WELCOME TO CARe
The Centre for Applied Research in Health, Welfare and Policy (CARRe) is a multi-disciplinary Research Centre based within the University of Salford.
WE BELIEVE IN CO-PRODUCING WELLBEING, DELIVERING BETTER HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE AND IMPROVING SOCIETY.
WE INVEST OUR SIGNIFICANT ANNUAL RESEARCH INCOME IN ACTIVITIES THAT AIM TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE TO HEALTH, SOCIAL, AND INDIVIDUAL OUTCOMES.

The development of CARe reflects the complex and interconnected global challenges faced by contemporary society. These challenges include health inequalities, ensuring the welfare of children and young people, mobility of populations, access to housing, ensuring fair welfare systems and services, modernisation of health and social care, crime and justice, contested identities, and digitally driven social change.

CARe brings together a multi-disciplinary team including experts in nursing, midwifery, mental health, social work, social policy, social science and counselling to offer robust theoretical and evidence-based approaches in order to generate knowledge and provide significant insights about contemporary society. Our work contributes research driven knowledge to offer a better understanding of the delivery and receipt of interventions, practices and policies.

CARe has an internationally recognised profile and is instrumental in the delivery of progressive social and cultural change at local, regional, national and international levels. We work collaboratively with a multitude of partners. Our researchers are approachable and actively engage with citizens and communities.

Our work seeks to understand the complex challenges facing people, communities, services and places in the 21st Century. We are engaged in work which aims to alleviate health and social injustices and bring about positive change through engaged research and practice. The CARe approach is grounded in principles of collaboration, co-production and critical analysis in order to support the development of positive changes in health, wellbeing and society.
WE BENEFIT FROM STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES SUCH AS OUR SIMULATION SUITE, OUR COUNSELLING CENTRE, OUR MOBILE RESEARCH LABORATORY, THINKLAB AND DIGITAL FACILITIES AT MEDIACITY UK.

We produce high quality academic outputs and we are renowned for our production of relevant, accessible and applied materials for wider audiences.

Working across the University’s pioneering Industry Collaboration Zone (ICZ) initiative CARe draws its strength from individual researchers and the combined research excellence within four research intensive teams. These teams have established reputations in pursuing work along discrete lines of inquiry, these are:

- Children, Young People and Families (CYP@Salford)
- Connected Lives, Diverse Realities
- Knowledge, Health and Place (KHP)
- The Sustainable Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU)

CARe also hosts and encourages the formation of research clusters which focus on specific areas of inquiry, for instance our Educational Research and Scholarship Cluster which focuses on improvements to pedagogy in health and social care education. Many of our team also play a key role in our Salford Institute for Dementia, an international centre focused on supporting living well with dementia.

We provide a welcoming, inclusive and dynamic environment for postgraduate researchers. Our postgraduate community is diverse and international. Postgraduate researchers are seen as independent researchers and have the opportunity to be embedded within our thriving research intensive groups.

We welcome and engage in knowledge exchange, dialogue and meaningful partnerships. If you would like to work with us, please get in touch.

Professor Philip Brown, Director of CARe p.brown@salford.ac.uk or CARe@salford.ac.uk

www.salford.ac.uk/research/care
CARe is home to a large number of nationally and internationally renowned researchers from the domains of nursing, midwifery, social science, social policy, counselling and social work. We are a team of highly skilled professionals with expertise in a range of applied settings. In addition, CARe hosts four research intensive Research Groups.

- **The Sustainable Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU)**
- **Children, Young People & Families (CYP@Salford)**
- **Knowledge, Health & Place (KHP)**
- **Connected Lives, Diverse Realities**
CYP@Salford is renowned for being a multi-professional, multi-agency research group with many external partners which is focused entirely on improving outcomes for children, young people and their families.

The research group works closely with colleagues in the NHS, Local Authorities, the Third Sector, and national networks. It has research links with international partners in Scandinavia, the Middle East, the Far East, Europe and Australia. There are several areas in which the work of CYP is currently focused. These are:

- Improving responses to abuse of children and young people
- Enhancing the workforce engaged with children, young people and their families - particularly though simulation
- Improving health and wellbeing outcomes for children, young people and their families.

