

# Inclusion Health

*Inclusion Health: Homelessness and experiences of pregnancy & birth in prison populations – What is the statutory duty and where are the gaps?*



University of Hertfordshire **UH**

Wednesday 13th February 2019

2.00pm – 4.00pm , Lindop building

\*Tea & coffee from 1.30pm –

Also we will be holding a poster presentation on inclusion health before & after the masterclass  
This can be found in the foyer area of the Lindop building

At the University of Hertfordshire

Chair: Mike Macgregor

Community Protection Manager, HCC

## Speakers include

Dr Gill Craig, Reader in Public Health and Social Science (University of Hertfordshire) presenting an overview of inclusion health and affected communities,

Councillor Barbara Gibson (HCC), presenting on homelessness, the statutory duty and those who fall through the gaps,

Dr Laura Abbott, Senior Lecturer/Registered midwife (University of Hertfordshire), presenting findings of her research on the experiences of pregnancy and birth in prison and homeless populations.

***Inclusion health*** is “a service, research, and policy agenda that aims to prevent and redress health and social inequities among the most vulnerable and excluded populations” (Luchenski, 2017).

### **This Master Class will focus on two areas relevant to inclusion health:**

- **Homelessness, the statutory duty and those who fall through the gaps including: unaccompanied minors, people with learning disabilities and looked after children/care leavers; and,**
- **The experiences of pregnancy and birth in female prisoners and homeless women.**

The life expectancy of homeless people is almost 30 years less than the general population and a homeless woman is likely to die before her 43<sup>rd</sup> birthday (NHS, 2011). We would have to cast our gaze to the 19<sup>th</sup> century to witness such a short life expectancy in the UK. Prison populations also experience poor health and women, in particular, are more likely to self-harm and experience mental health issues. Almost one third of female offenders have spent time in care as children and looked after children have significant, unmet, health needs compared to their peers. Historically prisons have been designed with the male prisoner in mind and this is no more evident than in relation to prenatal care and women's birthing experiences. Giving every child the best start in life is crucial in tackling health inequalities but recent media attention has focussed on cases where women have given birth in prisons without the support of a midwife, or adequate antenatal care, with implications for the health of both mother and baby. This Master Class will focus on those who fall through the statutory/policy gaps.

**This event is free for all relevant professionals working in Hertfordshire, whether statutory, private or voluntary sector.**

This session is aimed at professionals and organisations that work with homeless populations, socially excluded pregnant women, prison health, social work, early years and the PH workforce including midwives, HV & school nurses. It will be of interest to the voluntary & charitable sectors involved in supporting female offenders, homeless people & homeless pregnant women, and those with an interest in inclusion health.

To register, or to find further information  
please visit the [Eventbrite page](#) (password: publichealth123)

Please direct any queries regarding this event to [publichealth@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:publichealth@hertfordshire.gov.uk)