



Welcome to the May (just!) 2007 Volunteer Centre Sefton E-mail/ Mail Bulletin. The bulletin is packed with a wide range of information relevant to local voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations who manage and involve volunteers in their work.

Please forward this bulletin to anyone who you feel may find it of interest or download previous bulletins from: <http://www.volunteeringsefton.org.uk/bestpractice.htm>.

As with the previous bulletin, there are a few staff changes to let you know about. On 11th June (after Volunteers' Week), Denise Grant will be moving from her post with the Volunteer Centre over to Sefton CVS' Corporate Services Team – she will miss the Volunteer Centre and everyone out there she works with as much as we'll miss her, but at least she's still around! Denise's post will be taken by Mike Howlett who will be joining the Volunteer Centre as p/t Development Worker from 1st June. Many of you will meet him at the Volunteer Recruitment Fairs that we are holding on 1st and 4th June, but we wish both of them well in their new posts.

Contact details:

Dianne Harris (VC Manager)	dianne@volunteeringsefton.org.uk	(0151) 920 0726 ext 211
Denise Grant (p/t VC Support Officer)	denise@volunteeringsefton.org.uk (until 8 th June)	(0151) 920 0726 ext 213
Mike Howlett (p/t VC Development Worker)	mike@volunteeringsefton.org.uk (from 1 st June)	(0151) 920 0726 ext 213
General enquiries	info@volunteeringsefton.org.uk	

Waterloo office:

3rd Floor, Merseyside 3tc
16 Crosby Road North
Waterloo, L22 0NY

Southport office: (outreach, please phone the Waterloo office to confirm that someone will be there)

7-11 Yellowhouse Lane
Southport
PR8 1ER

For location maps: <http://www.volunteeringsefton.org.uk/images/map12.jpg> (Waterloo office)
<http://www.volunteeringsefton.org.uk/images/map11.jpg> (Southport office)

E-mail addresses – request for

I know not all organisations we work with have websites or e-mail addresses, but apart from the bulletin which gets sent out by post as well as by e-mail, we only have limited resources and it isn't practical for us to send out by post all the information that I would like to pass on to organisations.

For those of you who receive this by post only and are not receiving regular e-mail shots but who have a contact e-mail address, could you please forward me (dianne@volunteeringsefton.org.uk) your e-mail address, your name, job title and the organisation you work for? I will then add you to my e-mail contacts. This will ensure you get as much info as possible, for example information about the *Places To Go*, *Things To Do* DVD or the Volunteer Co-ordinators' Forum (see below), for which this time it was not possible to send information out to organisations other than by e-mail.

Volunteers' Week (1st – 7th June 2007)

Volunteers' Week is a national celebration of volunteers and volunteering which takes place from 1st – 7th June each year. The week aims to promote innovative ways to thank, recruit and involve volunteers and raises the profile of the work of the UK's 22 million volunteers. Now in its 23rd year, Volunteers' Week is a major event in the UK's volunteering calendar.

As volunteering is such a crucial part of community regeneration and sustainability, this year Volunteer Centre Sefton and Sefton Millennium Volunteers have organised two Volunteer Fairs during Volunteers' Week, which aim to raise awareness of volunteering with local organisations like yourself. The Fairs aim to promote volunteering opportunities to people of all ages and encourage them to find out more about the opportunities available locally and nationally and the benefits which volunteering brings to the community and to themselves. The events will be held at:

North Sefton: Southport Town Hall from 1pm – 6pm on Friday 1st June.
South Sefton: Crosby Civic Hall from 1pm – 6pm on Monday 4th June.

At present we have over 35 organisations represented at each event, some having a stand at both events, others attending where they are predominantly looking to recruit from or where they are based. 50+ organisations will be represented in total so people looking for voluntary opportunities will have a diverse range of organisations to chat to.

We are promoting the events (and Volunteers' Week) through the local press, local radio stations, the internet, the networks we work with, leaflet drops at various locations throughout the borough and leafleting in both North and South Sefton the week before Volunteers' Week to raise awareness of the events.

We will also be doing a press release after the event to showcase the organisations there, so even if you weren't able to come, please send us information/ photos about events you have held/ organised and we will try and include something either in the press release or on the website. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sefton Local Area Agreement and Volunteering

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, Local Area Agreements (LAAs) are made between central and local government in a local area. Their aim is to achieve local solutions that meet local needs, while also contributing to national priorities and the achievement of standards set by central government.

Sefton CVS is leading on two (of the eleven) targets that have been set with regards to Sefton's LAA, one of which is volunteering, the other is Equality and Diversity (led by Sefton CVS' Equalities Partnership) There is over £863,000 available for the VCF sector for **each** of the targets, should we achieve the outcomes required. This money is for the sector, not for the CVS/ VC so it is important that we work as effectively as possible together in order to achieve it. It is paid at the end of the three years (the LAA ends March 2010), amount dependent on achievement.

With regards to the volunteering target (which the Volunteer Centre is involved in), we had some discussion around this at May's Volunteer Co-ordinators' Forum, but, to summarise:

By Dec 2009 we need to have raised the number of people engaged in volunteering activity in Sefton by 2.5% (The benchmark being *'Percentage of people recorded as or reporting that they have engaged in formal volunteering on an average of at least two hours per week over the past year'*). This is going to be measured by independent survey in Dec 2009.

