

THE NEWS-SHEET OF THE ESSEX COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY YOUTH SERVICES



Welcome to the autumn edition of Grapevine.

A big thank you to everyone that was involved in any way with ECC Jar, I am sure we all gave a really good account of the voluntary sector in Essex and reflected the quality and

diversity of our services/projects! The feedback to ECVYS was that they really appreciated our support and our partnership working..... so a big 'pat' on the back!

As I am sure you are all aware ECVYS has been working closely with Essex County Council on their **Workforce Development Strategy**. A sub group has been formed to look at '**Data Collection**'. We have agreed that a **separate data collection** matrix needs to be established for the **voluntary sector**.

The reason the data needs to be collected is for multi-agency training.

We need to establish what type of training is needed, where the gaps are and how many staff/volunteers there are. ECVYS has designed a **simple matrix** (see below) the next step is to ask you to look at it and let us have your views/comments..... (Please send to admin@ecvys.org.uk)

Name of organisation					
Type e.g. uniformed, playgroup, counselling etc.,					
number of employed staff		volunteer headcount	length of service of volunteers (approx)		
Full time	Part time		under 2years	2 – 10 years	over 10 years

We are also please to announce our long awaited **ContactPoint briefings**; these were requested at our ECVYS conference earlier this year. The briefings are open to everyone who is working with Children, Young People and their Families in Essex. There are two dates; **8th November in Chelmsford and 12th November in Colchester** one mid-week and

one weekend –You will find the booking form below under 'Training'. ECVYS is also hoping to encourage all voluntary organisations working within the every child matters agenda to identify a Compact Champion –

What's it all about?

What is a Compact?

It's an agreement between the statutory sector in an area and the voluntary sector (including small community organisations and social enterprises) to work together with openness and trust, treating one another fairly and considerately.

Why have a Compact?

It reminds statutory organisations about ways of doing things that help or frustrate voluntary organisations, and reminds the voluntary organisations about how their actions can be helpful or awkward for the statutory people. It encourages working together, treating one another fairly and with respect. It provides principles and specific commitments against which work can be checked, and a network for spreading best practice while resolving and learning from problems.

What does signing up to the Compact mean?

It means you promise to stick to the Compact principles and commitments in all your dealings with the statutory sector (if you're in the voluntary sector) or with the voluntary sector (if you're in the statutory sector). Compact signatories are organisations and the whole organisation is committed by that signature. You've also promised to appoint a Compact Champion or champions and to monitor whether and how you're applying the Compact to your work.

What is a Compact Champion?

She or he is a person who has the job of promoting the Compact within their organisation, making sure people understand it, put it into practice and don't forget about it. In large organisations there will probably be a Compact Champion for each department.

Is the Compact relevant to me?

If you have any role, paid or unpaid, in the voluntary and community sector, or in a social enterprise, and may have dealings with the statutory sector, YES!

If you have any role, paid or unpaid, in the statutory sector and may have dealings with the voluntary and community sector, or with a social enterprise, YES!

If you are a volunteer, either for a voluntary organisation or a statutory one – or if you're involved in a group on whose behalf a voluntary organisation may be speaking - YES!

In any of these cases, you may find the Compact gives useful guidance on how you should approach some task or sets out your rights and how you can tackle any breach of them.

If you would like any further information on the Compact please contact ECVYS.

Brenda

Dates for your diary

**ECVYS and the Children & Families Network Annual Conference
Tuesday 10th February 2009**

**ECVYS AGM
Thursday 4th June 2009**

BURSARY

ECVYS workforce development bursary

Do you volunteer or work for a voluntary organisation in the Essex area?

Do you work with or provide services to children and young people?

Do you want to access training or attend events, but can't because of the cost involved?

Would you like some help?

If the answer to these questions is "YES", then please see the flyer and application attached to this newsletter.

FUNDING



HBOS Foundation – Community Action Programme (UK)

Who does the Foundation support?

