



**Registered Charity No. 1013235**

**Workshop Funded by SRIP**



**Hosted by BASW PROGAR**

In 2012 the Society awarded a developmental grant for a workshop '**A research and practice informed approach to family building through donor conception**' Organised by Professor Olga van den Akker, Middlesex University and Dr Marilyn Crawshaw, University of York, and the PROGAR group, hosted at The Nuffield Foundation offices in London on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012. PROGAR members, Prof Daniels and a number of invited members moved to the BMA offices for an afternoon session focusing on a strategy forward.

The aims of the workshop were threefold:

- 1) to consider in depth a research- and practice- informed model of collecting and using donor information that carries the potential to maximise individual and family well being following the use of donor conception
- 2) to bring together academics, practitioners, regulators and policy makers from the multi-disciplinary community to consider how this model could be applied/ developed in the UK
- 3) to provide a reflective space that is outside of strategic or management based meetings in which to explore lifespan perspectives in relation to donor conception

#### **Details of the presentations**

##### **Professor Ken Daniels: Canterbury University Christchurch, New Zealand**

Ken Daniels' talk focused on acknowledging the past, embracing the present and anticipating the future.

##### **Jane Ellis: Donor Conception Network Workshops**

Jane provided the meeting with an overview of the workshops that DCN has been running since 2008 with funding from the DoH for single women, heterosexual and same sex couples.

##### **Dr Marilyn Crawshaw: University of York**

This presentation provided an overview of Marilyn's research of 29 clinics. There is little literature about practitioner skills in putting together information for exchange in later life.

##### **Julia Feast: BAAF -debate**

Introducing Sam Gregory and Jocelyn Hanson, both DI conceived, to talk about how they coped with their DI information at a personal, wider family and social levels.

##### **PM meeting:**

It was decided that the work will be used to influence current UK debates as manifest through the Nuffield Council on Bioethics Working Group on the ethics of disclosure in families with children born through donor-assisted conception, the newly formed HFEA National Donation Strategy Group and the forthcoming Dept of Health Consultation on the future of the HFEA. We are planning to propose a multi-disciplinary publication, and a multi-disciplinary research agenda.