



Conference
Mental Health Matters: Issues for Refugees and
Asylum Seekers
Dylan Thomas Centre, Swansea
Wednesday 10th December 2008, 10am to 3.30pm

Key note speakers include:

- Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture
- Gofal
- Mind Cymru
- Welsh Refugee Council
- AWETU

The conference aims to:

- Discuss key issues relating to asylum seeker and refugee mental health, especially different models of intervention
- Explore the concept of stigma relating to mental health within refugee communities
- Provide examples of best practice from a Health Provision and Voluntary sector perspective
- Develop action plans for improving asylum seeker and refugee mental health in Wales, and improve collaboration and partnerships

Target outcomes

- To raise awareness of the situation relating to asylum seeker and refugee mental health in Wales
- To support effective networking on this issue
- To agree key priorities for campaigning
- To promote the work of the Mental Health Grants Scheme in Wales

Structure of the day

The morning session will feature presentations from organisations, plus a Q&A session with the panel of speakers. The afternoon will focus on action planning on a number of key issues, including:

- Assessment
- Treatment
- Gender issues
- Children and young people
- Stigma in relation to mental health problems in refugee communities

The conference is aimed at a range of practitioners, including:

- Commissioners of mental health services
- Specialist practitioners
- Local providers of services
- Local, regional and national voluntary organisations
- Refugee support groups
- National refugee organisations

Fees and booking

To book a place, please fill in the booking form before **21st November 2008**. The conference costs £60 for Welsh Refugee Council members, or £70 for non-members. A small number of free place are available for community and non-funded organisations. Please apply by **14th November 2008** if you would like to be considered for a free place.

As well as the formal conference, there will also be the opportunity for organisations to promote their work in a display area. Please contact Emma Shepherd on emma.shepherd@welshrefugeecouncil.org for more information.