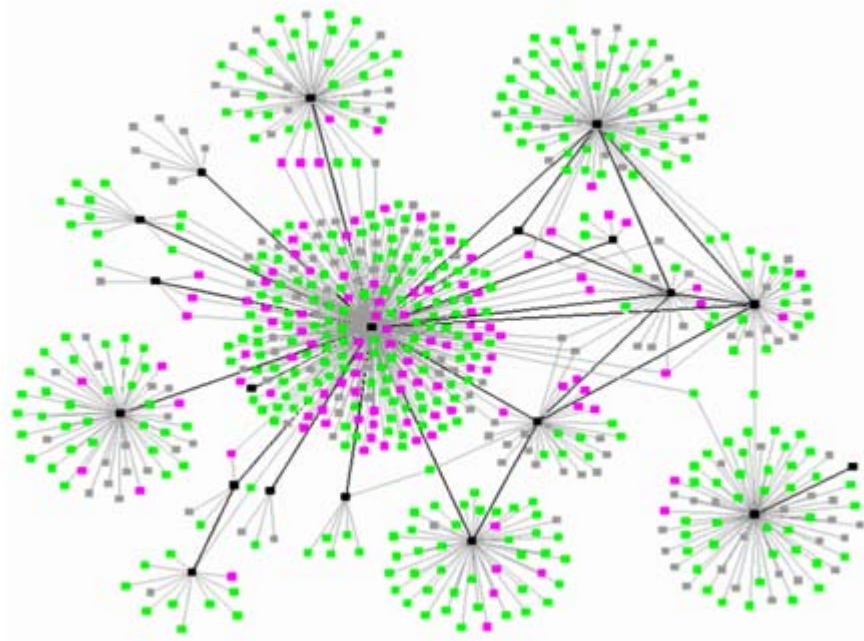


# GCPH Symposium

*'From early understandings to new perspectives'*  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013 – The Teacher Building



# Connectedness: From social capitals and networks to resilience



**Early understandings and new perspectives**

**Pete Seaman**

# Broad range of projects

- Alcohol (JRF, AFS, Playsafe)
- Active travel choices
- Cancer health beliefs (U of Stirling)
- Community participation
- Greenspace access
- Employability (Full Employment Areas Intve.)
- Desistance from gang activity (Includem)

**Social capital,  
networks and  
'connectedness'**

# Social capitals

- **Bonding capital**- links with similar people, similar outlooks and values, Strong ties, good for “Getting by”
- **Bridging capital** – links with people with different outlooks and values, weak ties, good for “Getting on” and adapting to changed circumstance and crises.

# What we knew then

- That bridging capital and “weak ties” are vital for taking advantage of new opportunities (Granovetter 1983)
- There is an unequal distribution of bridging capital in Glasgow (FMR 2006)
- That the consumerist/individualist turn in culture impedes SC development (Putnam 2000)

# What we knew then – how Glasgow did SC

*“ Glasgow’s skill in generating bonding social capital may inhibit its ability to generate bridging social capital ... ‘tribal’ feelings predominate in some parts of the city and some individuals are so keen to bond with members of their ‘tribe’ that they ignore ‘outsiders’ or view them as threats”*

FMR 2006

# What was missing

- Resilience perspective reveals importance of meaning
- Social networks can support both helpful and unhelpful narratives
- Highlights role of authorship, meaning making, “forward lean”

- ***“I had my dependencies, when I gave up those dependencies, there were very few people left who were not connected to those dependencies”***

*Female, former problem  
drinker*

# Whose sense of meaning counts?

- Research conducted in buoyant economic times
- Community animators = mentors who offered compensatory **bridging capital** to workless
- Yet clash of shared meaning around circumstances and desired narrative






# Clash of meaning and narratives

- ‘Labour market churning’ rather than long term unemployment with unrewarding experiences of work
- Unpaid roles in families or the community offered better narratives and identities they could live with
- Making work “pay” needs to take account of non monetary value of labour

# Whose narrative counts?



*“I know everybody in the street because they all come from round here. The wee woman over there, she is blind. I go in and help her every now and again. And Stan across the road. I have got to help him cos he can’t work his washing machine. I know every single one of them. They come to me”*

23 year old female Income Support

# Stuck narratives

- Alcohol used in young adulthood to build social networks
- Given support culturally and environmentally
- Seen as temporary behaviour.
- Requires opportunities to move on



