Tom Daly, Corporate Manager with the HSE, and recently nominated CAWT’s Director General, chaired his first meeting of the CAWT Management Board in February 2011 held in the Western Trust area. At the meeting the steady progress in the delivery of the 12-project programme ‘Putting Patients, Clients and Families First’ was highlighted. For example by December 2010 almost 5,000 patients across the border region had benefitted directly from new and enhanced health and social care services due to this welcome EU investment which CAWT is managing on behalf of the partner organisations.

The entire CAWT EU INTERREG IVA funded programme is about enabling patients and clients to have better access to quality health and social care services, as well as enhancing health and well being and reducing health inequalities. In doing so CAWT is working in partnership with the community sector. Information on CAWT’s EU INTERREG IVA projects can be found on the website at: www.cawt.com

CAWT Disability Workshop

One of CAWT’s 6 Strategy Groups, the Disability Strategy Group, held a workshop in Omagh recently to progress cross border collaborative work within disability services. Attended by 30 managers and staff from the HSE, the Southern and the Western Trusts, participants discussed practical & challenging areas within physical, sensory and learning disability, which staff on both sides of the border are dealing with, which could be enhanced through a cross border approach. Areas currently being explored include developing web-based solutions to sharing information and good practice within learning disability services, pooling resources to increase access to respite care, improving access to interpreter services for deaf people and cross border collaboration in acquired brain injury rehabilitation services. Work will continue on refining the ideas generated and if appropriate, tested by the disability services within the CAWT border region.

Contact: Edel O’Doherty, CAWT Development Centre e: edel.odoherty@westhealth.n-i.nhs.uk
**European INTERREG IVA Project Update**

**‘Time IVA Change’ Border Region Alcohol Project**

The ‘Time IVA Change’ Project aims to establish best practice in developing early intervention systems to address the negative impact of alcohol. Currently the project is focusing on the rollout of a clinical Early Intervention service across the border region, with two Early Intervention Workers per CAWT area who are developing innovative approaches to joint working across disciplines. This Early Intervention Service is promoting resilience and positive mental wellbeing and takes a family-orientated approach to client support with infant mental health and positive outcomes for children as a core value. The service is showcasing ways of moving services upstream in the longer-term to reduce the current levels of alcohol harm and addiction which prevail in the CAWT region. The Early Intervention Service will link with community and voluntary service providers to ensure that the best possible range of support is available locally to clients and their families. We are particularly proud of the ground-breaking work which is currently being done by the Early Intervention Service in WHSCT and SHSCT areas to establish referral routes through midwives and health visitors - this approach recognises the lifelong health benefits and impact of early intervention and positive mental wellbeing in children aged 0-3 years and their parents.

The project is also piloting the Strengthening Families Programme in the WHSCT area and the Community Mobilisation strand of the project is moving towards the testing and production of a Community Mobilisation toolkit for alcohol.

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**Sexual Health/GUM clinics**

The EU INTERREG IVA funding has enabled the WHSCT to increase their GUM (Genito Urinary Medicine) clinics from six to ten per week. In addition a new sexual health clinic commenced in Tyrone County Hospital in Omagh with uptake increasing steadily since it opened in November 2010. At the end of January 2011 there were 370 new clients within the WHSCT as a result of the EU investment. The clinics are staffed by a full multidisciplinary team and are proving to be very successful. The benefits to clients include reduced waiting times for appointments, reduced travel time and costs and also increased choice. It also means better health outcomes as well as a reduced risk of spreading sexually transmitted infections. It has also opened up service choices for clients from neighbouring Trust and HSE areas. There are benefits for the organisations too including increased staff numbers from different disciplines being trained and gaining experience of sexual health services delivery. This means more suitably trained and experienced staff available to work in this area of healthcare.

The EU funded GUM services in the SHSCT area continue to operate very successfully with 667 new patients as of the end of January 2011, and have been extended for a further year. Plans are underway to have new sexual health/GUM services up and running in the HSE DNE and HSE West areas during 2011.

**Contact: Marian Martin, Project Manager**

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**Eating Disorders**

To date, seven of the twelve Eating Disorder Therapist posts have been filled across the CAWT partner areas. Interviews have taken place to recruit the remaining five therapist posts. In the WHSCT and HSE West areas, patients are now accessing treatment. Training is underway for health professional groups, including GPs, in the WHSCT and HSE West areas.

The project has focused on raising public awareness in recent months. Specifically, three successful public information evenings were held in Derry, Enniskillen and Omagh in January in conjunction with the Eating Disorders Association of NI. As part of Eating Disorders Awareness Week, a public information evening was held in Donegal Town in February in conjunction with Bodywhys. A similar event is being planned for April in Sligo. The project provided an information stand at the University of Ulster’s Student Open Week in Magee campus in January. Plans are underway to participate in similar events at colleges in Northern Ireland.

**Contact: Virginia Reid, Project Manager**

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Attending the Public Information event in the Western Trust (l to r): Yvonne McWhirter, Head of Mental Health Specialist Services, WHSCT; Virginia Reid, CAWT Eating Disorders Project Manager; Angela O’Neill, Acting Team lead, WHSCT Eating Disorders specialist team; Ann McCann, founder member, Eating Disorders Association of NI.
Social Inclusion

All project staff are now in place with good progress in each of the three project strands. To date the Vulnerable Women strand has delivered programmes to 415 women across the six groups being targeted - new mothers, older women, women living with domestic violence, women living with mental ill-health, women living with a cancer diagnosis and mothers of disabled children. The impact of programmes will be measured in order to determine the effectiveness of this investment in local communities.