Partly, we need to work on changing people's perceptions of volunteering, as many people do actually undertake voluntary activity, but do not perceive it to be volunteering, e.g. football coaching on a Sunday morning, 'helping out' at Brownies etc, and would say if questioned that they, at present, were not engaged in voluntary activity.

Equally we need to find ways of engaging more people directly with yourselves, the organisations looking for volunteers, as well as finding ways to monitor the increase in the number of volunteers. As a volunteer centre we would have a capacity issue in terms of being able to deal directly with such an increase; the organisations at the forum did not have a problem with us simply passing over their contact details to interested people without having met them or taking references as they always meet potential volunteers directly and follow their own procedures; they also have their own monitoring systems from which they produce monthly/ quarterly reports etc, so it may be possible for us to work with you to collate some of this information over the next few years to detail an increase in volunteer engagement.

However, we need to look at the issue more broadly than that, as obviously we only deal with a percentage of the volunteers you involve and it is to the general population of Sefton that this target is being applied. Over the next few months, we will be contacting you individually/ collectively to discuss the issue, but if anyone is interested in coming together to form a working group to discuss how best to achieve this outcome, please contact dianne@volunteeringsefton.org.uk – all offers of help gratefully received!

For further information around the volunteering target in the Local Area Agreement, please contact me; for general information about Sefton's Local Area Agreement, please refer to: <http://sbp.sefton.gov.uk/Default.aspx?page=349>

Express Sefton! 08 Volunteer Programme

Sefton CVS launched a new volunteer programme in April 2007 which has come about as a result of a joint initiative between Sefton Council's Tourism Department and Sefton CVS. The aim of this initiative is to develop a volunteer programme specifically designed to support cultural events and activity in Sefton over the next 2 years, both at a community and a borough level. There are a number of opportunities available, from 'Welcome Hosts' at many of the events to more specific volunteer roles within individuals events, tailored to match people's skills and interests.

For more information contact Marie Morgan on 0151 920 0726 ext 203, or email marie@seftonmv.org.uk.

Sefton Millennium Volunteers (MV)

MV is changing! From April of this year, MV has been taken over by **v**, the new charity concerned with youth volunteering. Many things remain the same and the project still recruits, supports and places volunteers. Volunteers still get recognised for the hours that they volunteer and these certificates will be issued by **v** on completion of the project. MV will still be offering training, residentials, socials and celebration events for MVs, as well as the quarterly newsletter, MVoice.

MV wants to engage with more young people, so if you work with young people interested in engaging with volunteer activities, or you have volunteers who aren't getting their hours recognised and would like to, please contact MV for more information.

MV will be holding 2 drop-in sessions for both young people wanting to know more and anyone involved with an organisation who is interested in finding out more about the work MV do.

The drop-in sessions will be held 12th June – 4-7pm Southport and 4-6pm Waterloo - the addresses are the same as those on page 1. Please ring MV on 0151 920 7286 for more details.

STOPPS – short-term and taster volunteering opportunities project

STOPPS is a sub-regional volunteering project which aims to engage young people aged 16 – 25 who have not volunteered before in one-off or taster volunteering opportunities. If any organisation has a one-off event coming up that they would like to engage STOPPS volunteers with, particularly in Sefton, please contact Adam Woodcock at Sefton CVS on (0151) 928 2233 ext 102 or e-mail: adam.woodcock@seftoncvcs.org.uk. Equally, if you work with young people who may be interested in 'having a go' at volunteering activity, but without the longer-term commitment, please let Adam know.

First Take Productions DVD

Sefton Millennium Volunteers and Connexions have got together with First Take Productions to produce a DVD which is designed to promote the value of volunteering and its benefits, both for the volunteer and the community.

Young people from both Sefton MV and Connexions have been engaged in the planning, production and design of the DVD in order to give them excellent, hands-on experience of all aspects of film making. The whole project lasted 11 weeks and there is to be a screening on the DVD in FACT, Liverpool, early June. There will be copies available of the DVD to organisations interested in using it as a promotional tool with regards to volunteering. For further information, please either contact Alicia St. Hilaire at aliciast.hilaire@connexions-gmerseyside.co.uk or myself at dianne@volunteeringsefton.org.uk.

Places to Go, Things to Do

As part of the 'Youth Matters' *Places to Go, Things to Do* agenda, local authorities have a duty to secure access for young people in their area to sufficient positive leisure-time activities.

Sefton Council/ Sefton Youth Service have commissioned LBV Television to film a short advert showcasing everything that goes on in Sefton with regards to young people. The age range that they are focusing on is 13-19 year olds (11 -25 if the young people have extra support needs). We are trying to show that volunteering can be a key positive activity for young people and have been in contact with local VCS organisations who support young volunteers in Sefton to showcase their volunteering activity.

