

Northwest Branch update for AGM 2023

1. We co-delivered a training event with Wales Branch “Not in our House- factors to consider when siblings harm each other sexually” on 7th Sept 2023 held at Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU).
 - a. The event was a great success with approx. 80 delegates in attendance including LJMU students and delegates from local probation services, NSPCC, Barnardos, The Centre for Expertise on CSA, Local Authorities, CAMHS, Youth Justice, Children’s Residential Care Providers, G-MAP and Safer Lives.
 - b. The event included guest speakers Professor Kieran McCartan who discussed his work around family systems and the links of SSA to family dysfunction. Ashley Scotland, the founder and chief executive of Thriving Survivors presented her work on the development of Restorative Justice in cases of sexual harm and her survivor focused pathway to recovery and justice. Spencer Bailey a specialist social worker with Barnardos gave his reflection on the challenges and hurdles faced by professionals when working with SSA. Finally, Stuart Allardyce introduced his work with NOTA and the Centre for Expertise on CSA along with some excellent free resources for people working in the field.
2. The NW branch chair co-edited a Special Issue for JOSA with Dr Sarah Pemberton from Birmingham City University and an introduction to the special was written in collaboration with 5WAVES:

Kewley, S., Pemberton., Black, B., & Socolof, M. (2023). Sibling Sexual Abuse: An Introduction and Critical Discussion. *Journal of Sexual Aggression*, 29(3),
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13552600.2023.2251523>
3. As noted in the June update, there have been several external challenges hosting an event this year due to sickness, rail strikes and then academic strikes.
4. In terms of future plans, although the NW branch chair is in discussions with the local NSPCC branch to host an event in 2024, these are on hold while the branch review is being undertaken.

S Kewley

11.11.23