



Worcestershire Council for Voluntary Youth Services Newsletter May 2011

MEMBERS' FORUMS

WCVYS are organising two members' forums. The forums will be used to:

- Launch the new WCVYS Members' Pack
- Explore the Role of the Voluntary Youth Sector in the Common Assessment Framework (CAF)
- Hear about plans for the future of the Youth Service; and
- Hear from you

Details of the Forums:

***Wednesday 22nd June at 7 – 9pm
at The Trunk, Humphrey Avenue, Bromsgrove***

***Wednesday 29th June at .7 – 9pm
at Wallace House, Oat Street, Evesham***

All member organisations are invited. To book your place please contact Jo Banfield or Phil Street on 01905 795098 alternatively send an email to office@wcvys.co.uk

The forums provide an opportunity for WCVYS members to network with one another; discuss and hear about developments affecting the voluntary youth sector in Worcestershire and provide a venue for feeding back ideas and issues to WCVYS.

Please book your place.

ROUND THE COUNTY

Worcestershire Youth Cabinet Newsletter

Worcestershire Youth Cabinet have issued their latest newsletter that explains the work of the Youth Cabinet and the UK Youth Parliament. This issue of the newsletter which comes out quarterly, includes details of the recent Worcestershire Youth Cabinet Elections, UK Youth Parliament elections and the residential the Youth cabinet and UK Parliamentary members attended.

The newsletter is available to download at www.wcvys.co.uk/news. The Youth Cabinet has asked that all WCVYS members print off a copy and make sure that young people in your organisation have chance to see the newsletter.

Sustainable Communities Strategy

In September 2010 the Worcestershire Partnership approved proposals for a single Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for Worcestershire. The purpose of the SCS is to set out the strategic vision for the future of Worcestershire. The Partnership agreed that there would be a 12 week consultation period and this commenced on 14th April and closes on 7th July. The SCS can be found on the Worcestershire Partnership website:

www.worcestershirepartnership.org.uk

It is important that voluntary sector has its say on the SCS. These are challenging times for the voluntary youth sector and although the county and district councils have come up with their priorities those of the voluntary youth sector could well be different. The consultation document can also be found on the website and also on WCVYS's website. Please take you time to look at the strategic targets that the county and districts are proposing have your say. It would be good to have a meaningful statement from the voluntary youth sector on what is needed to meet the needs of young people. If the SCS is about Worcestershire's future then the young's voice need to be heard.

Redditch Student Council

Family Fun day for All

Saturday 21st May 12.30pm – 4.20pm

You are invited to attend a Family Fun day organised by the Redditch Student Councillors at Redditch Youth House on Ipsley Street. Proceeds from this event will be donated to local youth organisations across Redditch.

This event will give you the opportunity to view stalls/displays from different groups/organisations, a talent show, pool tournament, bouncy castles, competitions, face painting, henna painting; food and drinks will be on sale and lots more.

Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

If you would like your organisation to be involved in any way, please contact Veronica Allen on 01527 63821 or email vallen@worcestershire.gov.uk.

Legal and Financial Workshops

For parents and carers of a child or young person with disabilities or additional needs

Monday 9th May 10.00 – 1.00pm Arrow Valley, Redditch Countryside Centre

Monday 27th June 10.00 – 1.00pm Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Club, Worcester

Course will include Benefits Information by Emma Cook, Benefits Adviser, covering all aspects for carers claiming benefits. Including Carers Allowance, DLA, Disability Premium, mobility allowances, income replacement benefits, council tax benefits and grants, work replacement benefits, incapacity benefits and child tax credit.

Legal advice by Chris Milne, Solicitor, covering Wills, Trusts, Lasting Powers of Attorney, parent focussed information about making wills, lasting powers of attorney and guardianship.

To book your place please call 01905 740123 or email chswforce&pracdev@worcestershire.gov.uk

SAFEGUARDING

Survey Says - Parents unhappy with influence of TV

Nearly half of parents are unhappy with programmes or adverts on TV before the 9pm watershed. A survey of over 1000 parents revealed that 88 per cent think that children are under pressure to grow up too quickly. The survey forms part of the Bailey Review of Commercialisation and Sexualisation of Childhood, commissioned by the Department of Education.

Specific areas of concern are emerging from parents included

- Clothes to be clearly age appropriate and not simply scaled down versions of adult fashion.
- Increasingly sexualised content in music videos and pre-watershed TV with 'too adult' themes in some soap operas.
- Pressure to buy non-essential items for their children so they don't feel left out.