The advert will be between 90 seconds and 2 minutes long and will try and encompass everything available for young people, of which volunteering is a part. This advert will be shown 1,000 times over a 14 day period in July at key locations in Sefton and copies of the DVD will be available for organisations to use as a promotional tool at a later date. Please contact me (dianne@volunteeringsefton.org.uk) if you would like a copy of this DVD when it becomes available.

Sefton Volunteer Co-ordinator's Forum – August 2007

Friday 17th August, 1 – 4pm

A bit of a way off, I know, but date for your diaries - the next Volunteer Co-ordinators Forum will be held at Sefton CVS Offices, 7-11 Yellowhouse Lane, Southport, PR8 1ER. For those of you who attended May's Forum, please note this is a date change so that it does not clash with a bank holiday weekend.

This is an opportunity for Volunteer Co-ordinators to get together and network, as well as share ideas/ best practice and discuss current volunteering issues, both local to Sefton and regional/ national issues. Lunch will be provided from 12.30pm.

Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings, however places are limited and must be booked in advance. For further details or to book a place, e-mail: dianne@volunteeringsefton.org.uk or tel: 0151 920 0726 (Ext. 211). Equally, if there is anything you would like to see discussed/ addressed at this forum, or at future forums, please let me know. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

Southport Visiter – Community section

The Southport Visiter has relaunched its website and now has a community section where local groups and organisations can have their own pages highlighting all your latest news and events and is a great way to keep everyone informed about what's going on in your organisation.

It's very easy to get involved – contact Kevin Matthews on 01704 398289 or e-mail him on Kevin.matthews@southportvisiter.co.uk and he will set it up for you. From that point, you will have control of your site, but support will be available as and when you need it. If you already have a website, the Southport Visiter can simply include a link to your website. This service is free and is fast-growing so it's an excellent way to connect with the community.

Sefton Community Empowerment Network (CEN) Annual Conference 2007

Many of your organisations will have been contacted directly about the event, but the Sefton Community Empowerment Network will host its 3rd Annual Conference on Wednesday 6th June at Aintree Racecourse. The Sefton CEN 'Triathlon': *Better, Safer, Stronger* will, through a mixture of interactive workshops, games and networking opportunities, enhance members understanding of the CEN and its current political context, give its members the ability to affect change in how the CEN operates, and ultimately allow members to inform the CEN of how it can make Sefton's community a stronger community.

Speakers at the event will include Cllr Brenda Porter, Sefton Cabinet Member for Communities, and Nick Bird and Kate Hathway from Urban Forum.

For the chance to take part in the Sefton CEN 'Triathlon' - don't worry, it's a non-physical contest and you won't need your gym kit - and the opportunity to network with a wide range of CEN member organisations, book now to avoid disappointment. To secure your place at this FREE event, or for more information, please contact Linzi Sadler at Sefton CVS (0151 920 0726/ linzi.sadler@seftoncv.org.uk).

Sefton CVS Bulletin – May/ June 2007 Edition

Sefton Council for Voluntary Service's (Sefton CVS) bi-monthly bulletin is available to download and contains a wealth of information relevant to local VCS organisations. The latest bulletin will be available soon (PDF Format) from: <http://www.seftoncv.org.uk/news.htm> (click on *Bulletin Newsletter* on the right). Should you wish to contribute to the July/ August bulletin, please contact Ryan Forrest on (0151) 920 0726 ext 303 or e-mail: ryan.forrest@seftoncv.org.uk.

Sefton Skills Development Calendar – Spring/ Summer 2007

There are still a few training events in June/ July – Understanding the Structures within Sefton; Basic Assertiveness Skills; Values Training; Cultural Awareness; Anti-Discrimination – Policy and Practice; Monitoring and Evaluation - that you might be interested in.

For further information on the events, please refer to

<http://www.seftoncvcs.org.uk/docs/skillsspringsummer2007.pdf> or contact Angela Birks at the Southport office on 01704 501024.

2012 Olympics – update with regards to Big Lottery Funding

On 17th May, the House of Lords debated the diversion of Lottery funds to pay for the Olympics. The debate provided an opportunity for, among others, the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), the umbrella organisation representing charities, voluntary organisations and community groups in England to raise concerns about the impact that this will have on arts, sports and heritage charities. The NCVO remains concerned that arts, sports and heritage charities and community groups may lose out as a result of the diversion and are still seeking further details on exactly how the commitment (that the voluntary and community sector will not suffer as a result of the increased budget for the 2012 Olympic Games) will be kept.

Responding for the Government, Lord Evans was unable to give many reassurances - although he came close to guaranteeing that there would be no further raid. He also quoted Gordon Brown's comments at the recent Brighton Festival that "I will not allow the Olympic Games to come in the way of the arts."

NCVO will seek to ensure that the Government's commitment is honoured and has set three tests for the Government to ensure that voluntary and community organisations do not suffer as a result of the Lottery diversion:

Test 1: An absolute assurance, on the record, that there will be no further raids on Lottery good cause funds to support the Olympics, irrespective of what happens to the budget in the future. This assurance will include a reiteration of the independence of Lottery distributors.

Test 2: An assurance that any diversion of funds from the Big Lottery Fund intended for the statutory sector, such as local authorities, primary care trusts and schools, will not have a detrimental impact on the work of voluntary and community organisations.