For more information see www.salford.ac.uk/research/care/research-groups/cyp@salford

Contact Prof. Tony Long
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WORKING WITH CHILDREN’S CHARITIES TO ACHIEVE THEIR AIMS

CYP@Salford engages actively with voluntary and third sector organisations to address issues of importance to them through studentships. For example, the physical, psychological, and situational determinants of self-esteem in children with central nervous system tumours are being researched through the 3-year KidsCan PhD Studentship. This will aid understanding of the role played by self-esteem in raising quality of life during survivorship after treatment for a brain tumour. Similarly, Action for Sick Children has commissioned a 3-year PhD Studentship to establish how health services could have the greatest positive impact on health and wellbeing for families of children with enduring physical needs, focusing on the view from the family’s world. Families can participate in different ways: a 10 minute questionnaire, attending a family event, or as a case study. The outcomes should inform service providers of the best ways to maximise their impact on families.

EVALUATION OF THE LIME MUSIC MEDICAL NOTES AND SONGBIRDS PROJECTS

The Medical Notes project provided children and young people aged 0-19 years at the Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital with sustained opportunities to explore, play, interact and create through music-making, supported by highly skilled Music for Health practitioners. The Songbirds project improved the musical and wider development of early years children with acquired brain injury and long-term ventilation at the Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital through creative music-making. In this project a case study design enabled multiple components to be evaluated, answering the key questions of what works in what circumstances with whom when considering the impact of music-making on enhancing resilience in children facing adversity due to their medical condition.
A FEASIBILITY STUDY OF ENHANCED OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERVENTIONS FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM TUMOURS IN THE FIRST TWO YEARS FROM DIAGNOSIS

This study applied the skills of the occupational therapist to help children with a brain tumour in hospital, home and school in a way that was acceptable to patients, and which offered a much enhanced level of care. The project established the feasibility of completing a raft of assessments, interventions and evaluations of outcomes in this patient population, paving the way for a multi-centre intervention study. Despite particularly poor scores for health and quality of life, some improvement was made in most factors that were measured. Patients and parents found it helpful to receive the new service and felt able to continue with the interventions after the study had ended. The study was funded by the National Institute for Health Research, Research for Patient Benefit funding programme.

NOT JUST A THOUGHT

This project, funded by NHS England, has worked to co-develop with children and young people a new model of engagement and communication for use by professionals or by young people themselves to enable the discussion of difficult issues that may be troubling the young person or causing the professional to be concerned. The purpose is to enhance opportunities for young people to disclose activities and behaviours which may indicate a risk to their welfare, for example through risky health behaviours, susceptibility to abuse or exploitation, bullying, or identity issues.
CONSTRUCTIVE CONNECTIONS:
BUILDING RESILIENCE OF FAMILIES
AFFECTED BY THE JUSTICE SYSTEM.

This project is funded by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and involves partnership with the University of Huddersfield and Families Outside (a voluntary sector organisation working with families of prisoners). The issue being explored is how vulnerable children and young people react and respond to life challenges arising when a parent is involved with the criminal justice system, potentially compounded by substance use problems. Drawing on the principles of action research, the project is working with children and young people, their parents and significant care-givers at three key stages of a potential journey through the justice system, including police (arrest), probation and imprisonment (including resettlement).

THE DRAMATIC DIMENSION OF
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROJECTS

To date, research on restorative justice (RJ) has explored diverse topics such as the ‘take up’ by offenders and victims, their experiences in restorative justice conferences (RJCs), and the effects of participation in RJ on reoffending rates. However, although practitioners and researchers recognise communication as the essence of RJCs, there is almost no research on the communicative work that takes place in them. Funded by the British Academy, this project is recording a sample of RJCs in the UK. Narrative analytical techniques will be used to explore the moral repositionings of ‘offender’ and ‘victim’ and the discursive frameworks that accompany this. A focus on communicative accomplishments (and failures) contributes significantly to knowledge and practice concerning reconciliation.
NEIGHBOURHOODS: OUR PEOPLE, OUR PLACES

This project is one of eight work programmes that make up the ESRC/NIHR funded Neighbourhoods and Dementia study lead by Prof John Keady (University of Manchester) that is exploring living with dementia in an everyday context. This five-year, longitudinal, mixed method project is investigating how neighbourhoods and local communities can support people with dementia to remain socially and physically active. The research team are drawn from the universities of Salford, Manchester, Stirling and Linköping (Sweden) and are working closely with people with dementia and their carers to find out what their neighbourhood means to them, the different ways it supports them, and what could be changed to make life better.

MONEYLINE: THE SOCIAL IMPACT OF MICROCREDIT

Moneyline UK is the largest microcredit provider in Britain serving some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in the North West of England. Its remit is to offer an affordable and responsible way for people to borrow money who cannot get a loan through a bank or building society and so provide an alternative to high interest lenders and illegal money lenders. However, the social impact on the individuals who borrow small sums of credit from Moneyline has never been examined. Anecdotally, customers report positive outcomes across a range of indicators including health, wellbeing, confidence, happiness, social capital, poverty alleviation, community cohesion and reduction in crime. This multi-disciplinary project is funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) through their CASE studentship scheme.