You must be a registered charity, or a not for profit local community group. In order to make a real difference within the community the Foundation remit is tightly focused.

Unfortunately, therefore, anything falling outside the Foundation's key themes is unlikely to be supported. Previous projects funded include a grant of £2,500 to Ravenscliffe Special School in Halifax to purchase an adapted tricycle providing pupils with the opportunity to engage in fun filled exercise sessions whilst providing much needed

sensory stimulation and a grant of £2,100 to purchase sensory play equipment, arts and crafts materials and a number of musical instruments for a family support centre based in Perth for children, young people and adults with autistic spectrum disorder. Applications can be made at any time. HBOS Foundation, Po Box No 5, The Mound, Edinburgh, EH1 1YZ
Website - www.hbosfoundation.org

HMRC Grant Aid Funding Programme

The aim of Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) is to administer tax and customs systems fairly and efficiently, and make it as easy as possible for individuals and businesses to understand and comply with their obligations and receive their tax credits and other entitlements. HMRC has £2 million per annum available for the next three financial years to 2011-12, aimed at funding Third Sector Organisations (TSOs). The Grant in Aid Programme aims to build funding relationships with TSOs so that they play an increased role in public service delivery, particularly socially inclusive services to those who are hard to reach or who do not engage directly with them. The funds are available in the form of grants in aid to help with the costs of activity contributing to the HMRC's key aims, outcomes and priorities.

http://www.governmentfunding.org.uk/VCSLaunch.aspx?SCHEME_ID=12-S89

INFORMATION



The number of 16-and-17-year-

olds not in employment, education or training may be twice as high as government figures suggest, according to research by the London School of Economics.

www.cypnow.co.uk/doc

The Ministry of Defence is to review the educational

performance of the children of the military personnel to determine if there is underachievement.

www.cypnow.co.uk/doc

The Department for Children, Schools and Families

spent almost £60,000 on a dedicated website for its construction on a national play strategy, but only 9,286 people have visited it so far.

Teachers should receive mental health training to help ease the pressure on child and adolescent mental health services, the charity YoungMinds has said.

Centrepoint has been given £35,000 by barristers in London. The cash will help the youth homeless charity fund a new meditation worker to help young people rebuild family relationships. The biggest cause of homelessness among young people in the UK is family breakdown.

Charities get £30m to fight crime

Voluntary youth groups in England are to get £30m to fight gun and knife crime. The Department for Children, Schools and Families has pledged to give the cash to youth work charities that focus on preventing young people from committing crime or becoming involved in antisocial behaviour. The money will be given in the second round of the Youth Sector Development Fund. As well as financial help, the charities will get business advice to help them secure their long-term future. The fund will support around 12 organisations who will each get around £2.5m. www.dcsf.gov.uk

New volunteer standards from UK Workforce Hub approved

The revised Management of Volunteer Standards have now been fully approved by UK CES and are now readily available for you to use and download at: www.ukworkforcehub.org.uk/mvnos08

INCLUSION FOR EVERY CHILD

The Council for Disabled Children

exists to promote the inclusion of disabled children and young people across the mainstream services. In its latest policy it sets out the principles that every

service provider should seek to uphold.

CDC inclusion principles

CDC believes the following factors are crucial to developing inclusion

- A welcome for all disabled children, secure relationships and support for families when they need it
- Respect for difference and a commitment to building friendships and a community to benefit all
- Equality of access to play, learning, leisure and all aspects of life
- A pro-active approach to identifying and removing barriers
- Timely access to information and to people with empowering attitudes, supportive skills and expertise

Visit www.ncb.org.uk/cdc for more information about the extending Inclusion project. If you would like information on the CDC Inclusion Policy Email: cdc@ncb.org.uk

“More education about disability is still needed. Me and my friends have to face issues every day and we shouldn’t have to”

