



Worcestershire Council for Voluntary Youth Services

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2006

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN CONSULTATION

For every child and young person,
every agency, one plan

Inside are:

- The Plan
- Response forms for children's views
- Response forms for young people's views
- Response forms for adults' views

Please read this important partnership document and make all your voices heard.

Individual and group responses are welcome.

Contact the office if you require more copies or respond on-line. See www.wcvys.co.uk for the link.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES FUND

Over £500,000 for
Worcestershire
over two years

Inside are:

- The criteria for the first round of funding
- An application form

There is still time for the young people in your group to be involved as assessors or decision-makers.

Ring Joe Green on 01905 773742 or email him on jgreen1@worcestershire.gov.uk

WCVYS Update

• Grants

The last grants of the financial year 05/06:

Equipment Grants

Worcester Action for Youth - up to £200 towards a digital camera

1st. Welland Guides – up to £200 towards 2

Vango tents

Worcestershire FYFC Clubs support at 80%

up to £500 towards a camcorder and DVD/TV

Wythall YFC up to £84 towards Kwik Cricket and stopwatches

Minibus Training/Assessments

Redditch Girlguiding – 2 minibus assessments - support up to 80%

Kidderminster Rangers – a minibus assessment - support up to 80%

Governance

Diocese of Worcester – £500 towards the cost of the Youth Synod

Training

Harvington Youth Project – bursary for JNC Course at 80% - £940

H&W Scouts – Quarterly Return - £688

Worcs Girlguiding - Quarterly Return - £795

New Initiatives

Malvern Sea Cadets – support for a new laser shooting equipment - £3,325

Medway Road Youth Club – support for a new group for young men - £2,334

Splat Youth Group – support for a first visit to Greenbelt – £672

Harvington Youth Project – support to set up a new discussion group – £750

Resources

WCVYS has decided to make available a range of books and activities for members. They will be available at either Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Club, Worcester or at Kidderminster. If you have any suggestions about particular books and activities, please let us know.

Dave and Cathy will bring a range of the books and resources to network meetings.

Grants 2006 / 07

The new criteria for this year's grants is included with this newsletter. An application form is also enclosed. Each can also be found on the WCVYS website.

There are some changes this year to bring the grants into line with the outcomes from Every Child Matters. Every application will need to show how it contributes to at least one of the outcomes. All applications will also be assessed by a group of young people whose views will be taken into account when the bids go to the Grants Sub Committee.

As a result of these changes there will only be four rounds of grant applications. The final date for the first round will be 7 July.

We believe that most items and activities funded this year will continue to be supported. Give us a ring if you want to talk over the application before you send it in.

• Keeping It Safe

WCVYS has been piloting the delivery of Keeping It Safe, a national framework for trying to ensure that organisations work in a way which safeguards the children, young people and adults with whom they work.

Well done to the six clubs and organisations who have submitted their portfolios for assessment by NCVYS.

The training of local assessors is currently taking place. If you would like your group/organisation to work towards and then gain this quality standard please get in touch with Dave or Cathy.

Round the County

Teenage Pregnancy and Parenting Partnership

This strong local partnership is made up of representatives from all the statutory agencies including the County Council, District Council and Health. WCVYS is the voice of the voluntary sector at the meetings. The purpose of the partnership is:

- A. To ensure that all young people receive quality relationship and sex education within PSHE in schools and out of school settings including those in post 16 education.
- B. To ensure that all young people know about sexual health and contraceptive services in their local area.
- C. All young people have access to young people friendly advice and contraceptive services appropriate to their needs in statutory and non-statutory settings.

Becky Dwight is the Partnership Manager.

The teenage pregnancy rate in Worcestershire is below the national average. It reduced during 2004 but not as much as in some other parts of the country.

If you have any ideas about how the objectives of the partnership can be better met or would like more information about the Partnership please contact Cathy.

Support is also available if you want to train youth workers/leaders and keep them up-to-date.

Bromsgrove Youth Arts Festival

Building on last year's success, the festival will take place on Saturday 15 July. Gary Clarke is looking for acts to go on the stage during the day and evening.

There are also opportunities for young people to get involved backstage.