Test 3: An assurance of dialogue between the Government and voluntary and community sector to ensure that charities and community groups that receive funding from the arts, sports and heritage Lottery distributors are not adversely affected.

For further information, please see: http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/policy/index.asp?id=3852#Latest_news

Invitation to join the Steering Group to review and redevelop the UK Management of Volunteers National Occupational Standards (NOS)

Are you involved with the management, recruitment or training of volunteers?

Have you got the skills and experience to share your advice and knowledge in redeveloping these standards?

Would you be keen to get involved in updating the existing NOS that will contribute to the success in which the voluntary sector can support and manage our volunteers?

The UK Workforce Hub are embarking on a review of the National Occupational Standards for Volunteer Management. As part of this process they are looking for committed individuals that can come along to three or four full day steering group meetings from Aug 2007 – Feb 2008. The type of steering group they are aiming to attract will be a diverse, interactive, hands-on type of group. The meetings will require you to take part in group discussions and break out exercises, as well as more formal committee style sessions. They are keen to make the meetings interactive in order to enable them to investigate fully the current NOS and actively engage with the new ideas for their review.

An application form and a fuller explanation of what is required can be found at:

http://www.ukworkforcehub.org.uk/Downloadfile.asp?file=11_16200702055018_30.doc

Applications should be sent **before 15th June** to: rachel.brett@ukworkforcehub.org.uk. If you cannot download this information, or if you have any questions about the process, please contact Esther Gillespie on 0207 520 2521 or at esther.gillespie@ukworkforcehub.org.uk

Funding – Health and Social Care projects

Local voluntary and community organisations in England with plans to involve volunteers in the delivery of health and social care projects could benefit from the latest funding round from the Opportunities for Volunteering Scheme (OFV), a Department of Health initiative that provides grants to local health and social care organisations in England.

VE will distribute over £500,000 in new grants projects that will run for three years, with grants of between £10,000 and £35,000 per annum. The deadline for preliminary applications is **5pm on Monday 30 July 2007**.

Volunteering England has prioritised projects that involve volunteers in: health promotion; health advocacy; supported volunteering; support for people with specific health conditions, befriending and support for people with specific health and social care needs.

Priority for funding will also be given to projects that:

- Bring about lasting change for people and communities facing disadvantage and discrimination
- Aim to have a wider impact by influencing policy and practice in statutory health and social care services
- Promote inclusion by bringing different groups of people together to foster mutual understanding, awareness and respect
- Involve a partnership of two (or more) organisations to share good practice and learning regarding the management of volunteers.

Volunteering England is one of 16 national agents, including Age Concern, Barnardo's and MIND that distribute a total of £6.7 million to 300 local projects in England to enable them to involve volunteers in their work.

As each OFV national agent's grant criteria varies, organisations should apply to the most appropriate agent for the best chance of securing funding. Only one application is allowed to each agent at any one time.

For more information and a grant application form, visit the Volunteering England website or call the Grants Help Line 020 7520 8991 between 2.00pm and 5.00pm Tuesday to Thursday (from 4th June 2007) or e-mail: ofv2007@volunteeringengland.org

Express Sefton! Fund – Sefton area only (Grant range: £250 - £2,500 max)

As part of the celebration of Capital of Culture, Sefton Council has made available funding for community activity leading up to and during 2008. This is a great opportunity for your local group to explore and showcase the culture of Sefton and gain recognition that it is a good place to live. The Objective for Express Sefton! is to examine the culture of Sefton and gain recognition that it is a good place to live and that all its communities have a valuable contribution to make in keeping it this way.

Activities that could be funded include: -

- Putting on community music or drama performances
- Research into local history projects
- Exhibitions, lectures or other community events
- The cost of hiring venues, pitches or other facilities
- Paying professional fees (although not if they're to be paid to a member of the host organisation)
- Help with the costs of specialist equipment or marketing and publicity
- Cost of equipment for new groups

Applications are welcomed from formally constituted groups and from those who have formed a group for a specific project. Application forms are available from Sefton Leisure Services, 0151 934 2346, e-mail: service.development@leisure.sefton.gov.uk. Generally there will be a 6-week turnaround.

Deadlines list to date are: 31st August and 31st December 2007; 30th April and 31st July 2008

However, applicants should be aware that there will be no cap on funding at each round and therefore they may be unable to accept bids towards the end of the process.

Social Risk Capital Fund

Applications are invited from voluntary and community groups that are of and/or for disabled people, for small amounts of money (from £500 to £5,000) to support innovative or capacity-building activities which will help the group to develop new ideas or new ways of working.

The funds are for organisations of and/or for disabled people and also for organisations operating initiatives to benefit disabled people that can demonstrate their commitment to equal opportunities through their policies and/or actions across Merseyside.

For further details and an application form, please contact: Chris Wardle - Development Officer, Merseyside Disability Federation: Tel: (0151) 291 9570; Textphone: (0151) 291 9569 or e-mail: chris@merseydisability.org.uk

Important Information Regarding The Local Network Fund

The Community Foundation for Merseyside would like us to put out the word that Local Network Funding is coming to an end this year.

