**Unequal lives, unjust deaths**

**Vulnerable adults: tackling health inequalities**

Thursday 21 August 2014

Health inequalities can be apparent from the earliest stage in life and disadvantaged people in Scotland die younger. Health inequalities are not inevitable and they can be prevented.

This seminar will focus on health inequalities and vulnerable adults and address the question: what is the relationship between social exclusion - through custodial sentences, poverty or homelessness – and poor mental health, long term conditions, disability and shorter life expectancy? And what is the third sector contribution to preventing, reducing and undoing these health inequalities?

09:30 **Registration and refreshments**

10.00 **Welcome and introduction from the Chair**

Laura Mulcahy, Criminal Justice Voluntary Sector Forum

10:10 **Andrew Fraser, NHS Health Scotland**

*Setting the scene:* *Tackling health inequalities in vulnerable adults*

10:25 **TBC, Scottish Government (proposed)**

C*urrent and emerging policy and legislation*

10:40 **Roundtable discussion**: Discussion looking at what else is currently being done by third sector providers to contribute to reducing health inequalities amongst vulnerable adults

11:15 Refreshments

11:30 **Frances Simpson, Support in Mind**

*Links between physical and mental health and the health inequalities attached to serious mental illness*

11:45 **John Porter, National Prisoner Healthcare Network**

*Challenges and opportunities in relation to health services in prison*

12:00 **Roundtable discussion:** Challenges & opportunities faced by third sector providers in relation to addressing health inequalities

12:45 **Summary and closing remarks** – Susan Lowes (introducing Lorraine Simpson, Voluntary Health Scotland health inequalities project)

13:00 **Sandwich lunch and networking**

13:30 **Close**