

Belfast Trust marks International Day for Peace by making Peace Pledges

Hello and welcome to the 6th edition of the Trust's Good Relations bulletin. Feedback from those who receive this publication has been excellent and it is encouraging to know how much people value it.

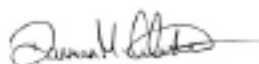
This bulletin features the Trust's celebration of International Day for Peace. Staff and service users came together on Wednesday 21 September to make their own personal Peace Pledges to mark the United Nations International Day for Peace. Peace Day is about peace in the broadest sense of the

world – it is about peace with oneself, peace with each other, good industrial relations, good community relations, peace with other countries, world peace. The benefits of embracing and living in a Culture of Peace are significant in health, thus our overall purpose to improve health and wellbeing and to tackle health inequalities. Health and Social Inequalities staff, Trade Union colleagues, Medical students and service users all wrote pledges for peace on coloured doves. These were then displayed in the City Hospital Gallery. The atmosphere was enhanced by a series of beautiful songs performed by Fane Street Primary School Choir. This attracted a significant crowd of patients, staff and family members who were able to enjoy the beautiful tones of the children while fostering a real sense of community.

You can also read about the important outreach work that the Trust does to promote good relations which contribute significantly to improving health and well-being amongst the long-established minority ethnic communities and the more recently arrived groups.

We are in the process of reviewing what difference our good relations strategy has meant in practice and will be engaging with both staff and service users and carers to look at what the priorities ought to be for our next Healthy Relations for a Healthy Future strategy action plan. Please contact veronica.mceneaney@belfasttrust.hscni.net if you would like

to be involved or have specific ideas. The Trust is keen to ensure that we co-design our actions with you the stakeholders to ensure that they are meaningful and make a real difference to good relations across the Trust. Please take the time to read this bulletin – I commend it to you.



Damian McAlister
Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development





Roma Health Project on the international stage



Pictured (L-R): Maria Teglas, Liana Ghent (Executive Director ISSA), Sorina Toma

Our Roma Health Project was recently showcased at a major international conference on Roma Early Years projects.

Maria Teglas and Sorina Toma, both Belfast Trust Community Health Workers, attended the conference in Vilnius, Lithuania which was hosted by the International Step by Step Organisation (ISSA).

Sorina and Maria facilitated a workshop on our Roma Health project, which focusses on giving every child the best start to life in a warm and culturally friendly environment.

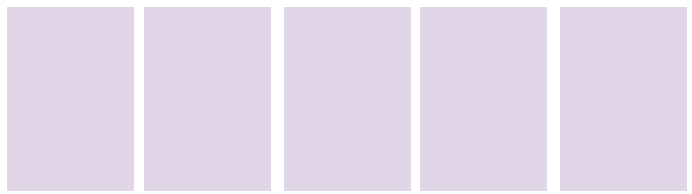
Practitioners, policy makers and NGOs from around the world who attended the conference commended our staff on their innovative approaches to supporting Roma families.

Trusts Provide Road Map to Health & Social Care

Over the last number of years Northern Ireland has become a vibrant hub of diversity with Trusts making 97,843 interpreting requests for patients from the Northern Ireland Health & Social Care Interpreting Service in approximately 35 languages. Arriving in a different country can be an overwhelming experience. Belfast Trust, along with the other Trust in Northern Ireland have responded to the health and social care needs of our diverse population by providing a booklet 'Access To Health and Social Care Guidance'. The booklet is a road map of how to access health and social care and is printed in 11 languages and is available on the Belfast Trust Internet site.

The booklet provides important information on a range of areas including: Eligibility for free treatment; how to get a medical card; finding a GP; Medication/prescriptions; Northern Ireland New Entrants Service and how to make a complaint.





Trust Support Helps Older Peoples Group Access Health

Belfast Trust is very proud to support the Chinese Welfare Association's older peoples project 'Hoi Sum' which means 'Happy'.

The Chinese Older People's Project was established in 1996 to meet the needs of the Chinese older population with a membership of just 30. Since 1998, CWA initially received funding from South and East Belfast Legacy Trust and Belfast Trust continues to provide funding. Hoi Sum has gone from strength to strength and has increased in membership with over 100 members and supported CWA



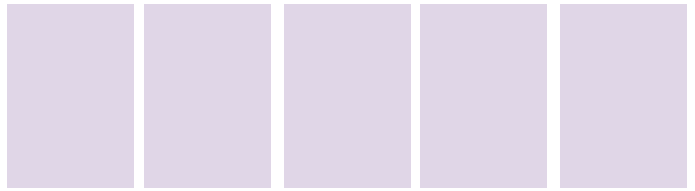
to lobby for the first Chinese Sheltered Accommodation, Hong Ling Gardens with 53 units in Belfast. 'Hoi Sum' has its own committee who meet to discuss the needs and issues raised by Hoi Sum members. This helps to improve the services provided by the Chinese Welfare Association to meet the needs of the Chinese older people.

