



Worcestershire Council for Voluntary Youth Services Newsletter September 2011

MONEY MATTERS!

Applications Now Open For Community Grants

Round 8 of Worcestershire County Council's Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) grants is now open. This round of grants seeks applications from organisations which develop diversity in the community, provide community based activities for older people or are involved in the provision of community arts.

Celebrating Diversity A total of £7,000 is available for grants to help VCS organisations celebrate diversity through raising knowledge and understanding and encouraging interaction through a range of activities. The maximum to be applied for under this grant is £1,000.

First based Community Arts A total of £3,000 is available for grants to help VCS organisations to show how the arts can have a positive impact by bringing communities together and for communities to take an active and participatory role in the arts. The maximum to be applied for under this grant is £500.

Supporting Community Based Activities for Older People A total of £60,000 is available for grants to help voluntary and community sector organisations to provide activities to help meet the needs of older people in the community. The maximum to be applied for under this grant is £5,000.

The deadline for submitting applications is 4pm on Friday, October 28. For full details on how to apply for the grants go to <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/community-and-living/vcs-unit/vcs-grants/current-grant-rounds.aspx>

County Councillors' Divisional Fund

The County Councillors' Divisional Fund, launched at the beginning of August 2011, gives Worcestershire County Councillors the opportunity to put localism into practice. The scheme allocates £10,000 to each county councillor to spend on items or activities that support their local community, and local people are encouraged to contact their councillor with ideas.

The aim of the fund is to improve the economic, social and environmental well being of an area or those in it and two or more county councillors can agree on joint proposals benefitting their division.

The fund is aimed at one-off items of expenditure or community activity, local and national charities or voluntary organisations within the local division. It is not intended to be a grant for profit-making enterprises or for ongoing commitments. The scheme will be implemented on an initial two-year trial period.

Cllr Adrian Hardman, Leader of Worcestershire County Council, said: "The role of the local member is to lead their communities and this is a new and innovative way of embracing the principles of localism to support truly local initiatives. I believe that giving them control over how they support local projects will assist them in that role and will help ensure the funding support the County Council provides is directed at those groups and projects which need it most."

Visit the County Council's website

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/council-and-democracy/councillor-information/postcode-search.aspx> to find the councillor for each division using a postcode search.

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Jo Banfield, Administrator jo@wcvys.co.uk
Tel: 07595 099862 (Monday only 9 - 1.30pm)
01905 795098 (Tue Wed Thurs 9 - 1.30pm)

WCVYS

WCVYS's Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 11th October 7.00pm

Please find enclosed an invitation to all WCVYS Members including Paid Staff, Volunteers, Management Committees and Young People. Please email Jo Banfield on jo@wcvys.co.uk to confirm how many people from your group wish to attend.

Notice of Annual General Meeting of WCVYS

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of members of WCVYS to be held at Worcester Bosch, Cotswold Way, Warndon, Worcester, WR4 9SW on Tuesday 11th October 2011 at 7.00pm for the following purposes:

1. To receive and approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st September 2010.
2. To receive the Annual Report of the Trustees and Accounts of the year ending 30th April 2011
3. To deal with the appointment, nomination and retirement of Trustees
4. To reappoint the Independent Examiner (Auditor)

Notes:

Proxies

Members of WCVYS entitled to attend and vote at the AGM may appoint a proxy to attend, speak and vote in his/her place. A proxy form can be found at www.wcvys.co.uk and must be received no later than Friday 7th October 2011. Forms may be submitted by post to WCVYS 39D Ledwych Road, Droitwich, Worcestershire, WR9 9LA or emailed to office@wcvys.co.uk.

Election of Trustees

Under the Articles Trustees are appointed at the Annual General Meeting. Members may propose a person to be appointed as a trustee by completing the nomination form at www.wcvys.co.uk and returning it no later than Tuesday 27th September 2011. Forms may be submitted by post to WCVYS 39D Ledwych Road, Droitwich, Worcestershire, WR9 9LA or emailed to office@wcvys.co.uk.

Resolutions

Members may propose a resolution to be considered at the Annual General Meeting. The resolution shall be signed by the member and must be received no later than Tuesday 27th September 2011. Forms may be submitted by post to WCVYS 39D Ledwych Road, Droitwich, Worcestershire, WR9 9LA or emailed to office@wcvys.co.uk.

