



Volunteering: The Golden Thread in Health

Thursday 14 September 2017, The Golden Jubilee Conference Centre, Glasgow

Speakers Biographies

Shulah Allan- Conference Chair

Shulah Allan has been a Non-Executive Director of the Lothian NHS Board since 2010. Shulah was then made Vice Chair of the Board in October 2012. As Vice Chair, she deputises for the Chairman when required, both externally and internally, and meets regularly with the Chairman. Shulah is also involved in a number of committees with her role as Vice Chair. Shulah was originally appointed as a patient member on the Board and still tries to maintain her patient view on issues and schemes that are brought to the Board.

Shulah brings experience to the board 25 years' experience of working within the third sector in Edinburgh. Through much of her career Shulah focused on health and social care services in community development. She was also actively involved in partnership working between the third sector with the Health Board and the local authority.

In addition to her NHS Lothian role, Shulah sits on the board of two local trusts, a housing association and a local charity.

She is also the Convenor of the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations. Outside of her committee roles, Shulah enjoys singing in a community choir.

Claire Stevens

Since her appointment in August 2012 Claire has led a programme of change that has seen Voluntary Health Scotland build a reputation as an influential and collaborative platform for Scotland's voluntary health organisations. Under her leadership VHS has set out to close the health inequalities gap by making it 'everyone's business'. VHS is Secretariat to the Cross Party Group on Health Inequalities and publisher of Living in the Gap, the seminal study of the third sector's contribution to tackling health inequalities.

Over 30 years, Claire has carried out a wide range of executive and non-executive roles in Scotland's third sector. She currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the charities Voluntary Action Fund and Bridgend Inspiring Growth. Between 2009 and 2012 she was part of the Scottish Government's Getting it Right for Every Child team, leading their engagement with the third sector. She also sits on a wide range of health related groups, including the Scottish Public Health Network Advisory Group, the Drink Wise Age Well Impact and Advisory Board Scotland and the National Group on Volunteering in NHS Scotland. Her current agenda for VHS includes raising awareness of the impact of loneliness on physical and mental health and the role the third sector plays in addressing this.

Alan Bigham

Alan manages the Volunteering in NHSScotland Programme that supports NHS Boards to develop volunteering. The programme is supported by a National Group for Volunteering, with membership drawn from NHS Boards and other partners, providing an advisory role.

Programme outputs include a Volunteer Managers Network, the Volunteering Information System, guidance and publications. In 2015 work was undertaken with volunteer managers in NHS Boards to review the recommendations of the Lampard Report which identified the need for the Clear Pathway project.

Joanna Swanson

Joanna Swanson leads the Person-Centred and Participation team within the Scottish Government's Directorate for Healthcare Quality and Improvement.

Joanna's team has policy responsibility for person-centred care and for volunteering within the NHS in Scotland. She has worked in various roles within the Scottish Government since 2008. Prior to that she worked for the housing and regeneration agency, Communities Scotland.

Jullie Tran Graham

Jullie is a Programme Manager in the [Health Lab](#) at Nesta. She is responsible for managing a number of projects within the [Accelerating Ideas Fund](#) and is leading the portfolio's knowledge and learning work.

Jullie has published two recent Nesta reports; [Helping in Hospitals: A guide to high impact volunteering in hospitals](#) and [The Power of Peer Support](#).

Prior to joining Nesta, Jullie worked as a management consultant for McCann Health and Accenture.

Jullie holds a BSc in Engineering from the University of Toronto and a MSc in Health Policy, Planning and Financing from the LSE and the LSHTM.

Chris Burghes

As the CEO of the Royal Free Charity, Chris has overseen the strategic change of the organisation from a grant making body to direct service provider, merging other organisations into the Charity and growing the income by 400% to over £16m. Together they were the primary reasons why he was identified as one of the five rising stars of the third sector by Charity Times as well as being voted Charity CEO of the Year.

Previously he was the Director of Business Development at the Fire Fighters Charity. He has also worked for the National Farmers' Union as both their Marketing Manager and Business Development Manager. He was educated in both the UK and the USA and completed his MBA in 2001.

Jane Ferguson

Jane Ferguson is Director of the Edinburgh and Lothians Health Foundation (ELHF), a post she has held since 2011, after moving to Scotland from London. ELHF is one

of Scotland's largest health charities which, with an endowment of c.£70m, is a substantial contributor to the improvement of health of local communities, in particular the patient community of NHS Lothian. In her time at Lothian, she has revised the internal governance and management structures of the charity, introduced and overseen a £2m annual grants programme; and the latest project close to her heart is to review and improve the impact of volunteering across NHS Lothian.

Prior to coming to Edinburgh she was the Director of Fundraising for King's College Hospital Charity for seven years, where she successfully developed and completed two multi-million capital fundraising campaigns, an introduced a modest annual grants programme.

At board level, Jane serves as a trustee for the Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH), on a local after-school club, and until 2014 sat on the strategy group during the formation and successful launch of Luminate, the Creative Aging Festival. She was nominated by her peers as the Chair of the Scotland Funders Forum for 2016. She is also a 2012 graduate of Common Purpose.

Lynne McMinn

Lynne McMinn has worked for the Scottish Government for sixteen years and is the Head of Policy within Disclosure Scotland.

Lynne is leading the PVG Review and has been working in Disclosure Scotland for two years.

Nat Brittain

Nat Brittain has worked in the policy team of Disclosure Scotland for almost a year. Nat has been a civil servant for three years.

Prior to joining the civil service Nat worked for the NHS for four years.