BEYOND YOUTH CUSTODY (BYC)

This project seeks to challenge, advance and promote more effective resettlement of young people after custody. Building on a 15-year programme of study in this area by CARe researchers, this project is creating a research-informed model of good practice for supporting under-25s leaving prison. BYC has already produced research reports and practitioner guides on topics including: trauma-informed resettlement; gender-sensitive practice; children’s stress after release; involving families in resettlement; and engaging young people effectively. The project team are working directly with policy makers and professionals to help ensure that findings enable practice improvement. BYC is a five-year collaboration between CARe, Nacro (the crime reduction charity), the University of Bedfordshire and ARC(S)(UK). The project is funded by the Big Lottery Fund.

www.beyondyouthcustody.net
@BYCustody

CONNECTED LIVES, DIVERSE REALITIES

PROJECTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT...

NEIGHBOURHOODS: OUR PEOPLE, OUR PLACES

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MEASURING THE OUTCOMES OF VOLUNTEERING FOR EDUCATION (MOVE)

The project, funded by Health Education England, engages with organisations deploying professional volunteers and the volunteers themselves to study the benefits of international placements in Low and Middle Income Settings (LMICs) for sending organisations (in this case the NHS). In addition to survey and qualitative work the project will assess the viability of developing a ‘tool’ to capture core personal and professional development outcomes that are both desired by the NHS and possible in international placements. This project facilitates understanding whether the current socio-political trend toward supporting overseas placement opportunities across the wider NHS workforce is viable, and what benefits a more internationally focused approach to staff development may have.

THE ETHICAL EDUCATIONAL PLACEMENTS PROJECT

An action-research project funded by Health Education England and our partner Charity Knowledge for Change www.knowledge4change.org.uk

The project aims to pilot and evaluate educational placements in low resource settings for undergraduate students in nursing, midwifery and allied health professions. The project will seek to compare core learning outcomes with those associated with home placements, and assess the impact of activities on the low resource setting. A cost-benefit analysis of the intervention will be used to support the development of a model to facilitate the future embedding of overseas placements in undergraduate curriculums.

The objectives of the group are:

- To draw together knowledge intermediaries linking disciplines from the domains of nursing, health, midwifery, social science, social policy, social work, digital and social media, information science, and psychology
- To undertake transdisciplinary research to inform and derive evidence-based practice and policy
- To pursue active collaboration with people affected by the research and community based stakeholders

Contact Prof. Louisa Ackers
H.L.Ackers@salford.ac.uk
or Prof Paula Ormandy
P.Ormandy@salford.ac.uk

Research is organised in the following four key themes:

- Mobilities, careers and care
- Health information, engagement and self-management
- Global health and midwifery
- Knowledge mobilisation for evidence-based practice

For more information see www.salford.ac.uk/research/care/research-groups/knowledge-health-and-place

KNOWLEDGE, HEALTH AND PLACE (KHP)

The Knowledge, Health and Place Research Group supports health and social justice through ‘real world’ transdisciplinary research collaboration. Transdisciplinary research generates new ways of knowing the world, uniquely combining different perspectives and enabling stakeholders to embed and co-produce lessons learnt by research; driving positive change impacting on social care, welfare, social policy and healthcare practice.

The objectives of the group are:

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KNOWLEDGE, HEALTH AND PLACE (KHP)
CKD-DISK: INCREASING EMPLOYABILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE THROUGH DIGITAL SKILLS

This innovative pilot project, funded by the British Kidney Patients Association, aims to investigate whether it is possible to develop sustainable routes into the digital workforce for people managing chronic kidney disease (CKD), who are currently out of work, and facing significant barriers to re-joining the labour market. Through training bursaries, opportunities will be provided for people to engage in a digital skills training programme with ‘real life’ paid work experience placements to enhance employee profiles and facilitate alternative flexible employment options. Alongside more formal education we hope to accommodate and address social/health limitations, increase self-efficacy and self-confidence, community resilience and personal wellbeing.