## Drinking to belong

Understanding young adults' alcohol use within social networks

Peter Seaman and  
Theresa Ikegwuonu

*“(As you get older) you want better stories to tell than I got really hammered again”*

# Stuck narratives



*“Round here everybody drinks. All the young ones, I have got about 10 fines from drinking on the street. Everybody here drinks.. My mates are all younger than me, so they are between 17 and 21. So when they drink, I drink”*

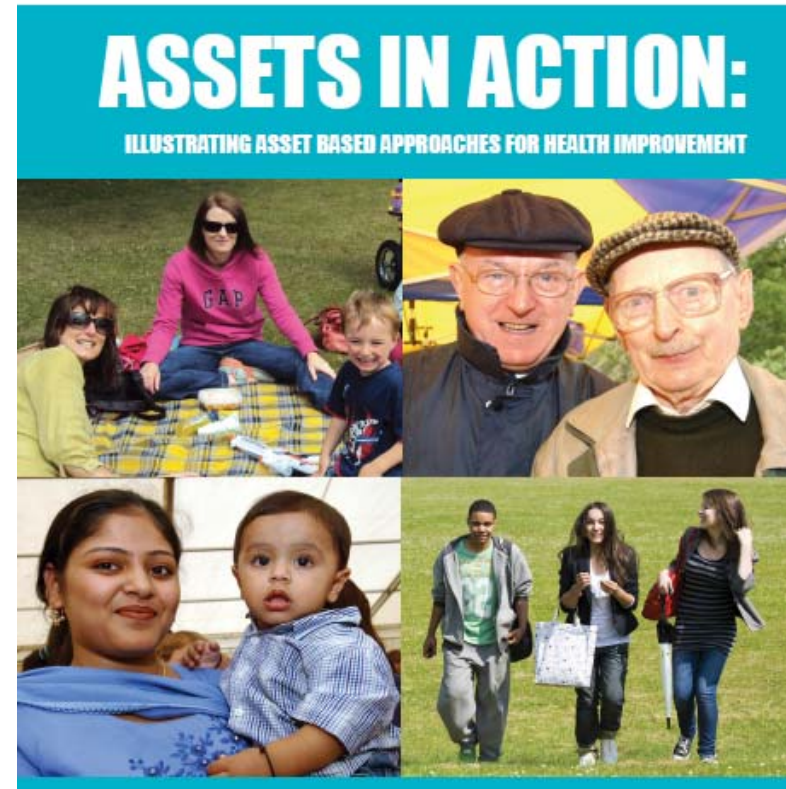
**Male, 25, Unemployed**

# Our emerging perspective

- Study of social networks and connectedness incomplete without understanding of agency and personal (re)construction of meaning
- Resilience as an orientation to future and way past current crises
- Need space for multiple stories and constructions of meaning to flourish-possible with poor bridging capital?

# Moving forward

- Making Christie reality
- How can our policies, services and communities sustain and nurture people's sources of meaning to enhance resilience?
- Health economics take on asset-based approaches to aid persuasion
- Links with “new economies”, “precarariat” etc.



JENNIFER MCLEAN AND VALERIE MCNEICE

August 2012

# Moving forward

- How do we represent meaning and narrative as data?
- On-going Phase Three work exploring community narratives as tools to engage policy makers (AHRC)
- Films
- New Story for Glasgow



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# **Inequalities: learning from partnership approaches**

28 February 2013

James Egan

## Quick overview

- Lessons from Healthier, Wealthier Children - NHS partnership approach to address child poverty
- Lesson from Equally Well test site - Participatory Budgeting pilot in Govanhill, south east Glasgow
- New areas of GCPH work

# A culture of possibilities...



- Links: research, policy & practice
- Support partnership inequalities thinking e.g. targeting worst off and reducing health gaps

- CHP plans Glasgow
- CHP equity action plan Dundee
- STEPS - mental health Glasgow

## Equally Well Test Sites

- Young people & alcohol Fife
- Govanhill Glasgow

# What was learned...

## Inequalities Framework

- Support staff engaging with inequalities & how they relate to practice (what, why and how...)
- Linking *equality issues* with *action on inequalities* (**more of this later**)
- Need to articulate inequalities dimension in planning processes & subsequent impact e.g. interventions, indicators and outcomes
- Need to address capacity e.g. community engagement, data analysis, interpretation & evaluation.

