



General Meetup June 2020

Attending –

Clare Mitchell, Jess Hartson, Jazz Moreton, Mahendra Patel, Melissa Smith, Lindsay Jane Hunter, Hannah Graham, Sherrie Edgar, Alex Johnson, Claire Hickey, Mark Andrews, Laura Turian, Chermine Mak, Alan Van Wijgerden, Kerry Harvey.

Kerry introduced Clare Mitchell, Clare Hickey and Hannah Graham as she invited them along as they have provided the seed funding for managing the CHMU development including the Creative Health Practitioners Toolkit, Bi-Monthly Meetups, Newsletter, representation at (and actions from) the CWCHA Steering group, project development and funding applications.

Clare Mitchell – Background to **Coventry & Warwickshire Creative Health Alliance (CWCHA)**

- CCC cultural strategy – How do arts and culture produce social impact? Goal 4 of the Strategy is Health and Wellbeing.
- CWCHA is there to pull cultural and health sectors closer together in partnership – this is a strategic group with a core group of representatives from both health and arts sectors (including Clare Mitchell, Claire Hickey, Hannah Graham, Escape Arts, ArtsUplift, The Starfish Collaborative, The Belgrade Theatre Community dept)
- Look at the health settings and health agenda
- Maintain dialogue beyond funding individual projects as historically there has been stop-start partnerships rather than ongoing conversations.
- Promote dialogue between the sectors.
- Coventry is a Marmote city and the research around these principles are informing policy and activity.

Clare asked how can she support creative health orgs/individuals.

Claire Hickey (Warwickshire County Council) – start of conversations

- She has a personal interest as a practitioner herself and had an open brief at the start of her time as arts officer for WCC
- Forming partnerships across the region between arts and health.
- Working with Warwickshire Public Health regarding joint programmes of arts focussed work – 8 CWCHA projects have just been funded in response to the Covid situation
- CWCHA has pushed the arts for health and wellbeing agenda forward in public health.
- Recognising that the arts aren't funded well and we need to find/develop/establish relationships with the health sector.
- CWCHA shouting the benefits of arts and health, joining the dots up, operating successfully and partnerships bringing visibility and added value to both sectors.

Claire asked –

- What are the needs/issues for the creative health practitioners working in the local community?
- How can CWCHA assist with creative health practitioners on the frontline of communities, enabling practitioner and participant voice?

Hannah Graham – City of Culture Producer in the Caring Team

- Looking at Intersections between art and social action
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Interested in what the role of the artist/creative is?
- Strengthening links between creative health practitioners and public health
- Shared language within the creative practitioner community, and also between the creative practitioner and health community.
- Protection – what do creative practitioners need to support themselves when they are facilitating a transformative experience for their communities.
- Advocacy for Creative Health.

Kerry – From the meetings I've attended with CWCHA, here is a real opportunity through the CHMU meetings and actions that people want to be involved in, to shift the way funding processes happen with local funding partners.

Areas discussed

FUNDING

- Social Prescribing – if people are already doing activity that was originally paid for how can we be supported to continue this?
- Shift in balance between arts and health – health commission more in partnership rather than channelling people through to the arts (often with little or no funding support).
- Placing a higher value on the Creative Practitioner and their needs.

FOUNDATIONS and THE FUTURE

- Foundations and strategies need to be laid correctly first then build up and outwards for those seeds can flourish. Coming from a place where I see how an artist develops, its not just finance.

BEST PRACTICE

- Can we develop a Code of Ethics – how we as artists are resourced and protected?
- Inclusion - access and diversity in our creative health practitioners community and our participant communities.

ARTICULATION

- How can people understand the work we do and how it is recognised?

PROFILE

- Strength in numbers – positive representation
- Online Directory of Creative Health Practitioners
- Creative Health Library – books, podcasts, films etc (how could this be hosted?)
- Meet the Creative Health Practitioner? (Like meet the funder) profile event for creative health practitioners to share their work.

Shout Outs

People Like Us Festival

Melissa - Call out for participation in the People Like Us Festival 6th – 12th July

Invitation for creatives and communities to take part in the festival

<https://feelgoodcom.org/people-like-us-creative-health-festival/>

Creative Health Meetups Newsletter coming soon

If you'd like to share work that you're currently doing or have done then please send Kerry an email with the information and any online links you have, and an image if you have one.

Email: kerry@thestarfishcollaborative.co.uk

Creative Health Practitioners Toolkit

Session 2 : Making Our Own Maps with Dolly Sen

Thursday 9th July 1.30pm – 3pm

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1196581367374045/>