Abstract for Parallel Session Proposal

Proposed Title: Non Violence Resistance as an action component in family support services.

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Relevant to Conference Theme: Systems Approaches to Developing Family Support

The aim of this presentation is to share learning from an action research project on an under-researched and under-reported form of violence and abuse in family systems called Child to Parent Violence (CPV) - the use of violence by children and young people at home towards parents. Child to parent violence raises a variety of dilemmas and questions for practitioners and for researchers, some of which will be explored during this session.

Using examples from research on the Responding to Child to Parent Violence (RCPV) Project two day training in Non Violent Resistance (NVR), we will share how awareness of CPV, along with knowledge and skills in NVR increased for practitioners after attending the training. We will also discuss how this impacted on their practice with families experiencing Child to Parent Violence.

Delegates will be introduced to the NVR programme as adapted in Ireland. This programme is an evidence based, innovative and short-term intervention that that can be used with existing family services. It responds to the needs of parents in embattled systems while protecting children and responding to needs to agencies to assist and support families presenting with this form of family violence. The programme also does not exclude families that may be experiencing child protection, drug/addition or mental health issues of either the parent or child.

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