Between £250 and £7,000 is available to small voluntary and community groups working with children and young people aged 0-19 (and up to 25 for young people with learning disabilities) who are recognised as facing disadvantage.

Funding themes have been aligned with the Every Child Matters outcomes and are: Being Healthy; Staying Safe; Enjoying and Achieving; Making a Positive Contribution; Achieving Economic Well-Being.

Closing dates for 2007 applications are 14th June, 16th August, 18th October. Please note: all projects must be completed by the end of Jan '08)

For further information on the Every Child Matters outcomes and whether your project would be eligible, please contact Sue Coulton at Sefton CVS Community Development Team on 0151 928 2233 ext. 113 (South Sefton) or 01704 501024 (North Sefton) or visit the website at www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

An Evening With...

The Fawcett Society (Sefton Branch) will be holding a series of events entitled *an Evening with...*

Once a month the branch will hear from an 'Inspiring Woman' discussing topics affecting women in today's society and how they have dealt with issues affecting their role in Public Life. During the coming months women in the fields of Engineering Education, Business, Public Sector, Law, International Issues, Trade Unions, Charity/Voluntary Sector and many more, will be speaking on these selected themes.

The series will begin with Women in Public Life and the Fawcett Society are pleased to announce that Councillors Brenda Porter and Paula Parry will be speaking to the branch at Bootle Town Hall on 14th June 2007. The meeting will take place from 7pm till 9pm with light refreshments and look forward to meeting women in Sefton.

For further information on attending the evening or details on the work of Fawcett Society (Sefton Branch) please contact Tony Griffin at Sefton Equalities Partnership on 0151-928-2233 Ext 306

In-Trust Community Empowerment Network Launch

**Saturday 16th June 2007 at Crosby Civic Hall
7.00pm till 11.00pm (Tickets £7.50 each, discounts available for table bookings)**

The In-Trust Network has been established to support the men and women of Sefton who have a transgender or intersex history. The network is holding its launch event and proceeds raised will be used to support the work of Press for Change and voluntary groups who specifically work with the families of transgender people.

There is a varied and interesting programme for the evening and there will also be a hot/ cold buffet and a licensed bar; music will be provided by Natalie Black. The evening will comprise introductions to the Network, personal stories by local members of In-Trust and comments by Sue Shtewi, counsellor as well as an introduction to the new In-Trust Award. The key note speech and performance of "A Grow(I)ng Tranny" will be given by Prof Stephen Whittle OBE which is framed upon his life story with all the funny bits and worst highlighted with a serious message of 'love gender variant people' throughout followed by questions and answers. It promises to be a good night.

For further information and/ or tickets, please contact Tony Griffin 0151 928 2233 ex 306

Sports Volunteering North West Conference - 9th June 2007, City of Manchester Stadium

It's not too late to book a place on Sports Volunteering North West's informative conference bringing together leading national experts in volunteering and Olympic medalists to lead on good practice to help get the best out of sports volunteering efforts.

The Hands Up! For Sports Volunteering will bring together national, regional and local speakers, facilitators, workshop leaders, exhibitors and sporting stars, all of whom are leading in volunteer development and who are committed to helping you to develop your volunteering and volunteer management skills.

This conference is aimed at volunteers and volunteer managers working in sport, or looking to start. If you are in a sports club, league or local sports council, or are a coach, official or administrator; in fact whatever your voluntary role or interest in volunteering, then this event is for you.

There are a number of workshops that delegates can choose from as well as issues covered in speeches and addresses including: Learning more about major volunteering issues; Finding out how to get the most from volunteers; Finding out about pre-volunteering for the 2012 Olympics; Learning about the legal implications of volunteering; Finding out where you can get more support.

Whatever the issue, Hands Up! For Sports Volunteering is the event for you! This conference will bring together the best of everything about volunteering and provide all the answers you need – or point the way to where they can be found.

The full delegate rate for the conference is just £65.00. (SVNW, with support from Sport England, has subsidised the conference cost). Depending on your circumstance, and particularly if you are a volunteer, you can apply for a bursary worth £50 and pay only £15 to attend this major event. The bursaries will be allocated on a first come first served basis. For more information about bursary support, contact Helen Hardy -email helen@r-evolution.co.uk or call 01434 611981.

Full information about the event, and details of how to book onto the conference, can be found at <http://www.sportsvolunteeringnw.org/hands-up-for-sports-volunteering-conference-2007>.

UKVPM – on-line forum for Volunteer Programme Managers (Yahoo group)

UKVPMs is a lively, friendly and participative networking and communication resource for all Volunteer Programme Managers working in the United Kingdom. Its mission is to increase the scope, scale and quality of both voluntary activity and the management of volunteers and it seeks to achieve this by bringing Volunteer Programme Managers together in a virtual community to develop their skills and knowledge for the purpose of taking action towards our common goals.

It currently has 830 members and is growing daily. For further information or to subscribe:
View information: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/UKVPMs/>
Subscribe: UKVPMs-subscribe@yahogroups.com

Sefton Yahoo Groups Volunteer Co-ordinators On-Line Forum

Sefton Volunteer Co-ordinators on-line Forum has been set up to be more Sefton/ Merseyside-specific and is a group where Volunteer Managers and Co-ordinators in Sefton and surrounding areas can share ideas and best practice, discuss issues and other volunteering news/ concerns relevant to the group.