The Traveller Development Officer, Jacqueline Connolly took up post in October 2010 and to date two cross border Traveller workshops have been held, with 37 attendees: the first in Monaghan in January and the second in Strabane in February. Feedback from the workshops will shape the content of the Community Health Work Training for Travellers scheduled to begin in September 2011. Ciara O’Hanlon, Access Development Officer who took up post in January 2011, is setting the terms of reference for a review and audit of access arrangements across the CAWT region.

Furthermore a cross border Social Inclusion Network is being established which will include representation from Armagh, Newry, Limavady, Derry, Donegal and Omagh councils, plus all CAWT partner organisations and other public sector bodies who can make an impact on health. The network will have a key role in making the Derry Well Woman ‘Three Tiered Model of Engagement’ effective and will culminate with a cross border Community Health Question Time event planned for September 2011.

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Older People

This project is about assisting older people to remain in their own homes. The procurement of telecare equipment is well underway and this should be complete by the end of April 2011. Thereafter, the delivery of telecare services to clients in the target areas will begin. The project is also engaged in enhancing social supports and networks for older people. Interagency groups have been established in Armagh and Inishowen, Co. Donegal with initial meetings planned for March & April. Similar groups will be developed in Monaghan, Louth, Leitrim/West Cavan during the coming months.

We said farewell to two Project Board members who recently retired from the health services: Edith Mullin, HSE West & Frances O’Callaghan, HSE DNE. We wish them well and thank them for their support to the project. We welcome to the Project Board Gwen Mooney, Acting Service Manager for Older People, Donegal, HSE West and Rose Mooney, Assistant Director of Nursing - Monaghan, HSE DNE.

Contact: Anne Gill, Project Manager t: 00 44 (0)28 71 860086 e:anne.gill@westerntrust.hscni.net w:www.cawt.com/olderpeople

At the launch of a monthly profile page on older people in Inishowen (l to r): Fiona Lavery, Community Hospital, Buncrana; John Grant, Volunteer, Community Hospital, Buncrana; Marie McLaughlin, CAWT Older People’s Project, John Gill, Inish Times; Mary McGeehan, Inishowen Development Partnership & Julie Scott, Ard Aoiibeann, Carndonagh

Autism Support: ‘Turning the Curve’

The CAWT Autism project ‘Turning the Curve’ aims to improve the lives of children and young people with Autism and their families and carers in the CAWT border region. The focus is on supporting children and young people with autism aged between 15 and 19 years to cope with changes in their lives. A ‘Transition Support Plan’ will be produced for each client which will have a goal or goals listed to support the child/young person to become more confident in a particular area of their life. The goals will be different for everyone but will include vocational, educational and recreational goals such as happily attending an after school activity or class or independently going to town safely. Some of the benefits that clients will gain include improved educational and social outcomes and reduction in isolation. There should also be other benefits including ‘time out’ for parents/carers from caring for their child/young person, reduction in crisis intervention for vulnerable families with lower levels of stress and anxiety in general.

To provide effective support to clients and their families and carers, a Transition Officer and Transition Support Workers have been appointed in each CAWT partner area. Staff recruitment is well underway and clients will start to receive support from early 2011.

Contact: Louise Potts, Project Manager t: 00 44 (0)28 82835768 e: louise.potts@westerntrust.hscni.net w: www.cawt.com/autism

CAWT In Action

European INTERREG IVA Project Update

Social Inclusion

Older People

Autism Support: ‘Turning the Curve’
**Special EU Programmes Body visit to the Erne Hospital**

Mr Mark Grannell, Consultant Vascular Surgeon, Western Trust, demonstrating the VNUS Generator system in the Erne Hospital, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh recently. Left to right: Eimear Murphy, Programme Manager, SEUPB; Sean Mulhern, European Unit, DHSSPS and Sister Marie Therese McDermott, Erne Hospital.

**Cross border Leadership development training**

HSE West staff attending the cross border leadership development programme for social work team leaders. Front row (l to r): Marianne Walsh; Sharon Doherty; Ria Openhagen; Brendan Timon; Danny Curran; Anne McMurray. Back row (l to r): Mary Kellegher; Paul McLaughlin; Stephen Whelan; Tony Comiskey; Aisling Crowe; Bridgeen Smith; Phil Maria; Emlyn Hughes; John Kilfeather and Sinead Doherty.

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**Seminar:**
**CAWT Outcomes for Children project — Locality Planning Groups networking event**

- **Venue:** Enniskillen
- **Date:** 31 March 2011
- **Contact details:**
  - Mary Haughey
  - t: 00 44 (0)28 3741 4643
  - e: mary.haughey@southerntrust.hscni.net
  - w: www.cawt.com/ofc

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**Meeting:**
**Eating Disorders Public Information event**

- **Venue:** Sligo
- **Date:** April 2011
- **Contact details:**
  - Virginia Reid
  - t: 00 353 (0)74 9104662
  - e: virginia.reid@hse.ie
  - w: www.cawt.com/edn

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**Workshop:**
**Eating Disorders Project Workshop**

- **Venue:** Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh
- **Date:** 31 August and 1 September 2011
- **Contact details:**
  - Virginia Reid
  - t: 00 353 (0)74 9104662
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**Next issue of CAWT in Action:** May 2011