Contact Gary on 0121 453 6549

Wychavon Scoping Event

Wychavon Youth Strategy Group has arranged a workshop to map out all activities for children and young people in Wychavon. It will take place on Monday 5 June at the Civic Centre in Pershore.

If you work in the district but have not received an invitation you would be very welcome to attend. Even if you cannot attend please let us know about your group, where it works and the activities you provide.

Phone Cathy for more information.

New Mobile Toy Library in Tenbury Wells

The Borrowers Toy Library has opened a new outreach service in Tenbury Wells. It started on Wednesday 24th May, 10.00am till noon, at The Scout and Guide Hut, Tenbury (next to Tenbury Swimming Pool).

Youth workers and leaders, playworkers and families can go along to borrow toys and play equipment for children and young people of all ages and abilities. The Toy Library will be available in Tenbury on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

For more information contact 01684 891081.

Food for Thought

Concerns are frequently raised about overweight children and young people and the importance of eating healthily.

Do children's and youth groups have any responsibility about this?

We need to ask ourselves:

- Are we providing enough physical activities? This should include 'fun' activities as well as just meeting the needs of those interested in sport.
- What does the tuck shop/coffee bar stock to eat? Is it largely crisps and chocolate?
- What is there to drink? Most groups provide water or squash as well as 'pop'.
- What is the menu like when camping or at a residential? Planning the menu with the children and young people is a good way of negotiating healthy options.
- What do you cook with members? Jacket potatoes with fillings are more nutritious than coconut cakes or toffee apples.

Does your group need to make changes? Talk things over with the leaders/workers and children or young people. Through these ideas and others you think about you will be contributing to the 'Be Healthy' outcome of Every Child Matters as well as benefiting your members.

National Youth Work Week

The theme for National Youth Work Week is 'Hold Your Head Up' – mental health and emotional well-being.

The week gives youth groups and organisations the chance to promote and celebrate the role they play in the lives of young people.

Youth Work Week is a well-established fixture in the calendar. There is no registration process, youth work organisations are simply invited to use the week however they see fit. Some concentrate on creating some exciting programme ideas for young people, others concentrate on influencing elected members, parents and other key stakeholders through special events, exhibitions and media promotion.

The National Youth Agency will produce a web-based information pack for the week by the end of June.

Now is the time for you to be thinking about how your group is going to mark National Youth Work Week. Visit www.nya.org.uk

Funding Opportunities

Awards for All is a Lottery grants scheme for local communities.

It will fund projects than can be completed within 12 months and organisations can receive up to £10,000 in any two year period.

Activities such as art, sport, heritage, education, environment, health and others that benefit the local community may be funded.

It funds projects that benefit people in need and meet one or more of the following aims:

- *Extend access and participation*
By encouraging more people to become actively involved in local groups and projects, and by supporting activities that aim to be open and accessible to everyone who wishes to take part.
- *Increase skill and creativity*
By supporting activities, which help and develop people and organisations, encourage talent and raise standards.
- *Improve quality of life*
By supporting local projects that improve people's opportunities, health, welfare, environment or local facilities.

Many local children's and youth groups have benefited from this source of funding.

www.awardsforall.org.uk or call 0845 4 10 20 30.

The Frank Buttle Trust

This large trust which supports individual children gives various types of grants.

- *Child Support Grants*
- *Grants for Students and Trainees*
This scheme helps young people facing severe social, emotional or health problems, or those whose education has been undermined by problems of this kind in the past, to acquire academic, trade or professional qualifications.
- *BBC Children in Need Small Grants*
The Trust welcomes applications from referring organisations on behalf of children and young people aged 18 and under who are in need. Grants are generally for such items as clothing, beds or other basic essentials.

The grants are intended to make a positive contribution to their lives when their safety, health or development are at risk. The grants provide necessities such as clothes, beds, bedding and essential items of furniture and household equipment, and, on occasion, the Trust funds short-term therapy costs.

Items that are merely desirable – rather than essential – will not be eligible for support.

For more information visit www.buttletrust.org or phone 020 7828 7311.

