November 2011

Welcome to the latest Gedling CVS ebulletin

Welcome to the ebulletin for Gedling Community and Voluntary Services. It includes items of interest to voluntary and community groups, many of which may have short deadlines to respond to. I hope you will feel it is relevant to your work.

Feedback is welcomed at anytime as to how it can be improved or just what you think of the ebulletin as a resource. You can email any comments or suggestions to info@gedlingcvs.org.uk.

Visit our website for more up-to-date information, see our latest newsletter, Community Eye, as well as more news and funding from previous e-bulletins that you may have missed - www.gedlingcvs.org.uk

If you think a friend or colleague would benefit from this e-newsletter then please send us their details so we can contact them to be registered.

Kind Regards

Jean Ramsden
Frontline Services Manager
Gedling CVS

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Gedling CVS News

New Website

Gedling CVS has a new look website where we shall be putting the latest information for the sector. There is also a 'Diary Page' for events, conferences, trainings etc. So if you are holding any of these and would like to have them included on our website please email: info@gedlingcvs.org.uk.

"Strengthening Community Action"

Gedling CVS offers a range of services including: Volunteer Centre, funding advice, newsletter, library, Community and Voluntary Transport scheme; group support including getting groups involved in local initiatives. If you would like any information or support from any of these services please email: admin@gedlingcvs.org.uk.

Gedling CVS Did Something MAD for Make a Difference Day!

WE OPENED OUR NEW RESOURCE CENTRE & RECEPTION - A SHOP FRONT - ON SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER 2011

Gedling CVS had a busy day with the opening of our new premises at 20 Main Road, Gedling called "The Community Hub". We ran a taster chair based exercise session, face painting for the young (or young at heart), crafts, had a cake stall, a pumpkin competition for the scariest face and lots more activities.

Gedling CVS is shortly starting a work club where unemployed people can come along and get help with CV writing and applying for jobs. They will be able to use computers for job searches as well as searching for volunteering, which will build up their confidence in applying for jobs.

Gedling Community and Voluntary Services (GCVS) supports local community and voluntary groups in the Borough of Gedling.
To find out more call **0115 987 1981** and visit www.gedlingcvs.org.uk.

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Training, Events and Campaigns

Health and Wellbeing Market Place

Tuesday 22 November 2011 - 12:00 until 4:00pm
Lindhurst Rooms, Sodexho, Mansfield Civic Centre, NG19 7BH

What is it about...
Disability Nottinghamshire has organised an event for individuals living in the County who are receiving some form of social care (paid / voluntary) or in receipt of a personal budget to meet face-to-face with providers of services. This is an opportunity for organisations to promote their services and for individuals to see what is on offer to them.

Who should attend...

- Providers of services to disabled people, their carers, family, friends and neighbours

- Individuals living in Nottinghamshire who are currently in receipt of a personal budget or those who are considering a personal budget in the future
- Carers, family members, friends or neighbours of someone they know who is receiving social care or needs some care in the future
- Social workers, commissioning officers, brokers, direct payment support services (DPSS), micro providers, care workers and personal assistants
- Local and County Councillors, voluntary, community and charitable organisations
- Health care practitioners, hospital trusts, clinical commissioning groups and infrastructure organisations

Cost… FREE to individuals and organisations, includes refreshments and car parking.

There is no need to book a place at this event, please just turn up anytime between 12:00 and 4:00pm on Tuesday 22 November. If you have any questions about the event please contact Disability Nottinghamshire.

If you are an organisation and would like a stall at the event then please contact Disability Nottinghamshire using the details below and they will get back to you asap.
Further information from: Disability Nottinghamshire - Tel: 01623 658 060; email: simon@disabilitynottinghamshire.org.uk.

Free First Aid Sessions From The British Red Cross

The Red Cross knows that everyone can learn a few simple skills that could help someone if things suddenly went wrong. It doesn't matter how young or old, or how able the person thinks they are, everyone can learn to do something to help an ill or injured person. For further information, or to book your session, please contact: Deborah Webster, Community Based First Aid Coordinator, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire & Cheshire, (01629) 593335 dwebster@redcross.org.uk.

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Consultations, Meetings and Networks

Notts County Council Annual Budget Consultation 2012/13: Budget Conversation

Nottinghamshire County Council has now launched its 'Budget Conversation'. The 'Budget Conversation' will run until Friday 27 January 2012 and will help inform the budget proposals for next year.
Closing date: Friday, 27 January 2012
Further information from:
http://www3.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/finance/conversation/

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Funding

£20m Grant Fund to Encourage Social Action

The Social Action Fund is a new grant fund of over £20 million managed by the Social Investment Business on behalf of the Office for Civil Society. The fund aims to inspire organisations to create new social action opportunities through people giving what they have, be that their time, their money, or their assets, knowledge and skills. http://www.thesocialinvestmentbusiness.org/saf7/
[Source: LINX 199, 13 Oct 11]

