



## **THE CHANGING FACE OF FAMILIES**

**Monday 19th October 2009 9.30am – 1.00pm  
Park Avenue Hotel, Belfast**

*We will also be able to offer a place for a second person at discount price for every full place booked before 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2008.*

This is the seventh Conference organised by the Parenting Forum NI. The Conference will launch Parent's Week 2009. Research from across Europe has demonstrated that decreasing birth rates, increasing levels of separation and divorce, workforce mobility, increasing numbers of lone parents and increasing numbers of both parents returning to work have impacted on family dynamics and structures. These key issues will be explored by speakers during the conference and provide delegates with practical information when working with families within their own settings.

The themes include:

- **Parenting Support - Research and its impact of service delivery**
- **The Impact of Separation and Divorce**
- **Lone Parents**
- **Working Parents**
- **Ethnic Minority Parents**
- **Parents with a Disabled Child**

During the conference the prototype for the new **Regional Information Website and Database** will be profiled.

### **PARENTS' WEEK 2009**

The tenth annual Parents' Week will take place from Monday 19th October to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

The Week will be

- a celebration of the valuable work you do with families in all their shapes and sizes
- a time to examine how you can be more effective

- an opportunity for us to ensure that your work is recognised and valued and ensure that the issues affecting families today are kept at the top of the political agenda.

We hope that Parents' Week will help you to:

- celebrate the achievements of your service over the last year
- listen to what parents and families think of your service
- invite new families in your area to visit you

**If you are planning any events in your organisation please be sure to send in the details to [sandra@pachelp.org](mailto:sandra@pachelp.org) and we will publicise them on our website.**

### **SPEAKERS - See Profiles for Further Information**

Alison Loughlin, Regional Manager, Parenting Forum NI

John Duffy, Eastern Childcare Partnership

Dr Deborah Gbate, Chief Executive, Centre for Effective Services

Margaret Fawcett, Independent Social Worker, Therapist and Family Therapist (in training)

Marie Cavanagh, Director, Gingerbread NI

Catherine Moore, Operations Manager, Employers for Childcare

Bernadette Mc Aliskey, Coordinator, S.T.E.P

Una Mc Aliskey, Development Manager, Mencap NI

Valeris Maxwell, SHSSB

Tommy Doherty, WHSSB

### **Who should attend?**

This event will be of interest to anyone who supports families. It will be of particular interest to people who work in family centres, on parenting projects, Sure Start staff, in community or voluntary sector projects directly working with parents, in Statutory work involved in planning, in social work, health visiting or youth work and those responsible for policy and strategies in NI.

### **Cost**

As usual the Parenting Forum have kept costs to a minimum and the charges are as follows: - £45 per person however if two or more people are attending from the same organisation we will offer the second place for £30, providing the places are booked before 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2009.

### **Booking details**

The Conference has been organised for Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October, the first day of Parent's Week. To apply for a place at the conference please fill in the booking form enclosed and return it on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> October. You will then be sent confirmation of your place and full details on the conference. If you want more information please contact Alison Loughlin or Gemma Connor Tel 9031 0891, or email [gemma@pachelp.org](mailto:gemma@pachelp.org)