Rebecca, age 15

“I want buses to be more accessible for wheelchairs and shops to have bigger

aisles and doors so people in wheelchairs can get through”

Dan, age 17

“People’s attitudes could be better – just treat disabled young people the same way you would want to be treated”

Jared, age 20

HSE Myth of the Month –

Even Mr Punch needs a written risk assessment (August 2008)

A Punch and Judy man received a standard letter from an event organiser asking him to submit a health and safety risk assessment. However when he questioned the need for it, they 'backed-off' and no paperwork was required. It sounds like wires got crossed somewhere and perhaps the standard letter was sent in error. HSEs guidance is clear: if there is genuinely no significant risk, nothing needs to be written down. If a written assessment is needed – keep it fit for purpose, and crucially: act on it. Paperwork without action does no one any good.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/myth/aug08.htm>

The Role of Schools in Promoting Wellbeing

The government has released draft guidance on how schools should help to deliver the *Every Child Matters* outcomes

Have you heard about the 21st-century school?

Sounds like there should be a punch line, but I imagine you're referring to *The Children's Plan* concept of a school that works in partnership with other agencies, the children's trust and parents to provide a personalised education and tackle inequality. It knows all its children well, helps them to realise their potential and contributes to their wellbeing.

That's the one.

Section 38 of the Education an Inspections Act 2006 gives it some grounding by placing a duty on school governing bodies to promote the wellbeing of pupils, as defined by the *Every Child Matters* five outcomes for children; and achieving economic wellbeing. The government has issued some non-statutory draft guidance to outline how schools should promote wellbeing.

At the very least, schools should provide high-quality personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education.

PSHE seems to merit only a cursory reference. The paper says the school's distinctive contribution to wellbeing is through the provision of "excellent, personalised teaching

and learning" to enable each child to reach their full potential – a reference back to outcome three. And enjoy and achieve is front and centre in the section looking at how schools can promote wellbeing in practice. But there are a number of suggestions under each of the outcomes. For example, delivering PSHE or providing on-site health services (being healthy), and maintaining good order and discipline while making sure all children feel safe (feeling safe).

How will they know they are succeeding?

Section 5 focuses on the cycle of self-evaluation and review. Of course, several other services and the child's parents contribute to the child's wellbeing, so section 4 deals with partnership.

Fact Box

- In January 2008, there were 7.3 million full-time equivalent pupils in state-funded primary, secondary and special schools in England
- 23.3 per cent of pupils in primary schools and 19.5 per cent in secondary schools were from ethnic minorities (Pupil characteristics, Department for Children, Schools and Families)
- *Schools' Role in Promoting Well-being – Draft for Consultation is available from www.cypnow.co.uk/doc.*

Mapping of Transition Services

Moving forward –

To ensure disabled young people get the support they need, agencies must make two activities a priority:

- Listening to what disabled young people say they want
- Working positively together across agencies

For more information and examples of excellent support, a transition guide is available to download from www.transitioninfonyetwork.org.uk

Aiming High for Adulthood Project

The Council for Disabled Children (CDC) is undertaking a project to bring together the three strands of Aiming High to ensure disabled young people benefit from the current government initiatives and reforms. The Aiming High for Adulthood Project will bring together the three strands of Aiming High, which are:-

- Aiming High for Children, Supporting Families
- Aiming High for Disabled Children, Better Support for Families
- Aiming High for Young People, A Ten-year Strategy for Positive Activities

For further information contact hwheatley@ncb.org.uk

RESOURCES

WeCan2

This resource for youth workers explains how to help young people with learning disabilities participate in local democracy and decision-making at youth councils and forums

<http://wecan2.open.ac.uk>

Extending Inclusion

This guide is designed to support the inclusion of disabled children in children's centres and extended schools.

Funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families it brings together information for those working with in these settings as well as local authorities and voluntary organisations.

Extended schools and children's centres are designed to provide learning opportunities, childcare and activities.

The guide supports managers and staff to help disabled children lead ordinary lives.