# Along came a new possibility...



**MAXIMISING OPPORTUNITIES:** final evaluation report of the Healthier, Wealthier Children (HWC) project  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Lynn Naven  
Richard Withington  
James Egan  
Glasgow Centre for Population Health  
July 2012

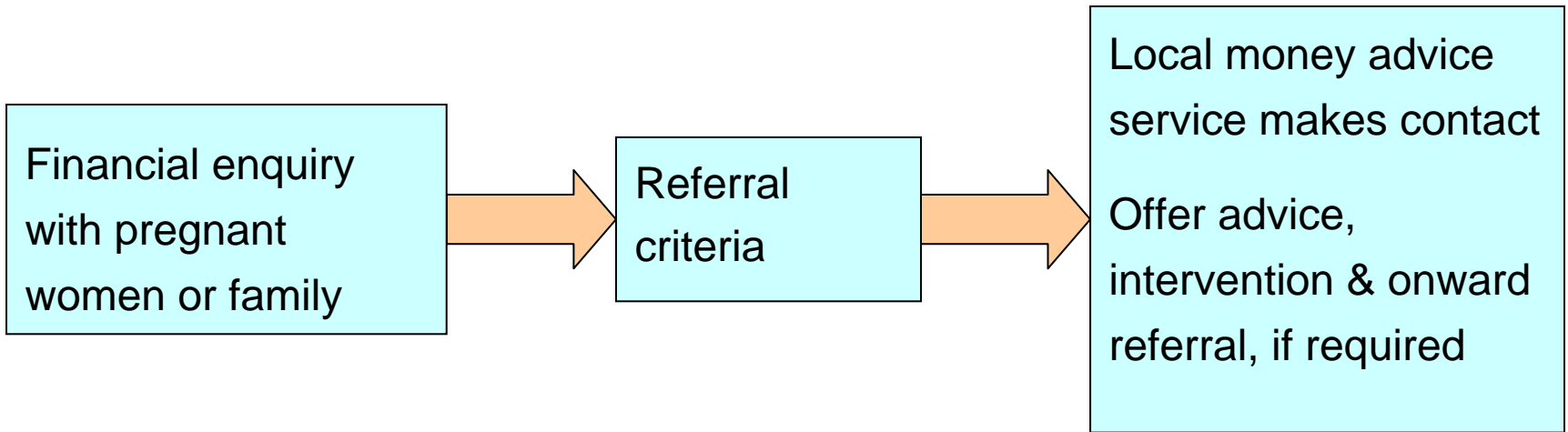
## Healthier, Wealthier Children

- NHS, Council, Vol. Sector partnership – provide money advice across NHSGGC

### Evaluation (Oct 2010 - Jan 2012)

1. Impact on service users
2. Development & effectiveness of models across 10 CH/CP areas
3. Impact on Practice, Policy & Strategy

# HWC project delivery



NHS & Money Advice staff  
support development, implementation & reporting across NHS GGC

**Pregnant    Children < 5yrs    Child <19yrs with additional support needs**  
**Kinship carer    mental health & addiction    immigration status**  
**Household Income < £40,000**