MEASURING THE IMPACT AND VALUE OF HEALTH LIBRARIANS

This project involved a large scale mixed methods study to determine the value and impact of clinical librarian services operating within the English NHS. It used a capacity building approach to develop research skills in a group of librarians. As well as contributing to impacts on patient care, and continuing professional development of health professionals, clinical librarians also contribute to a wide range of wider outcomes such as reducing risk, improving safety and reducing costs. The evidence from this project is being used to advocate for increased clinical librarian services across the UK and the tools developed have been adapted to form a generic tool which is being used nationally to evaluate the quality of NHS libraries:


BELONG

There is currently a lack of data evidencing the impact of household and village models in terms of later life accommodation and care. This project, in partnership with CLS Care Services, will address the gaps in evidence and integrate outcome measures within standard service delivery, exploring resident experience and quality of life. This will ensure that a long-term sustainable and robust evidence base of service delivery and impact is collated and interpreted by service staff and allow continual feedback to change, improve and direct future business and facilitate growth.
THE SUSTAINABLE HOUSING & URBAN STUDIES UNIT (SHUSU)

SHUSU aims to be at the forefront of innovative research when examining entrenched social problems and working towards social justice and environmental sustainability within the urban environment.

SHUSU’s work helps to:

- Highlight the processes, outcomes and impacts of marginalisation on individuals and communities in society
- Understand complex social issues within the urban environment
- Inform evidence-based policy making
- Contribute to and develop theoretical understanding underpinned by rigorous research.
- Create and contribute to learning opportunities underpinned by research evidence

Research within SHUSU belongs to the following four work streams. These work streams are unified by a core vision of working towards a more equitable and sustainable society:

- Housing and Neighbourhoods
- Migration and Integration
- Sustainability and Society
- Work and Welfare

For more information see www.shusu.salford.ac.uk

Twitter: @shusu_research
Contact Prof. Philip Brown
p.brown@salford.ac.uk
Or shusu@salford.ac.uk

SHUSU PROJECTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT...

WELFARE CONDITIONALITY: SANCTIONS SUPPORT AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

This project, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) under the Centres and Large Grants Scheme, aims to conduct independent and high quality research located at the forefront of international debates on the theory and practice of welfare conditionality. Through extensive research over a 5 year period (2013-2018) the project has compared and contrasted the perspectives of policymakers, managers/front-line workers and service users who are experiencing conditional welfare in its various forms. This research project brings together teams of researchers working in six English and Scottish Universities i.e. University of Glasgow, Heriot-Watt University, University of Salford, Sheffield Hallam University, University of Sheffield and the University of York, which acts as the central hub for this collaborative partnership.

www.welfareconditionality.ac.uk

URBAN SUSTAINABILITY

SHUSU has been working on the broad area of environmental sustainability over the last decade. This area of work focuses on the sustainable retrofit of buildings, the impacts of fuel poverty, green space, urban food growing and active travel. Drawing upon people’s direct experience through a range of person-centred approaches we explore how urban sustainability can best be achieved. This work is undertaken with respect to supporting social inclusion and reducing social and health inequalities. This work is strong both locally and regionally but has a clear international focus.

www.shusu.salford.ac.uk
Supporting Roma Voice (SRV) is a multi-agency, practice led project, which aims to support the growth of grassroots community advocacy as part of the growth of an inclusive and engaged Roma community in the UK. The long-term success of any grassroots inclusion initiative depends on its sustainability. One practical necessity is investment in the long-term development of community members, providing them with the skills and knowledge to be able to engage with, and advocate effectively for, Roma on the diversity of issues that matter to them. The flip side of this is having a good awareness of the structures and systems within which major services and policy makers operate. Supporting Roma Voice (SRV) has three main activities: participatory action research (PAR), advocacy, and sustainability of Roma led social change. The project was funded by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and the Metropolitan Migration Foundation.

The Housing Act (Wales) 2014 introduced major changes to the way homelessness is now (from April 2015) being tackled in Wales, and that the core changes in the Act are aimed at focusing services on preventing homelessness and providing assistance to all eligible applicants. This project, funded by the Welsh Government, aims to understand how the legislation has been implemented by organisations involved in supporting people at risk of homelessness (local authorities, housing associations and third sector organisations). A longitudinal (18 month) post-implementation evaluation focuses on both process and impact of this legislation. It is hoped that the research will inform the Welsh Government’s understanding of homelessness.

www.supportingromavoice.com
@Roma_SRV
A PLACE TO STUDY

We offer various routes to PhD, including full and part time traditional PhD programmes, a Professional Doctorate Programme, an online Doctorate, PhD by Published works, and Masters by Research. We offer excellent supervision, a research training programme and a supportive PGR environment. The following profiles offer a glimpse of the breadth of doctoral research undertaken.