To order copies or download visit

www.ncb.org.uk/cdcpublications

Top Tips for Participation Poster

Disabled children from Generate UK and 1 Voice have teamed up with the Council for Disabled Children and Participation Works to produce a poster as part of the Making Ourselves Heard Project.

The Poster shows key areas disabled young people feel could be changed and top tips on what we can all do to

ensure they realise their rights and participate in all issues that affect them.

To order copies of the poster, contact Kate Martin on 020 7843 6351 or email

kmartin@ncb.org.uk

A Transition Guide for all Services:

Key information for Professionals about the Transition Process for Disabled Young People

This guide, which is funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families, is intended as good practice guidance on the duties and responsibilities of all providers working with young people in their transition to adulthood. To download the guide visit

www.transitioninfonetwork.org.uk

Free Legal Advice for Community Groups

LawWorks for Community Groups provides quality legal advice to those in the voluntary sector – free of charge! Thanks to a national network of volunteer lawyers, free business law advice can be provided to community groups, small charities and social enterprises that do not have funds to pay for legal fees.

LawWorks for Community Groups can help with a wide variety of legal matters, including:

- Company law: (such as advice on commercial contracts; how to incorporate as a company; updating and

amending the organisation's Articles of Association etc.);

- Employment law: drafting, reviewing and updating employment contracts and staff handbooks.

- Intellectual property law: advice on registering a trademark and data protection issues.

- Property law: advice on lease terms; assistance with negotiating tenancy agreements.

- Other areas advice is available on include: charity law matters; tax/VAT matters; insolvency and help in drafting contingency plans; insurance law matters; health and safety law matters; general commercial matters etc. To apply, please visit the LawWorks website (www.lawworks.org.uk)

and complete the online application form under the "Charities" section. Applications are reviewed by the Community Groups team who will help organisations understand the scope of advice that they require. They will then select the right volunteer lawyer for the case and put you in contact with them. All of the volunteer lawyers treat these cases just as they would treat ones for which they have been paid. It really is that simple!

Any questions? Please call The Community Groups team on 020 7929 5601 or email lcv@lawworks.org.uk.

The Young Essex

Assembly is the elected youth council for Essex. Members are aged between 11 and 19. The next elections and the deadline for candidates are fast approaching. Please, please, please encourage the young people who you work with to stand as candidates. The YEA provides a voice for all young people in Essex and has made a positive difference for them. If you would like any more information, either call the Involvement Team on 01206 762923 or look at the connexions website: www.estconnexions.co.uk

SEXUAL HEALTH

The cervical cancer vaccine the government is to give all 12-and-13-year-old girls is cost-effective, according to a Health Protection Agency report. www.cypnow.co.uk/doc

TRAINING

ContactPoint

As Brenda mentioned these workshops are taking place on 8th and 14th November and the booking form is attached to this newsletter.

KWANGO - elearning package from ECC: **Free** training opportunities for voluntary sector organisations working in Essex Practitioners will be able to access an e learning package on: **Integrated Working:** This will give all practitioners a general overview of the Every Child Matters agenda and how all the Integrated Processes need to work together. **CAF:** This will give practitioners a general overview of the rationale behind the completion of a Common Assessment with case studies **Information Sharing:** This will give practitioners a very good knowledge of general Information Sharing legislation and will give guidance on Consent - which has been an issue. Practitioners will be able to access this by using the link below: First login and register using the following URL: http://www.ecclms.co.uk/ecclms01_10.asp?

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places a statutory duty on key people and bodies to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Guidance on 'Parental Learning Disability and Children's Needs', and 'Child Protection, Domestic Violence and Parental Substance Misuse' is now available. <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/socialcare/safeguarding/>



WEBSITE

This is the link to the CYPSP Website. **Please visit this regularly to keep up to date with the most recent information.** <http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/microsites/CYPSP/FundingOpportunities200809.htm>

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