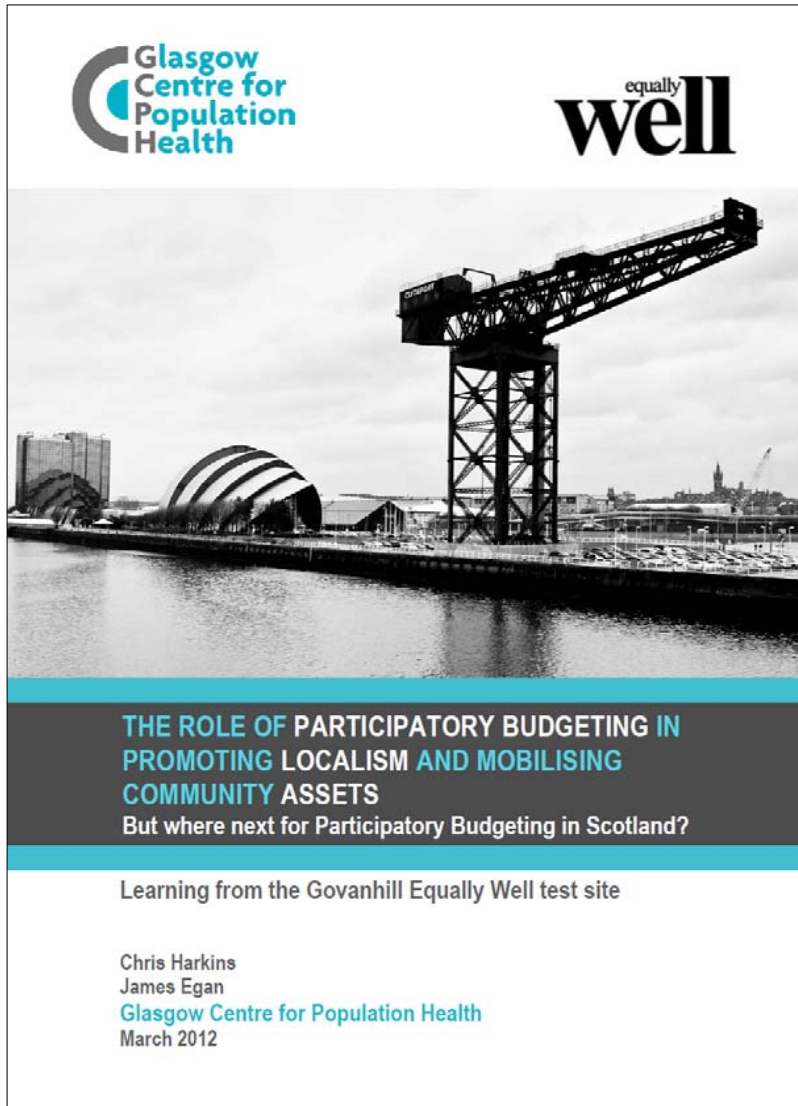
# HWC - connecting health determinants

Social structure	Individual's social position	Intermediary factors	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welfare system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gender</li> <li>Lone parent</li> <li>Minority ethnic group</li> <li>Household risk of or experiencing poverty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals' expectations</li> <li>Culture, roles &amp; delivery (NHS, LA &amp; Vol. Sector)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good partnership reach among low income groups</li> <li>£2.5m in short timeframe</li> <li>Client average annual gain: £3,404</li> <li>Onward support</li> </ul>



Linking **equality issues** with **action on inequalities**

# Participatory Budgeting - Govanhill






Participatory Budgeting: directly involves local people in decision-making on spending & priorities for a defined public budget

Govanhill PB pilot (2010 - 2011)



## Participatory Budgeting - Govanhill

- £200k of Equally Well funds - initiate PB pilot
- Newly formed Govanhill Community Action Group (GoCA) - summer 2010
- Process facilitation (Oxfam UK Poverty) & evaluation (GCPH)
- Local community planning partnership structures endorsed the approach

Funded projects	Equally Well funds awarded through Participatory Budgeting
 Govanhill Addictions Family Support Group	£40,000
 Govanhill Community Justice Partnership	£60,000
 Govanhill Baths Trust <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- health and wellbeing programmes</li> <li>- capital grant</li> </ul>	£50,000 £50,000

# Some PB lessons

- Positive experience for all concerned - Social & Human Capital benefits evidenced in the evaluation
- Importance of independent facilitation during PB process

## *GoCA members...*

- Embracing responsibility and empowerment
- Strategic and maximal use of funding
- Prioritising people ahead of place
- Bringing *fresh thinking* to the table

# Some other PB lessons

*But also*

- Time pressures within the PB pilot
- Community representation within the Govanhill PB pilot
- Public sector desire for 'community professionalism'

## ***Taking forward new areas of work***

- **HWC project** – phase 2 evaluation & sharing lessons
- **Welfare reforms** - lone parents moving into work
- **Changing nature of work** (temporary, part-time, in-work poverty) – impact on health.
- **New economies: building on past work**

*Insights from a Civic Conversation in Glasgow (2008)*

*Transforming global finance, Hazel Henderson (2011)*

*Precariat, Guy Standing (2011)*

# Conclusion

## Recognising the current climate

- Welfare reforms
- Constrained public spend
- Changing nature of work & rising household costs

**...but how do we extend ‘*doing things differently*’?**

- Participatory Budget – give local people a greater say in local budget decisions
- HWC project - build on partnership approach to mitigate reforms