Community First

Community First is an £80m Office for Civil Society-funded programme that will run for four years, until March 2015. It will help communities come together through new and existing community groups, to identify their strengths and local priorities, plan for their future and become more resilient. The fund is divided into two strands. £30 million will be used to provide small grants. The remaining £50 million will be used to match private donations invested in community endowment funds which will pay out money for small grants well into the future. http://www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/community-first
[Source: LINX 199, 13 Oct 11]

Grimple's Green Grants

These grants offer up to £40,000 to give away to environmentally friendly projects. They are offering funds up to £2,000 to small projects and organisations with a special £10,000 grant available to one project voted for by the public. The deadline for applications is 30 November.
http://www.greeninsurancegiving.co.uk/grants.php
[Source: LINX 199, 13 Oct 11]

Nationwide Foundation Grants

The Nationwide Foundation make grants to registered UK charities that offer financial and/or housing related support to survivors of domestic abuse and/or older people. Grants of between £500 and £5000 are available. The funding aims to tackle financial exclusion affecting older people across the UK.
http://www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk/default.asp
[Source: LINX 199, 13 Oct 11]

Co-operative Community Fund

Grants, between £100 and £2,000 are awarded to community, voluntary, or self-help groups. Criteria and further information are available on their website http://www.co-operative.coop/membership/local-communities/community-fund/funding-selection-criteria/.
[Source: LINX 199, 13 Oct 11]

Woodward Charitable Trust

deadline: 30 November 2011
The trust awards grant funding to small-scale, locally-based charitable initiatives in the UK in the following areas:

• children and young people;
• minority groups including refugees, gypsies and travellers;
• prisoners and ex-offenders;
• disability;
• homelessness;
• arts outreach;
• environmental projects;
• summer playschemes.

The scheme is intended to support small scale organisations that work for the benefit of their local area. Applications are accepted from UK registered charities with an annual turnover of less than £300,000. Funding is primarily for one-off projects, but the Trustees are willing to consider funding running costs, including core cost and salaries. www.woodwardcharitabletrust.org.uk
[Source: News from Voluntary Arts Network e-news 27.10.11]

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Resources

Support for the Very Long Term Unemployed Programme

Enable is getting involved in a new programme as part of a Nottinghamshire pilot project launched by Jobcentre Plus which starts on 7 November 2011.

Support for the Very Long-Term Unemployed (SftVLTU) is intended to help claimants move off benefits and into employment by equipping them with a valuable period of work experience, enabling them to develop disciplines and skills associated with sustained employment. For example this work experience involves attending on time, on a regular basis as part of a working routine, carrying out specific tasks and working under supervision and helping them capitalise on this through provider-led job search support.

The programme is open to voluntary or community-based organisations who wish to take on a placement for a period of 26 weeks. The individual would work for 30 hours and carry out up to an additional 10 hours of supported job search either with Enable or one of our partner organisations. Enable currently have placements being offered in areas such as administration, retail, catering and gardening. Unfortunately the funding available is limited to costs for childcare and bus fares for the participant to and from work. During the placement the individual remains on their benefits until they find a job.

If your organisation is interested in taking on a placement and giving someone valuable work experience, please contact Alona, Placements Officer at Enable.

For further information please email Alona at alona@enable.uk.net or telephone her on 0115 934 9516.
[Source: Enable e-bulletin 21 October 2011]

Giving World Online an Excellent New Resource for Notts Charities

Community groups can now benefit from a fantastic free resource operating in the area covered by Notts CVSs and community groups. Giving World Online links people on need with businesses who have an unwanted surplus and is now expanding its operations to Notts.

A spokesman for Giving World Online said: "We realise that with all the funding cuts at the moment many charities are really feeling the pinch."

"This is where we come in, by offering free essential goods which have been donated to us such as toiletries, baby clothes, cleaning materials, toys, educational materials, computers, outdoor wear, furniture, electrical, bedding, and books."

"And, it's so easy to obtain these essential goods, all a charity has to do is to register on our website and the rest is easy."

"There is no hidden catch, the only costs which may be incurred is for the transportation of the goods."

"Our message to charities is register now and see what wonderful essential items we have on our website that can benefit your members and help boost landfill at the same time.''

The charity, based in Leicester, recently received a Big Lottery grant to develop and advance Giving World Online across the nine English regions. www.givingworldonline.com.

'Good Governance – a Code for the Voluntary and Community Sector: Smaller Organisation Version'

was launched during Trustees Week, to provide a framework for smaller organisations to govern in a way that is appropriate to their size.

This version of the code has been written to meet the needs of smaller organisations without staff. As organisations grow and take on staff or premises, additional considerations and rules come into play. Growth may also mean that more formal structures and practices become necessary. It builds on the success of the second edition of 'Good Governance' and is designed to be clearer and easier to use for those organisations with limited resources, while mirroring the principles of the main code. Supporting the smaller organisation code is a glossary to explain some of the more legalistic and technical jargon.