WE ARE HOME TO OVER 120 POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENTS

ROSE’S PHD
Rose McCarthy is a midwifery lecturer at the University of Salford, a clinical midwife at UHSM NHS FT and a member of the Knowledge, Health and Place Group. She is currently undertaking a PhD looking at the emergence of online communities of practice, and the impact of professionally moderated social media based groups on women’s experiences of pregnancy, birth and early motherhood. The project model has already been adopted in a local NHS Trust to improve women’s experiences in specific aspects of maternity services e.g. bereavement support.

AGIMOL’S PHD
Dr. Agimol Pradeep was named Nurse of the Year 2015 at the British Journal of Nursing Awards 2015. She was presented with the award in recognition of her health education campaigns on organ donation within the South Asian Community. Agimol achieved outstanding results in three years, recruiting over 2,800 people to register for organ donation. This work formed the basis of her PhD where she established regional and national networks throughout the project, leaving champions within the communities.

DANIELLE’S PHD
Danielle Butler is currently undertaking a PhD which aims to explore the role of intermediaries and the experiences of energy advice in the context of urban fuel poverty. Based within the Sustainable Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU) Danielle’s PhD developed from research she undertook of an MSc by Research which won a Green Gown Award in the category of Student Research and Development.

ANNE-MARIE’S PHD
Anne-Marie is completing a PhD on a full-time basis on the University of Salford Pathway to Excellence Programme. She is examining the perceptions of looked after children about their pathways into offending. Based within the the Connected Lives, Diverse Realities group, Anne-Marie worked as a Probation Officer and within Youth Justice for many years at both national policy and practice levels before commencing her current research. Anne-Marie is currently guest editing a special edition of the Safer Communities Academic Journal on looked after children, which is due to be published in July 2017.

NOURA’S PHD
Dr Noura Almadani works at the Saudi Ministry of Health and has recently been awarded her PhD which examined the introduction of degree education as a basic requirement for nursing practice in Saudi Arabia. Noura’s work highlights the importance of a process of consultation between governmental bodies and relevant nursing staff, who are affected by future policy changes.

GET IN TOUCH
We encourage prospective students to contact us so that they can explore their research ideas and learn more about the opportunities we offer.

For more information please contact Louise Brown, Research Support Officer PGR-SupportNMSWSs@salford.ac.uk Professor Alison Brettle, PGR Research Director A.Brettle@salford.ac.uk
Transnational Research

CARe achieves global research impact which improves the lives of people across the world. Our globally-respected researchers have developed positive health, social and cultural change at local, regional, national and international levels. For instance, our researchers in Knowledge, Health and Place have been working on improving health care and services in Uganda. One project led to a Ugandan Maternal and Newborn Hub being formed which focused on improving maternal and newborn healthcare in order to reduce the high levels of morbidity and mortality in these areas in Uganda. The programme is also being used to educate local and global students through evaluating scenario-based teaching models to help students develop a holistic, empathetic approach to care.

Engaging with policy

Knowledge exchange into policy is a key dimension of our work and is embedded in all our research processes, our research environment and our objectives from the inception of projects and throughout. We engage in the national Making Research Count initiative to link research findings with the challenge of integrated health, housing and social care. Our work has featured in reports by international agencies, the UK government, Hansard and local government. Many of our projects, from the outset, are co-developed alongside policy makers and practitioners. Our experts have been seconded to national government departments, appointed as specialist advisors and routinely asked to present their work to policy actors.

Funding

CARe receives funding from a range of funders and donors such as: international agencies, the European Union, the UK Research Councils, British Council, private sector, major charities, the NHS and a range of local and regional partners.

Partnerships

We have a number of close partnerships with organisations working in the health sector, housing, criminal justice and digital industries. Partnerships with organisations such as the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, local authorities, health providers, housing organisations and criminal justice agencies all ensure we are grounded locally. In addition, we have major international partnerships in a number of countries including Uganda, Norway, Australia, the United States and South America. We routinely work closely with academic and industry colleagues in Europe.

Collaboration

Our work transcends academia and leads to productive engagement with a wide range of public, private, and third sector organisations, and collaboration with people. We connect with governments, industry, local municipalities, health and welfare providers, the voluntary sector, civil society and other academic institutions. For instance, researchers in the Sustainable Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU) have been asked by Salford City Council to lead an Anti-Poverty Taskforce to help the local authority better understand the lived experience of poverty and formulate meaningful responses.

WORKING WITH US

CARe works with partners in our local area, within the United Kingdom and from across the globe. We focus on providing evidence-based research and engaging in the transfer of knowledge which helps to ensure a more equitable future for all.