If anyone would be interested in joining, please e-mail me directly (dianne@volunteeringsefton.org.uk) and I can add you to the group list – you can use your work e-mail if I add you to the group, if you choose to subscribe yourself, you have to set up a yahoo account to access it. Hope this makes sense!

It would be good if we could have on-line support for each other though this group so I hope people make use of it.

Post message: SeftonVolCoordForum@yahogroups.com
Subscribe: SeftonVolCoordForum-subscribe@yahogroups.com
Unsubscribe: SeftonVolCoordForum-unsubscribe@yahogroups.com
List owner: SeftonVolCoordForum-owner@yahogroups.com

Training Opportunity - Practical Methods of Consultation with young people

Thursday 28th June, 10.30am-12.30pm at Sing Plus, 53a Cambridge Road, Seaforth.

Due to popular demand another session of practical consultation methods with young people is being held on Thursday 28th June 10.30am-12.30pm at Sing Plus. The session will provide participants with many practical and creative methods for gathering and recording young people's opinions and carrying out participatory practice in their settings.

All those from voluntary/community sector groups in NRF areas who attend will receive £20.00 for their organisations to support their attendance.

If you wish to book any places please contact Catherine Taylor by Thursday 21st June at the latest for further information and a booking form. E-mail catherine.taylor@seftoncvcs.org.uk Tel: (0151) 928 2233 ext 104.

Quality Matters - A Free One-Day Conference Developing Youth Provision In Sefton

Thursday 7th June – Space Centre, Bootle, 9.30am – 4pm

- What does quality mean to your organisation?
- What measures are you taking to ensure quality underpins service delivery?
- What value does your organisation place on ensuring high standards of quality when designing and delivering youth provision?

This conference will explore the process of developing quality, embedding it and learning from past experiences to establish new ventures, it will also showcase the range of opportunities for young people in Sefton. This FREE full-day conference will empower delegates to respond to the needs of young people positively and effectively.

To find out more please go to www.acmeart.co.uk/conference or phone Andrew McQuade on (0151) 922 4898 for further details.

Enterprise and Inclusion programme – free workshop 19th June 2007

The Enterprise and Inclusion programme is a 16-month pilot project to develop entrepreneurship skills and self-employment amongst people who are often most excluded or experience multiple exclusion. The project will provide support in order to develop their business proposals and business skills, ultimately leading to the production of business plans and a number of beneficiaries starting in business.

Initial motivational business workshops designed to give a taster of self employment will be held in June to kick off the programme. People who attend the workshop will receive free workshop materials, expert business advice, one to one support and personal development plans. The workshops themselves are also free.

The first workshop is to be held at Neurosupport Conference Centre, Norton Street on 19th June, 10:30am – 3:30pm and will be delivered by specialist business advisors from Weston Spirit Trading.

There are places available for the 19th June workshop. If you know of any that would be suitable for this programme then please ask them to contact Rosina Ndukwe, Project Co-ordinator, Enterprise & Inclusion at Merseyside Expanding Horizons who can either book them onto the first workshop or will come out and discuss the programme with them and answer any questions they may have. Her contact details are 0151 330 0552 or email: rosinandulwe@expandinghorizons.co.uk.

Ultimo Frisbee Competition, Southport YMCA on Friday 22nd June, 12noon - 5pm

Southport YMCA, as part of their Year of Action for AIDS/ HIV, are holding a 6 a side ULTIMO Frisbee Tournament and the YMCA are looking for teams to take part in the competition.

It was a really good day last year and all money raised goes to charity. The competition is part of the ongoing effort to break down any barriers there may be between young people and service providers and is open to anyone 14+ and/ or any organisation willing to field a team. The game is simple. A cross between football, netball and frisbee that even your dog could play, so no excuses. For further information and an application form, please contact rebecca.g@southportymca.org, Tel: Southport YMCA 01704 538317 (All teams must return entry forms by Friday 15th June 2007).

Unions and voluntary organisations join to call for new Community Day Bank Holiday

Leading voluntary organisations have joined with the TUC to call for a new national bank holiday in October to celebrate and promote community activity and involvement. The call was made on 25th May on the anniversary of the House of Commons approving the Bill granting Britain's first ever bank holidays on May 25 1871.

The TUC, the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, Community Service Volunteers, Volunteering England and the National Association for Voluntary and Community Action have made the call in a letter to Gordon Brown and other politicians, and in a joint statement launched today.

They say that a new bank holiday should be used to help build the Government's "vision of a society where voluntary activity flourishes and where all individuals and communities are enabled to play a full part in civil society", and would complement existing well-established initiatives.

The day could be used:

- to encourage people to volunteer and get involved with community groups and activities - not just on the day, but on a continuing basis;
- to provide an opportunity for community and voluntary groups to publicise their work and develop new activities to engage their communities;
- to provide an opportunity for society as a whole to recognise the importance of the often unsung efforts of volunteers and community groups and the role they play in promoting the diversity and variety which is such a great strength of the UK's civil society; and
- to give an opportunity for voluntary groups to have days of action and local communities to hold gala days and other ways of increasing and celebrating community spirit.