Paul Okroj

Paul Okroj is the Head of Volunteering for Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland which improves the quality of life for people in Scotland affected by Chest Heart or stroke illness. There are links between health and social inequality and social isolation and a team of over 1,500 volunteers across Scotland help to deliver services to contribute to reducing the impact of loneliness and isolation.

Paul is also the Chairman of Befriending Network UK which supports its member organisations to offer supportive, reliable relationships through volunteer befrienders to people who would otherwise be socially isolated. Around the UK there are befriending projects which organise effective support for children and young people, families, people with mental ill-health, people with learning disabilities and older people, amongst many others.

Paul is the current Chairman of the Scottish Volunteering Forum - a group of organisations whose fundamental principle is working collaboratively for the overall benefit of volunteering in Scotland.

Tracey Passway

Tracey has worked in the NHS for 30 years. Her career started as a State Registered Dietitian in England; she progressed through the profession to managing a large team of dietitians in central London and chaired the National Dietetic Managers Group of the British Dietetic Association.

Following attendance at a motivational event in 2004 she moved from London to Glenisla, one of the Angus glens in Scotland, and took on a temporary role of Project Worker looking at health needs assessment which brought her into contact with a number of third sector agencies and Voluntary organisations. She took a permanent role in Clinical Governance in 2005; the role involved a number of 'person centred' aspects of clinical governance, including management of volunteering in the acute services.

From that period Tracey has expanded the support to volunteering and maintained a 'joined up' service across Tayside health services despite a number of organisational changes, including the latest establishment of integration authorities. Tracey graduated with a Masters degree last year, and her dissertation involved new research into what knowledge and skills volunteers feel are important for their role as a ward volunteer. Other modules were also about volunteering and one of these concerned volunteers being able to reduce patient falls in hospital and this project is progressing in Ninewells hospital.

With the life changing move to Glenisla Tracey had two children, and she now lives and works in Dundee. She enjoys running and enters a number of running events each year and participated in a triathlon for the first time this year.

Ruth Brown

Ruth has worked with Dundee Voluntary Action, one of the three organisations making up Dundee's Third Sector Interface, since 2008. As Mental Health Networking Co-ordinator, Ruth supports third sector involvement in the planning, delivery, and review of mental health services and strategy in Dundee.

Partnership working is a cornerstone of Ruth's work. Much of this currently links to Making Recovery Real in Dundee, a multi-agency collaboration sponsored by Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership and supported by Scottish Recovery Network, which aims to shift the balance in power at all levels towards people with lived experience of mental health problems. Investing in recovery focussed Peer Support, be that in informal, volunteering, or paid roles is a key part of this.

Ruth's professional background is in Community Learning and Development. She has worked in local authorities in Dundee and in Burnley, Lancashire in both practitioner and managerial roles delivering support for community regeneration, community planning, adult learning, and employability.

Ruth has two school-age children. She enjoys being outdoors, learning Pilates, and nights in with her book group.

Jacqueline Campbell

Jacqueline is strategic policy lead for Health & Social Care Integration. She has worked in many different areas of Government covering a variety of subjects from potatoes to.... motorsports.

She has worked as a private secretary, led on various pieces of legislation, worked on the pandemic flu outbreak and worked with a wide range of people from all walks of life throughout her career. Jacqueline has two young daughters and, in her spare time, is a singer-songwriter.

Marion Findlay

Marion Findlay is Director of Services at Volunteer Edinburgh and is responsible for a range of services which promote personal development through volunteering. She previously worked as an occupational therapist in a variety of mental health settings in Lothian.

Angela Farr

Angela Farr is Service Manager at Volunteer Edinburgh. She manages the Volunteer Hub at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, an innovative project established in 2008. The Hub promotes and supports volunteering by patients who have a variety of mental health problems, as well as engaging volunteers from the general public in a range of hospital activities. Before joining Volunteer Edinburgh Angela worked as a Registered Mental Health Nurse and community development worker.

Linda Walker

Linda Walker is Head Occupational Therapist for adult, forensic and older people's mental health services in Edinburgh. Based at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, Linda has worked as an occupational therapist for 24 years, specialising in forensic mental health.

Rob Murray

Rob is the Scotland Manager with Changing Faces which is a UK charity supporting those with a visible difference lead the lives they want to live.

Rob comes from a background within the Third Sector working with a number of national and local charities. He has also spent some time working within Scottish politics.

In his free time Rob is a volunteer within the Scout Association where he is currently the District Commissioner for Paisley, Barrhead & Neilston supporting around 1,160 young people and adults. He is also reading in a Masters of Business Administration given his strong interest in organisational culture and leadership. Rob can also be found engaging in discussions on twitter on a range of topics through @robmurray11

Rob has a keen passion for ensuring that young people and adults get the appropriate levels of psychosocial support and that this is a key part of a regular quality health care provision

Shona Robison MSP

Shona is Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport

Shona Robison was born in Redcar in 1966. Educated at Alva Academy, she went on to graduate from Glasgow University with a Social Sciences MA and Jordanhill College with a Postgraduate Certificate in Community Education. She previously worked for Glasgow City Council's Social Work Department.

Shona was an MSP for the North East from 1999-2003 before being elected MSP for Dundee East in 2003 (now renamed Dundee City East). Latterly she was Shadow Minister for Health and Social Justice and a member of the Parliament's Health Committee. She was appointed Minister for Public Health in the minority Scottish Government formed after the May 2007 election. In February 2009 she additionally assumed responsibility for sport.

Following the 2011 election, Shona was made Minister for Commonwealth Games and Sport. In 2014, with additional responsibilities for Equalities and Pensioners' Rights being added to her portfolio, she became a full member of the Scottish Cabinet and is now designated as Cabinet Secretary for Health, Wellbeing and Sport.

She lives in Dundee and has a daughter.