**Unequal lives, unjust deaths**

**Children and the early years: tackling health inequalities**

13 May 2014

Health inequalities can be apparent from the earliest stage in life and disadvantaged people in Scotland die younger. Addressing the inter-generational factors that risk perpetuating Scotland's health inequalities is essential. These health inequalities are not inevitable and they can be prevented. This seminar is the first part of a series of events to examine how the voluntary sector can collaborate to tackle health inequalities.

**Aim**

* Gain a better understanding of health inequalities, to share learning and experience about the interventions that make a difference
* Support collaboration and partnership between public and voluntary sectors.
* Promote awareness and understanding of the contribution of the voluntary health sector to tackling health inequalities.
* The importance of the early years and children’s services from prevention to early intervention

09:00 Registration

09:30 **Welcome and introduction from the Chair**

Jackie Brock, Children in Scotland

**Session One:**

09:40 Gerry McLaughlin, NHS Health Scotland

*Evidence base for tackling health inequalities.*

09:55 Alex Young & Judith Ainsley, Scottish Government

Breaking inter-generational cycles of poverty, inequality and deprivation by improving children’s wellbeing and life chances - Child Poverty Strategy for Scotland

10:10 Roundtable discussion: **How can the voluntary health sector work with health and local authorities to support implementation of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act and impact on inequalities in the early years?**

*Addressing the challenges shared with health and local authority colleagues. Discussion around what is working well, and what can be learnt from best*

*practice. What support does the voluntary health sector need to tackle health inequalities going forward?*

*Followed by feedback from selected tables.*

11:00 Refreshments

**Session Two: Working in partnership to prevent health inequalities in the early years through early intervention**

11:15 Cross-sectoral working with children in the early years – a strategic view

Sally Ann Kelly, Senior Manager for 3rd Sector GIRFEC Project and Early Years Task force member

11:30 Cross-sectoral working with children in the early years – a funder’s perspective

Ewan Aitken – BBC Children in Need

11:45 Roundtable discussion

*How is collaboration working in practice? What are the challenges and what is working well that others could learn from?*

*Followed by feedback from the tables*

12:30 Summary and closing remarks

12:45 Sandwich lunch and networking

13:30 Close