Findings from the survey show that:

- 40 per cent of parents said they had seen things in public places (shop window displays, advertising hoardings) that they felt were inappropriate for children to see because of their sexual content.
- Around half of parents felt that celebrity culture, adult style clothes and music videos are encouraging children to act older than they are.
- Other emerging findings from the call for evidence and focus groups show:
- Almost all parents did not think it was appropriate for companies to use phone and text adverts when promoting products for children.
- Parents have said they want to deal with these pressures themselves but they want more responsible action from business and help from Government to support them in this role.

The survey results, focus groups responses and findings from the call for evidence will be published in the final report of the Bailey Review in May.

FUNDING NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Community Grants 2011-2012

£80,000 up for grabs for voluntary and charitable groups in Wychavon

Wychavon District Council want to ensure that community projects are sustainable and inclusive for all. This will mean more opportunities for the people of Wychavon today and a brighter outlook for the future.

Application packs are available by contacting Tracy Grubb on 01386 565168 or email tracy.grubb@wychavon.gov.uk. Unfortunately you cannot download an application form off the website as we have to take contact details of each club/organisation requesting a pack.

Below is all the information you need regarding the grants and the criteria for applying for a grant. The links below can direct you to various parts of information you may want to look at.

What is the aim of the grants scheme?

Grants are available to local voluntary groups and charitable organisations that aim to:

- Support initiatives that improve services and facilities for the local community.
- Encourage local action to improve quality of life.
- Support activities in the local community that the Council would like to do, but does not have the resources for.
- Contribute towards the council's priorities, as set out in either the Community Strategy or Play Strategy, both of which can be found on the website at www.wychavon.gov.uk.

Every year the scheme focuses on one element of community life - this year's theme is PLAY but this does not exclude other aspects of community life such as community buildings, sports & arts - in fact any project that benefits the community.

Help and Advice

A Grants Help Service is in operation during May. If you wish to take advantage of this, please telephone Community Development on 01386 565168

Applicant's Briefing Sessions have been arranged for:

- 18th May 2011 at 6.30pm. in the Conservatory, Civic Centre, Pershore
- 1st June 2011 at 6.30pm. in the Chamber, Civic Centre, Pershore

(please use the Civic Suite entrance at the rear of the building for all briefing sessions)

These sessions will provide organisations with further information, which will assist them in preparing high quality applications.

If you are applying for a grant in excess of £1,000, you are required to attend one of the Applicant's Briefing Sessions detailed above.

If you are unable to attend any of the briefings please contact Tracy Grubb on 01386 565168 or email tracy.grubb@wychavon.gov.uk

(<http://www.wychavon.gov.uk/cms/community-and-living/community-development/community-grants-2011-12.aspx>)

Funding to Support Inter Faith Week

The Inter Faith Youth Trust has announced that they will be launching a Grant programme to fund young people's events and activities for Inter Faith Week which will be taking place from the 20th to 26th November 2011.

The Inter Faith Youth Trust (Alma Royalton-Kisch Trust) is the only UK charitable trust solely to fund inter faith projects for young people (aged 11- 25). The Trust was established to promote the education of children and young people about the religions of the world and funds projects that bring together young people of different faiths to improve collaboration and understanding.

<http://www.ifyouthtrust.co.uk/>

Tesco Charity Trust - Community Awards

The Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards Scheme provides one-off donations of between £500 and £4,000 to local projects that support children and their education and welfare, elderly people and adults and children with disabilities.

There are four rounds of funding each year. Go to:

<http://cr2010.tescopl.com/communities/~media/File s/T/Tesco-Corporate-Responsibility-Report-2009/pdf-report-builder/tesco-charity-trust/cagapr09.pdf>

The Co-operative Group – Community Fund

The Community Fund is the Co-operative Group's main grant making programme. Charitable organisations and community groups can apply for grants of between £100 and £2,000 (£500 if the applicant is a newly formed group) to help them find co-operative solutions to community challenges. Applications can be submitted at any time.

Go to:

<http://www.co-operative.coop/membership/local-communities/community-fund/>

Awards for All

Awards for All is supported by the Arts Council England, the Big Lottery Fund, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Sport England and makes grants of £300 to £10,000 for arts, sports, heritage and community activities, as well as projects that promote education, the environment and health. Organisations that can apply for funding can be not-for-profit groups, parish or town councils, schools or a health body. Applications can be submitted at any time.

<http://www.awardsforall.org.uk/england/index.html>

Enclosures with this newsletter:

Programme Idea

Dates for your Diary:

WCVYS Members' Forums

Wednesday 22nd June at 7.00pm

at The Trunk in Bromsgrove

Wednesday 29th June at 7.00pm

at Wallace House in Evesham.

Wednesday 3rd August - Play Day.