The agenda of the meeting, the minutes of the AGM held on 21st September 2010, the Annual Report and Accounts and the list of nominations of trustees will be circulated to the latest notified email address of all members (and their proxies) prior to the meeting.

Codes of Conduct

September is often the start of a new year in youth groups. It may be a good time to relook at your Codes of Conduct for both young people and workers.

Codes of Conduct can sound a bit severe but they are really just a way of everyone being clear about how things are done and people are expected to behave within your setting. Young people often find their own name for them - 'Our Rules', 'Our Way' and 'Group Guidelines' are some I've heard.

Codes are often more effective when they are negotiated with the people involved – they are in their language and discussions can take place so that the purpose and meanings are clear.

Some idea for a members' code are:

- I will not offend others by my language or my actions
- I will listen and take turns when talking
- Members of the group look after each other. I will be careful not to cause offence to others either in my actions or in my words
- I will listen to and obey safety instructions that may be given to me by adults supervising the Club
- I will not use or bring into the Youth Club substances that I know should not have, like alcohol, drugs or tobacco
- I will respect property, whether my own or someone else's
- I will look after equipment, the building and the outside area because it will cost the Youth Club money to replace or repair damage, and it will mean the Youth Club will have less money to spend on new activities or different equipment.

A model Code of Conduct for Workers Can be found in the WCVYS Booklet on Safeguarding and can also be found at www.wcvys.co.uk.

ROUND THE COUNTY



Have your say and make sure that youth services in Worcestershire are what you want for your children and young people now and in the future. Please forward this on to any other groups or parents you know.

Click on the link below

<http://tiny.cc/ga0vr>

Closing date 30th September 2011.

Positive Activities Consultation Event

All professionals including paid staff /volunteers and young people from the voluntary sector are invited to come and have a say run by Worcestershire County Council and Worcestershire Council for Voluntary Youth Services (WCVYS).

Saturday 17th September 10am to 12 noon at Lakeview Room, County Hall, Worcester, WR5 2NP

To book a place email

lsquair@worcestershire.gov.uk



On the 4th November Members of the Youth Parliament will travel from all parts of the UK (most importantly WORCESTERSHIRE) to Westminster to debate and vote on top five topics, and the one with the most votes in the House of Commons will be our National Campaign for the year.

So Rob, Dan, and David (Your members of Youth Parliament for Worcestershire) want to make sure that young people from Worcestershire get a really big say in what issues are debated and make sure they are really represented.

We would love it if you could let any young people that you work with know this is happening and how they can vote for the issues they want to see talked about in the house of commons and splashed all over the news and papers.

You click on the link below to vote and if you would like more information you can visit <http://www.ukyp.org.uk/>

VOTE NOW BELOW:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ukyp1>

Contact: Kirsty Fraser, Youth Voice Development Worker, Partnership and Participation

Phone: 07768981108.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding children is high profile but safeguarding vulnerable adults is something about which we all ought to be aware as often the young people over 18 with whom we work can be considered to be vulnerable.

A vulnerable adult is defined as a person aged 18 or over, 'who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.'

A person's level of vulnerability may increase or decrease according to the circumstances they experience at any given time. Vulnerable adults could include people with: learning or physical disabilities; a sensory impairment; mental health needs; who are HIV positive or substance misuse needs.

Vulnerable adults have the right to be protected from abuse. Worcestershire County Council have produced a useful leaflet, 'Safeguarding Adults in Worcestershire' which can be found via www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/social-care-and-health/safeguarding-adults.aspx. If you would like more information, including about training, phone 0845 6072000.

Safeguarding Adolescents Event

WSCB is arranging two half-day events around the theme of Safeguarding Adolescents. Many of the vulnerable adolescents that we become aware of live with an adult who is the recipient of support services. Research and case studies repeatedly point to the fact that the needs of these vulnerable young people are easily overlooked by those providing support/services to the adult.

Picking up on the learning from national research and local serious case reviews we want to address this area by raising awareness of the needs/vulnerability of young people with workers who deliver services to adults. Our seminars are aimed at Managers, agency safeguarding champions/leads, training and communications staff who are in a position to take forward the message and disseminate it within their service (this will be an audited process).