Most members of Hoi Sum are from the rural areas of Hong Kong. They are from the first generation of Chinese people in Northern Ireland. They came in the early 60s when the first Chinese restaurant opened in Belfast in 1962. Most recent members are from Malaysia, Singapore and main land China. The main language spoken by the group is Hakka, a dialect that is widely spoken in rural areas of Hong Kong.

Some can also speak Cantonese and some newer Chinese immigrants speak Mandarin. Only a small number of the older people speak English due to the fact that they spent all their youth working in the catering business and never had the chance to be educated properly. The language barrier, lack of information in accessible formats, cultural differences and isolation can increase their vulnerability therefore, the Hoi Sum play a very important role in their lives. Somie Vigo (below), development worker with the group, outlined the group's aims:

- To promote health and well-being of older Chinese people through programmes aimed at addressing isolation and loneliness
- To provide support in accessing health and social services and welfare benefits
- To provide information and guidance to service providers on the provision of culturally appropriate services to meet the needs of Chinese older people.





Children's Choir Singing for Peace Show They Have the X Factor

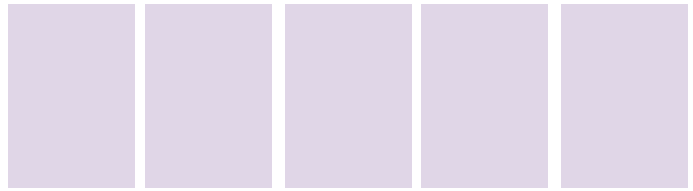
Children from Fane Street Primary School stole the show at the Trust's celebrations to mark International Day of Peace.

The children, from a range of different backgrounds, created an air of hope, peace and prosperity as their dulcet tones echoed throughout the gallery area of Belfast City Hospital.

Singing song after song, the choir's saintly sound soon attracted a significant crowd of delighted patients, staff and proud family members who were able to enjoy the star performance by the children.



The children then joined their families, service users, staff, medical students and representatives from the Trade Unions to create their own individual peace pledges.



Trust Director Stresses Importance of Peace in our Society

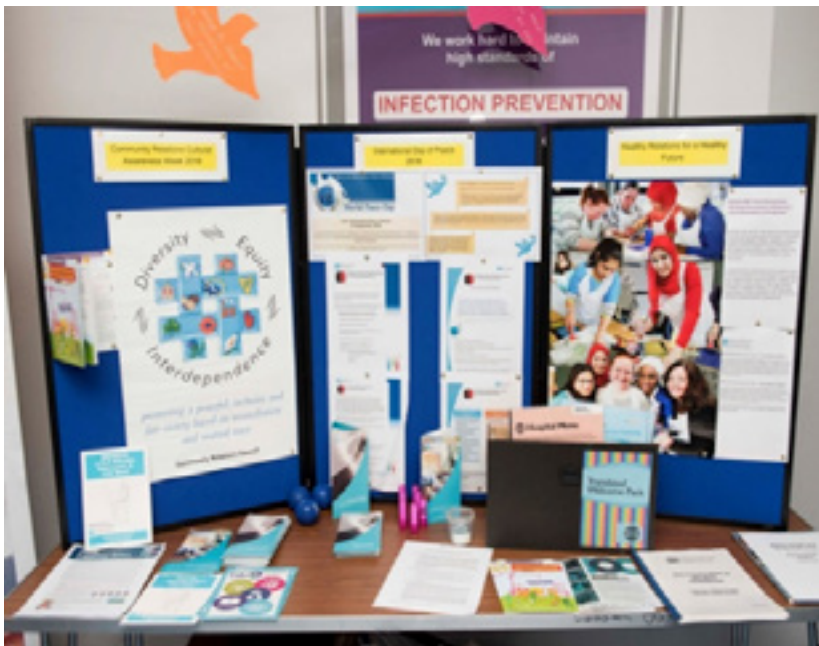
The Trust Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development, Damian McAlister, addressed those who attended the International Day of Peace at Belfast City Hospital and highlighted the importance of peace. He reminded those present, of “the importance of peace in our society, in our place of work and in our own lives.”



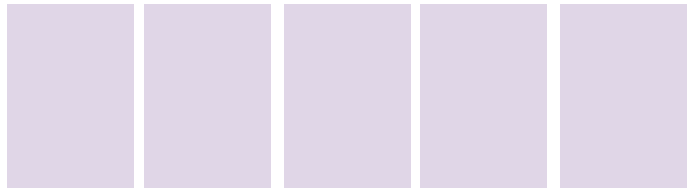
International Day for Peace coincides with Community Relations and Cultural Awareness Week – the theme of which is ‘Building the Future Together’.

