902 or 0121 678 4854

Or

Mervyn Morris, Director of CCMH at Birmingham City University on 0121 331 7151 or 0796 608 8405

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## **About Birmingham City University**

Formerly known as the University of Central England, over 24,000 students currently study at one of Birmingham City University's seven faculties:

The **Birmingham Institute of Art and Design**, the largest centre for design and media education outside London and rated as one of the top ten UK Art and Design institutions.

The University's substantial performing arts provision includes **Birmingham Conservatoire**, a specialised music college of international stature which trains musicians to the highest standard in performance and composition and **Birmingham School of Acting**, one of the UK's leading vocational drama training schools.

The **Business School**, a key regional centre which, with 4,000 students, is one of the largest business schools in the UK. Specialisms include organisational development, knowledge management, auditing and Entrepreneurship.

The **Faculty of Education**, which trains teachers and related professionals at levels from foundation degrees to PhD. Performance indicators published by the Training and Development Agency for Schools demonstrate its outstanding achievements.

The **Faculty for Health**, one of the country's largest centres for non-medical health education, and including the new Defence School of Health Care Studies, which trains military nurses and professionals.

The **Faculty of Law, Humanities, Development and Society**, where courses in law, social and political studies equip students for a range of professional careers. Work experience opportunities include placements with US law firms.

The **Technology Innovation Centre**, offering a wide range of courses in computer technology, multimedia and engineering. Its Millennium Point facilities are among the best in the country.

### **For more information contact:**

*Add your details here*

Birmingham City University Media Relations Office on 0121 331 6738, email [claire.neville@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:claire.neville@bcu.ac.uk) or out-of-hours on 07967 271 532