CRBs and Insurance

Many groups will have just renewed their insurance. Increasingly policies are stating: 'cover will be subject to CRB checks being completed on all employees and volunteers and remaining current'. Check your policy and make sure that you comply. Contact WCVYS if you want to use our CRB Service.

Thinking About Training?

For anyone thinking about gaining further qualifications in working with young people there are two information sessions where you can find out more:

- **NVQ in Youth Work**
Youthworcs is starting a second NVQ in the autumn. Do you want to find out what this means? How much work is involved? Is it right for me? What support will I need from my group or organisation?
Monday 10th July 6.30pm – 8.30pm
Youthworcs Worcester.
For more information contact Trish Stroud or Hazel Tyrell on 01905 612494 or email tstroud@worcestershires.gov.uk
- **Foundation Degree in Young People's Services**
It is really good news that, for the first time, a degree course for youth workers and others who work with young people, will be available in Worcestershire. Starting in September at the University of Worcester the degree will be taught on Thursdays. Your work with young people will also contribute to your learning.
There are two sessions:
Wednesday 7th June 10.00am – 12.00 noon or 7.00pm – 9.00pm at Worcester University.
For more information contact Mark Farmer on 07946135922

Programme Ideas

Sailing and Kayaking

Canoeing, Raft Building and Problem Solving are all activities on offer at Upton Warren Outdoor Education Centre on Wednesday and Thursday evenings during the summer.

Specially designed for youth groups either single sessions or a series of sessions can be booked. The instructors are experienced at working with young people so a great deal of fun can be had.

When?

Wednesdays 26th April to 30th August or Thursdays 27th April to 31st August 6.30pm – 9.00pm.

Cost to Youth Groups?

Maximum 8 young people plus one leader £48.

Maximum 12 young people plus one leader £72.

For more information telephone 01527 861426, visit www.uptonwarren.com or email uwoecenquiries@worcestershires.gov.uk

Men's Health Week

Monday 12 - Sunday 18 June

Boys and young men are notoriously difficult to engage in discussions about their health. Why not take advantage of the World Cup and the week devoted to Men's Health to get them doing and talking. Introduce a new physical activity such as fencing or have a circuit of different activities. Other ideas are – getting the perfect shave and nail-cut, resting and relaxing without drink or drugs, blood pressure tests, self examination for testicular cancer

Would your local health club be interested?

See: www.menshealthforum.org.uk

Child Safety Week

Monday 19 June – Sunday 25 June

The Child Accident Prevention Trust has a range of activities and quizzes that can be downloaded from their website. There is also a booklet of ideas for leaders / workers. Some are suitable for children, others for young people.

Introduce new activities to your group and make the children and young people more aware of the risks we encounter daily. Another way your group can contribute to the Be Safe agenda of Every Child Matters.

www.capt.org.uk

Family Learning Week

This year the week will take place from 7–15 October. Last year lots of groups held events for families offering all sorts of activities from crafts to dancing classes.

The week is co-ordinated by the Campaign for Learning who will also provide support including resources.

For more information phone 0870 350 2345 or Email: flw@cflearning.org.uk

Buried Spirituality

This is a new resource for youth workers and leaders who are interested in exploring spirituality with young people. It identifies how a worker/leader can build time and space for young people to reflect into the programme. It must be a 'Questioning Space' not a 'Telling Space'.

Buried Spirituality by Phil Rankin is published by Sarum College Press £7.50 ISBN 0 95348369X. Visit www.sarum.ac.uk

Connect Youth West Midlands

This is the regional organisation that provides support including advice, information, training and grants to groups of young people taking part in international exchanges.

Connect Youth wants to know what would be the most useful training they could provide for your organisation. Please complete the questionnaire and return it either to the WCVYS office or to Kate Lawton.

Dates for your Diary



Wednesday 21 June 12.30pm.

Worcester Network Meeting at Perdiswell YPLC for voluntary organisations in Worcester working with children and young people.

Tuesday 26 June 12.30pm.

Voluntary Sector Training Provider Consortium
Cradley Village Hall

Wednesday 27th September 7.00pm

WCVYS AGM at Shire's Farm, Hawford

Tuesday 31st October 10.00am – 4.00pm

Regional Youth Work Conference, Bescot Stadium, Walsall