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Thank you for your commitment to keeping the promise.

This newsletter is here to give you updates on our work and work happening to keep the promise across Scotland. If you have any questions or feedback, please reach out to hello@thepromise.scot. You can find previous and PDF versions [here](#).

"Birth mums would say they have a family in This Is Us people who are non-judgemental, caring and supportive. The chance to meet both 1:1 with workers but also with their peers has been invaluable, and significantly improved their mental health and general wellbeing."

Rona Wood - Social Work Senior Practitioner, from Fife Council



In this learning story, we hear about the This is Us group and the Support Birth Families Service in Fife, who have created a dedicated service for birth families where children have been permanently removed from birth parents' care, or are likely to be removed permanently from their care. In addition to support from staff, the option of peer support is offered to birth parents.

Read more about the This is Us group and how they are helping to bring about change for other birth parents below.

[Click here](#)



Check out this [new mural in Stornoway](#) created with care experienced young people to celebrate creativity, belonging, and young people's right to access arts and culture under [Article 31](#) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

The mural was developed through [Articulate Cultural Trust and Hub's](#) Gable End programme, in partnership with [An Lanntair](#), which aims to help people better understand the experiences of the young people in their communities.

You can read more about the Gable End project in this story about the wins and challenges of creating the installations in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, and Glasgow below.

[Read more here](#)

Become a Project Champion

Support new research to understand and address the use of physical restraint in residential children's care in Scotland



The [Holding Differently, Containing Distress research project](#) is seeking to understand and address the use of physical restraint in residential children's care in Scotland.

The first phase of the project will be an online survey for all residential child care workers in Scotland to find out their views about the use of physical restraint which will launch in September.

Residential care workers from the [Scottish Physical Restraint Action Group](#) (SPRAG) are co-producing the survey questions. The research team is now looking for residential care workers across Scotland to be **Project Champions** to help raise awareness about the questionnaire so that the entire workforce is supported to participate.

If you're interested, please contact holding-differently-project@strath.ac.uk with the subject headline: HOLDING DIFFERENTLY CHAMPIONS

You can also find out more about ongoing work in this area in the [Rights and Restraint route map in Plan 24-30](#).

[Find out more here](#)

Resources and Upcoming

[The Oversight Board for the promise: Understanding Premature Deaths and Improving Outcomes](#)

David Anderson, Chair of the Oversight Board, explores the recent calls to better understand premature deaths of care experienced people and the important questions raised around whether Scotland is gathering, linking, and using information in a way that drives change.

[Statement: Supporting social workers in keeping the promise](#)

Statement from Fiona Duncan, Independent Strategic Advisor – the promise, and Fiona Duncan, Chief Social Work Officer Highland Council and Convenor of Social Work Scotland.

[Statement: The Promise Scotland's Response to Chief Social Workers Statement](#)

Fraser McKinlay, Chief Executive of The Promise Scotland writes in response to the statement from all 32 of Scotland's Chief Social Worker Officers, which warns of an emergency in availability of alternative care options for children.

[Who Cares? Scotland are recruiting for their Lived Experience Advisory Group](#)

Who Cares? Scotland are looking for care experienced people across the UK to join the Advisory Group for the Caring Communities project, a major historical research project being led by Newcastle University that examines experiences of care in the UK over the last 200 years. Apply by 17 August.

[Our Hearings, Our Voice \(OHOV\) are recruiting for young people to join their board](#)

OHOV are an independent board for children and young people from across Scotland who have experience of the Children's Hearings System. Please share with any children and young people aged 8-21 that might be interested.

[Join the Children and Young People's Centre for Justice \(CYCJ\) at the Challenging Justice Inequalities research project launch events](#)

This research was co-produced with a Youth Advisory Group of children aged 14-17 and aims to better understand children's experiences and perspectives of intersectionality, protected characteristics, and justice. The three events will provide insight into key research findings and are aimed at practitioners, policymakers, and anyone working with children and young

people.



The Promise Scotland

SUPPORTING CHANGE FOR CHILDREN,
FAMILIES & CARE EXPERIENCED ADULTS

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