If you would like to reserve a place please reply to WSCBtraining@worcestershire.gov.uk. Successful applicants will be notified by email prior to the event. For further information please contact Lyn Marie Chapman, Communications Development Officer, Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board on 01905 752837 (please note Lyn Marie works Tuesday, Wednesdays and Fridays).

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACS)

Wednesday 2nd November 2011 9.15am – 1.00pm

The Granary Hotel, Heath Lane, Shenstone, Kidderminster DY10 4BS

Who is the event for?

This half day event is for practitioners and managers who have little or no knowledge of Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences. It is essential that delegates have an understanding of Domestic Abuse.

- Background to MARACS
- What is MARAC?
- MARAC Operation Protocol
- DASH Risk Assessment
- SDVC Coordinated Services

To book a place please contact Gemma Bailey on 01905 822359

or email gbailey@worcestershire.gov.uk

Focus on Outcomes 2

If your group gets grants or other money from external funders you may be asked to identify what outputs and what outcomes will result from your activities.

Outputs and outcomes are easily confused but it is essential to know the difference between them.

Outputs are all the activities, services and products you do or provide. It is important to keep records of what you are doing and who is involved. As well as written records, photographs, and CDs are useful evidence of what has been happening.

What are Outcomes? Outcomes are the changes, benefits, learning or other effects that happen as a result of your activities. For example, outcomes for a youth group with a wide ranging planned programme might include:

- Young people have gained a First Aid qualification
- Young people have learned about the realities of living on their own
- Young people have learned about sexual health from a health professional

Other outcomes might include:

- Increased self confidence
- Improved relationships
- Improved coping strategies
- Learning new skills

Outcomes can be expected, or unexpected, welcome or unwelcome. Not all outcomes describe a change. Some outcomes may involve keeping a situation the same, or preventing harm from happening. These effects are still the outcomes of your group or project. If it had not taken place, something else would have happened.

NATIONAL NEWS

Interfaith Week

This year Interfaith Week will take place from Sunday 20 to Saturday 26 November. Aims of the week include increasing awareness of different and distinct faith communities and increasing understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs. Why not use this opportunity into your programme. Some ideas:

- Invite individuals, perhaps Christian, Muslim and Jewish representatives, to talk to your group about a particular topic such as 'what each faith celebrates and how' or 'the key tenets of their faiths' to start a discussion.
- Arrange visits to places of worship and/or prayer – churches, a mosque or a synagogue. Even seeing inside different Christian churches can provide interesting comparisons.
- With the Olympics next year 'Faith and Sport' might be an interesting topic.
- Organise a 'Movable Feast', a meal for members. Invite representatives from different faiths to sit, one at each table, with the young people moving round the tables during the

meal so they can chat and learn about the different faiths.

For more information and resources go to: www.interfaithweek.org

Trustees' Week

The Charity Commission has announced that Trustees' Week will take place from 31st October to 6th November 2011. This was a new initiative last year. It's a chance to celebrate trustees and increase awareness of the role. It may be a good time to recruit new trustees for your charity. It is a good idea to identify the particular skills that would benefit your group eg. human resource skills or a background in finance.

FUNDING NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

See the front page for two funding opportunities from Worcestershire County Council.

Alec Dickson Trust

The Alec Dickson Trust provides grants of up to £500 to help young people of up to 30, or small groups of young people, run a volunteering project in their local area.

The fund seeks to support projects that enhance the lives of others, particularly those most marginalised by society, such as people with disabilities and the homeless.

For further information including, how to apply, contact alecdicksontrust@gmail.com or Call 020 7278 6601

www.alecdicksontrust.org.uk

Buttle UK Small Grants Programme

Have you been looking for a small amount of money to support a vulnerable child or young person? Buttle UK's Small Grants Programme may be able to help. It aims to provide a, personal, and fast response to families living in crisis, when there is no one else that can help. It can fund basic items such as a bed or a cooker. Applications can only be made via a voluntary organisation or a statutory agency. For more information go to: www.buttleuk.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

VCS Consultation on the Future of Positive Activities

Saturday 17th September 10.00 – 12.00 at County Hall, Worcester.

WCVYS AGM

Tuesday 11th October 7.00pm at Worcester Bosch, Warndon.

Enclosures with this newsletter:

Programme Idea
AGM Invitation/MAP