A joint statement on Community Day: a new public holiday celebrating and promoting voluntary community activity can be found at <http://www.tuc.org.uk/extras/communityday.pdf>

Justice Awards - 2007

This award is the national awards scheme recognising excellence in the Criminal Justice System. The awards give staff and volunteers the opportunity to nominate their colleagues and teams and help them get the recognition they deserve for their achievements. Nominations for the Justice Awards are now open until 3 August.

Any team or individual working or volunteering in the Criminal Justice System in England and Wales can be nominated. This includes the Police, the National Offender Management Service (including prisons and probation) and the Youth Justice System among others, but they also welcome nominations from any voluntary organisation that works with adult or young people who are victims, witnesses, defendants or offenders.

There are 15 categories covering different areas of work in the CJS. In each category, a winner and runners up are chosen. The Justice Shield is awarded to the one winner judges feel is the most exceptional performer out of all the nominees. Nominations will be open from **14 May** to **3 August** and finalists and winners will be invited to a ceremony in London in November.

For further information on the awards, please go to <http://justiceawards.cjonline.gov.uk/> and if you then have any further questions, please contact Tom Callagher at justiceawards@cjs.gsi.gov.uk. Forms for nominations are available on the website.

The Guardian Public Services Awards 2007

This is the fourth year of the awards, which aim to highlight the huge range of such services and acclaim the inspirational work that goes on with regards to providing these services. The awards are now well established as a benchmark of excellence and the impact that an award can have on an organisation, from boosting morale to helping recruit and retain staff of the highest calibre, is enormous, but they are also a means of sharing and spreading best practice, raising the quality of services for more people in more places across the UK.

The awards are open to private, voluntary and community bodies as well as public sector organisations, your achievement must have taken place between July 21 2006 and July 20 2007 and anyone within your organisation can enter. The closing date for entries is **July 20 2007**.

For more information, please go to: <http://society.guardian.co.uk/publicservicesawards/>

To download an entry pack, please go to:

http://image.guardian.co.uk/sys-files/Society/documents/2007/05/22/FINAL_PSA_2007_entry_pack.pdf

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2008

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service is given for outstanding achievement by groups of volunteers who regularly devote their time to helping others in the community, improve the quality of life and opportunity for others, and provide an outstanding service.

Winners for the 2007 award will be announced on 2nd June, at which point the nomination period for the 2008 awards will open. The deadline for these nominations is 30th September 2007.

If you know a group of volunteers who devote their time to helping others in the community and improving the quality of life and opportunity for others, then why not nominate them for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2008. It is easy to nominate - just download an electronic version of the nomination form and guidance notes.

For further information, and to download the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2008 nomination forms, please visit www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk or call the awards hotline on 0845 000 2002.

Using the media to recruit volunteers

The Voluntary Action Media Unit (VAMU) together with askCHARITY, are building a new website all about how best to use the media to recruit volunteers. They are looking for case studies of charities who have used advertising, marketing and PR to recruit volunteers. The new website is designed to help all charities; bringing together all the latest research as well as free resources and guides.

They would like to hear from you if you have ever used websites, mobile phones, newspapers, radio, magazines, TV, leaflets, posters, virals, emails, newsletter, events, stunts or podcasts to grab the attention of potential volunteers. It doesn't matter whether you worked with a huge budget or no budget at all.

Please contact Flora f.jenkins@vamu.org.uk and let her know about the name of the campaign your charity ran or a little bit about the media coverage you've secured about volunteering. They would also be interested to hear about recruitment campaigns that weren't as successful as hoped.

National Offender Management Service Consultation: Volunteers Can: Towards a volunteering strategy to reduce re-offending

The National Offender Management Service (NOMS) has recently launched their consultation document 'Volunteers Can: Towards a Volunteering Strategy to Reduce Re-offending'. This draft strategy outlines how the involvement of volunteers could be promoted and developed to reduce re-offending and build public confidence in the Criminal Justice System.

The consultation draft strategy was informed by an extensive programme of research undertaken by the Institute for Volunteering Research (IVR), including interviews with key stakeholders working in this sector including representatives from voluntary sector organisations; interviews with prison and probation staff and union representatives; and focus groups and interviews with volunteers including offenders and other members of the community.

The Voluntary Sector, prisons and probation services are invited to share their thoughts on how best to engage with volunteers who work with offenders through the formal consultation. To read the draft strategy and feed in your comments please visit:

http://noms.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-publications-events/publications/consultations/Consultation_Volunteers_Can/

Vetting and Barring

Further to discussion in February's Volunteer Co-ordinators' Forum, here are some more web links you may find useful:

To summarise: the Vetting and Barring scheme will be phased in in Autumn 2008 as a result of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006. for further information, please go to:

<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/vettingandbarring/>. This site contains a lot of useful information on the scheme and links to <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/events/?asset=Event&id=50521> which lists a number of events happening around the country to give people information on the scheme. At the bottom of the first web

link, there is also a summary of the Vetting and Barring scheme that was produced May 2007 so is the most up to date information about the scheme.