To end the event, a minute’s silence was observed at noon. By joining with other organisations and individuals observing the same, a Peace Wave rippled around the world.

The Trust’s Health and Social Inequalities team, which organised the event in partnership with the Trust Art Manager Paula McHugh, provided a colourful display stand highlighting the initiatives carried out by the Trust which promote respect for diversity to enable equality of opportunity and equal access to services.



The stalls in the gallery also distributed materials about BHSCT’s Good Relations Strategy – Healthy Relations for a Healthy Future.



Children and Adults at Hospital Pledge for Peace



HR Director, Damian McAlister with medical students at Belfast City Hospital

The Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development, Damian, McAlister joined children from Fane Street Primary, medical students and Trade Unions to make a pledge for peace on coloured doves.

The budding artists were assisted by Artist in residence at Belfast City Hospital, Andrea Spence.

The hospital was a hive of activity as the doves were given flight when they were

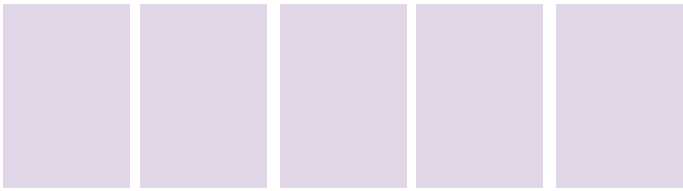
hung around the walls of the Tower Gallery area. The hopes, aspirations and pledges of all those who took part were displayed for all to see as more and more doves adorned the walls of the hospital.

It is hoped that the Pledge for Peace doves will find a more permanent home within the Trust where patients and staff can be reminded of the peace day and the hopes and aspirations illustrated on the doves.



Children from Fane Street Primary enjoying their art session at Belfast City Hospital





Expressed in words – the hopes and aspirations of patients, staff and children during International Day for Peace

I pledge to respect people regardless of their differences.

Loving Belfast - Peace - Keep it up folks!

Best wishes for everyone for peace and justice in the world.



Peace means that kindness, hope can be found in oneself.

To continue to promote good relations in the workplace.

Do my part to create for one and all and make the world a better place.

Use my words to speak in a kind way.

Give peace a chance.

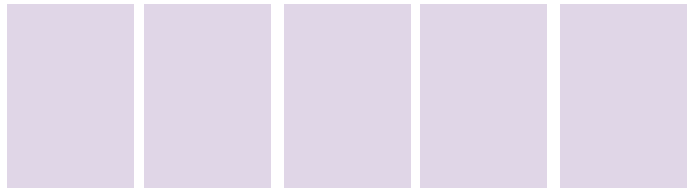
Smile at a stranger – inner peace is important too!

To be more tolerant and work towards the removal of all war (in small ways).

To be more tolerant and work towards the removal of all war (in small ways).

When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will see peace.

Love and Peace are a marriage.



Japanese World leader in Cardiology visits Trust

Cardiologists, Drs Simon Walsh and Colm Hanratty, have welcomed Dr Masahiko Ochiai to Belfast. Dr Ochiai is recognised internationally as a world leader in the management of totally occluded (blocked) coronary arteries (CTO).

He is one of the forefathers of contemporary CTO intervention and has been considered a global expert for 20-years. Drs Walsh and Dr Hanratty themselves, have also developed a worldwide reputation as leaders in this field and complex coronary intervention generally.



Pictured: Front row (L-R): Simon Walsh, Masahiko Ochiai, Colm Hanratty

The Belfast cardiologists performed three complex procedures, while at the same time passing on the clinical and procedural techniques that have been developed in Belfast so that these can be now adopted in Japan.

Dr Hanratty paid tribute to the nurses, clinical physiologists, radiographers and service managers who make this pioneering work possible. He added, "It was wonderful to have Dr Ochiai in Belfast learning new ways to open these blocked arteries. He was very impressed with the dedication and skill demonstrated by the entire team."

Community Hub

Over the past year the Trust, in partnership with a range of other organisations, have assisted Syrian families resettle in Northern Ireland under Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation (VPR) scheme. If you are interested in learning more about VPR, refugee and asylum issues in Northern Ireland, an information session has been organized in partnership with Belfast City Council.

Refugee Awareness and Arabic Culture Information Session

Date 29th November 9.30 – 4pm

Venue: details about the Belfast City Centre venue will be provided following registration. This awareness session will cover an introduction to asylum and refugee issues in the UK and NI in particular. It will provide a general awareness of Islamic and Arab culture and factual information about how the Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme works

The programme will cover a number of areas including:

- An introduction to Asylum and Refugee issues in UK and NI in particular -
- Islamic Cultural Awareness Session – Delivered by NI Muslim Family Association and Yallaa
- The Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme
- Experiences of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in NI

To register please contact: goodrelations@belfastcity.gov.uk or by Tel: 028 9027 0663