The code for smaller organisations and the jargon buster can be downloaded from www.goodgovernancecode.org.uk.
[Source: Voluntary Arts e-bulletin 3.11.11]

The Warm Home Discount Scheme Provides £120 Rebate on Electricity Bills in Winter 2011/12

Pension Credit customers are automatically considered for the Warm Home Discount of £120

People may qualify for this energy rebate if all the following apply:

- they got only the Guarantee Credit element of Pension Credit on the qualifying date (11 September 2011)
- their energy provider is participating in this scheme – see 'Energy suppliers participating in this scheme' below
- their name, or your partner's name is on the electricity bill

You will **not** qualify automatically if you get the Savings Credit element of Pension Credit.

How the Warm Home Discount Scheme works

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and participating electricity suppliers will share some limited information about their customers. This allows participating electricity suppliers to give the energy rebate automatically to customers who qualify.

The Warm Home Discount Scheme will run for four years from winter 2011/12. Rebates will be paid and funded by participating electricity suppliers.

Energy suppliers participating in the scheme

The electricity suppliers involved in this scheme are: Atlantic, British Gas, EDF Energy, E.ON, Equipower, Equigas, Manweb, M&S Energy, npower, Sainsbury's Energy, Scottish Gas, Scottish Hydro, ScottishPower, Southern Electric, SSE, Swalec and Utility Warehouse.

Support with Confidence - new directory

People in Nottinghamshire who need social care and support are being urged to use a new directory of reliable paid workers.

Support With Confidence, which has been set up by Nottinghamshire County Council, is a web-based directory of potential employees who can help older and disabled people with things like:

- getting them out of bed, washed and dressed
- taking them out for trips e.g. the pub or theatre
- walking people's dogs
- helping out with shopping, housework or the garden

Everyone on the directory has received training and has been checked by the County Council.

People who receive a personal budget for their social care can then select who they want from the directory to provide a particular service. They will then interview that person and, if they are happy, offer them the job.

To find out more about Support With Confidence and to use the directory phone 08449 80 80 80 or visit:
www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/supportwithconfidence

Personal budgets are given to people who are eligible for long term social care support by the County Council. They have an assessment with a social care

worker, where they decide how they wish to spend their money to best meet their needs.

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Sector News Update

NAVCA Looking for a New Chief Executive.

The post of Chief Executive of NAVCA is being advertised. The deadline for applications is 24 October.
[Source: LINX 199, 13 Oct 11]

New Labour Shadow Cabinet

Ed Miliband has re-shuffled his Shadow Cabinet. The big changes have been discussed in the media. Less coverage has gone to the fact that there is a new shadow Minister for Civil Society. Gareth Thomas MP has replaced Roberta Blackman-Woods.
[Source: LINX 199, 13 Oct 11]

New Police Non-Emergency Number

From Monday 7 November communities across Nottinghamshire will have access to 101, the national non-emergency telephone number for the police service in England and Wales.

The current non-emergency number, 0300 300 9999, will cease on December 7. After this date, people who call the number will be met with a message stating that the number has been replaced with 101.

While 999 is a well-recognised number used to report emergencies, the 2010 British Crime Survey found that only 54% of the public knew how to contact their local police if they wanted to talk about policing, crime or antisocial behaviour.

The introduction of 101 will help keep neighbourhoods safe by giving residents one easy way to contact their local force to report non-emergency crime and disorder or to speak to their local officers.
Calls to 101 will cost 15 pence per call, no matter how long you are on the phone – this applies to both landlines and mobile phones.

Credit Unions Will be Able to Provide Services to Community Groups

Parliament has approved changes to legislation which will allow credit unions to provide services to community groups, attract investment from local businesses and extend services to new groups, including housing association tenants and employees. Credit unions will also be able to pay interest on savings, instead of a dividend, so people will more easily be able to compare rates. The rules come into force from 8th January 2012. Sector body ABCUL's news item at http://www.abcul.coop/media-and-research/news/view/193.

The same Legislative Reform Order also reduces some restrictions for co-operatives. See HM Treasury press notice, http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/press_123_11.htm.
[Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 500]

Wikipedia's UK Arm Becomes a Charity

The UK arm of the company that runs the online encyclopaedia Wikipedia has been registered as a charity. The Charity Commission has granted Wikimedia UK charitable status as it provides a "public resource" by making information accessible to the public. Wikimedia's solicitor, as reported by Third Sector, said that the decision was an important development as the promotion of open access to content had not previously been recognised as a charitable purpose. http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/Channels/Governance/Article/1102747/.
[Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 500]

Concern over Work Programme Providers Not Paying for Services

Volunteering England has reported that some volunteer centres have been asked by Work Programme providers to work with their clients for no payment. This has led to employment minister Chris Grayling saying that the Programme providers should always pay charities for their services. See Civil Society Media news item http://www.civilsociety.co.uk/finance/news/content/10920/ or VE's news release. VE's letter, report and response is at http://www.volunteering.org.uk/WhatWeDo/Policy/whatwearesaying/.
[Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 500]

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