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## CVAA Practice Newsletter - Happy New Year!

Dear Practice Leaders,

Happy New Year!

We hope you had a brilliant Christmas break. To welcome you back and help you get ready for this year's practice excellence programme we have included below some useful articles about impact measurement and an update on our events programme. Don't forget to check out the [members area of CVAA's website](#) too, where you can find helpful tools for use in team meetings, information about what CVAA members are up to, and videos of the excellent speakers who joined us at our practice events throughout 2017.

### What we're reading!

[Click here](#) for some tips on how to present your evaluations in an interesting and engaging way. This could be helpful for those presenting at a CVAA Practice Excellence event, but the advice is also useful for communicating with funders.

Check out [this Community Care article](#) which asks, how can we better integrate theory and practice in social work training? An academic and consultant social worker explain how they were able to work together as equal partners on the Frontline programme. We think this article underlines the value of our practice

excellence programme.

For those who have not already, please see the updated [information on the NAAS programme](#) and its plans for this year, published on the government website in December 2017.

Have you seen these great [examples of non for profit impact pages](#)? We think these are really inspiring. This article unpicks what makes a website stand out and how best to demonstrate impact.

In this blog post, James Noble, Impact Management Lead at NPC, asks, [what does impact measurement really mean?](#)

Another great blog post from James Noble at NPC. Learn about the [different types of data](#) and how to use them.

### **Hear from CVAA Members !**

Catch up with an adoption professional. Bridget Betts is National Manager of the Safebase Therapeutic Parenting Programme at After Adoption. [Click here](#) to learn about her role and read a summary of the project. Bridget discusses how she tries to use and think about evidence in her everyday work, and reflects on **CVAA's practice excellence programme**.

If you came along to our October and December events you'll have learnt all out CVAA's Theory of Change; a useful tool to help you consider and present your services; what you do and the impact these actions have on the lives of children and families. Check out some great [examples of a theory of change](#) on our website. Thank you to St Andrew's Children's Society and PACT for sharing their models with us. We have also created a Theory of Change for CVAA's Practice Programme and our December event. Download your own theory of change template here, and please do share it with us and [let us know](#) your

thoughts on this tool!

### **Practice Excellence Events**

In December 2017 we had a brilliant day in Birmingham looking at what the data tells us about the types of children currently awaiting permanence, and what their journeys look like. Dr Matt Woolgar presented to us the specific challenges faced by these children. Member agencies presented their innovative ways of recruiting adopters for children who are considered harder to place and child care consultant Shelagh Beckett helped us to this about how the evidence discussed during the day could be incorporated into practice.

We are really looking forward to seeing many of you at our Practice Excellence Early Permanence event on Thursday 25 January. At this event we will look at what the data tells us about early permanency, and hear from a number of CVAA member agencies on their comparative approaches to early permanency;. We will have plenty of time for peer review and discussion and hope this will be an exciting and useful learning opportunity, The event will be held at SSAFA's Offices in central London. If you would still like to reserve a place please [email Leah](#).

With best wishes,

### **CVAA Practice Team**

Chris, Jessica & Leah



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