Volunteer Management Capacity Project

The Institute for Volunteering Research (IVR) have recently embarked on an exciting new piece of research looking at the capacity of public, voluntary and community organisations to involve and manage volunteers. The study will survey approximately 1,500 organisations about their volunteer management and will explore whether they have what they need to effectively, recruit, manage and retain volunteers. It will identify the issues and challenges organisations face. The results of the research will be published in April 2008. If you have any questions about this project please contact joanna.machin@volunteeringengland.org

A Guide To Volunteering While On Benefit

Department for Work and Pensions: [A Guide To Volunteering While On Benefit](#) has now been amended to reflect the DWP's decision to include lunch as a normal expense for volunteers. This can be found on page 12 of the booklet and may be a useful reference tool for your volunteers.

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/publications/dwp/2006/vg1-2006.pdf>

Asylum Monologues is coming to Liverpool...

'This is the thing that the British people don't understand. They think we came here just because we want to live here. We fled our countries because there are problems. That's why we came here.'

Asylum Monologues is an account of the UK's asylum system, told first hand by the people who have experienced it. Screened FREE for ONE NIGHT ONLY in 12 cities from Glasgow to Exeter on 21st June, 2007.

In Liverpool, the performance will be held at: Metropolitan Cathedral Crypt Concert Hall (entrance on Brownlow Hill), L3 5TQ at 18.30 the performance is open to ALL! No tickets required. Free refreshments and snacks available, (including wine).

For further information, please contact: Lila Khodja, Refugee Action, 0151 702 6313 / 0784 990 4998
More info at: www.iceandfire.co.uk/actorsforrefugees

Questionnaire – Voluntary, Community & Faith (VCF) Sector Provision of Services/ Activities for 14-19 Year Olds... And a £200 Prize Draw!

Sefton CVS is currently working with the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) to undertake a mapping exercise of VCF sector provision of services/ activities for 14-19 year olds in Sefton. This forms part of a wider survey and each of our partner CVS' in the other five boroughs of Greater Merseyside (GM) are also working with the LSC to conduct a similar survey. **Unfortunately, the questionnaire cannot be attached to this document, but please contact please contact Catherine Taylor, Children and Young People's Network Co-ordinator, tel: 0151 928 2233 ext 104 and she will e-mail/ send you a copy. The deadline for returns is 30th June 2007.**

The LSC wants to have a better picture of how the sector engages with young people in Greater Merseyside – not just formal learning/ training, but the whole range of activities/ services we provide. This information will also be extremely useful to us here in Sefton CVS and will be of great use to other partners like Connexions and the emerging VCF Sector Learning Consortium. The LSC also has a particular interest in our engagement with young people that are not in education, employment or training (the so-called NEET population) and we are keen to know of any innovative ways the sector engages with marginalised young people. In addition, the LSC wants to look at progression routes for young people into formal education/ employment/ training and is keen to know of any links people have with the likes of Connexions, colleges or training providers. Where organisations don't have such links, but would like to establish them, we will endeavour to help you forge them. So this mapping exercise it is not just of benefit to the LSC, but could also ultimately help your clients – both current and future - towards education/ training and ultimately, employment!

All completed questionnaires returned by the 30th June 2007 will be entered into a £200 prize draw. So why not fill one in? Please note the prize is for the winning organisation/ group, not an individual! The winner will be informed by phone &/or email during the first week of July.

As with all surveys, this mapping exercise will only be as good as the information we receive back in from you.

The more people that reply, the more comprehensive it will be and the more we can tell our colleagues in the LSC (and other public sector partners) about the important and often innovative work carried out by the sector.

So please take the time to participate, we need your support!

Introducing funding and finance...

A pocket size version of 'Introducing Funding and Finance' has been published by the Finance Hub.

It gives the basics of sustainable funding, planning, good financial management, fundraising, trading, contracting and loans.

The document can be downloaded in pdf format from <http://www.financehub.org.uk/?Resources> and there are a lot of other guides relating to finance and fundraising that VCS organisations might find useful.

Downloading PDF Format Files and Documents

Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) files can be viewed on most major operating systems. Adobe Reader 6.0 is the newest version of the familiar Adobe Acrobat Reader software. The FREE Adobe Acrobat Reader software can be downloaded from: <http://www.adobe.co.uk/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.

Inclusion of third party information in the Volunteer Centre Sefton Email Update does not constitute an endorsement by Volunteer Centre Sefton. Volunteer Centre Sefton takes no responsibility for the quality of third party events, products or services featured in this update.

Unsubscribe

This email update is sent to you from Volunteer Centre Sefton. If you would prefer not to receive future updates please reply with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject box.

Further Information

For more information about the work and services of Volunteer Centre Sefton visit our Website:
<http://www.volunteeringsefton.org.uk>

Volunteer Centre Sefton is managed by Sefton Council for Voluntary Service
Registered Charity No. 1024546 Company Limited by Guarantee No. 2832920
Website: <http://www.seftoncvs.org.uk>

Volunteer Centre Sefton is a member of Volunteering England
Website: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk>

Volunteer Centre Sefton - promoting, supporting and developing volunteering in Sefton