



# VANL NEWS

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire  
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## Check This Out !!!

- The Office of the Third Sector (OTS) has created a £15 million grants programme for small, local, third sector service providers in the 50 top tier local authority areas that are considered most at risk of increasing levels of deprivation as a result of the recession.

North Lincolnshire is one of the targeted areas, and will receive £198,380 which will be distributed in the form of grants between £10,000 and £40,000 to established and solvent local third sector organisations, providing recession focussed services under one of the following themes:

- **Information, advice and guidance** (housing, financial, debt and legal advice and support)
- **Employment and employability** (training and support related to finding employment)
- **Health and wellbeing** (mental health, relationship breakdown, counselling, domestic violence & substance abuse)

**Eligibility** – you must be a third sector organisation that has been active in the local community for a minimum of 18 months, with a proven track record in delivering the services you want funding for. You must have appropriate accreditation and insurance to provide these services and an evidenced income of no less than £30,000 and £250,000 per annum.

**Timescales are tight** – the deadline for receipt of applications is 5pm Monday 29th June 2009 and successful applicants will be notified after 17th August 2009. Projects will run between September and 31 March 2010, by which time all grants must be spent, and projects complete.

For application form, contact the Scunthorpe Office, or email enquiries@vanl.org.uk

## Congratulations to Magic Moments!!

We are very pleased and proud to announce that Pat and her Magic Moments team have been awarded the Queen's Award for Volunteering — very well deserved!

## Analysis of results of VANL Members' Survey 2009

The Survey was carried out in early 2009. A total of 80 questionnaires were returned. In general there were few adverse comments, and respondents were generally very happy with our services. Members were given the option of completing the questionnaire electronically through our website and emailing their responses back. All completed surveys with contact details were entered into a prize draw for a year's free membership of VANL. All but one respondent provided contact details. All questionnaires returned before the closing date of Friday 14 March were numbered – a total of 45 qualified. The numbers were put into a random number generator program, and no. 28 was chosen by the computer. The winner therefore was Julie Smith of North Lincolnshire Music and Drama Festival Society.

The detailed analysis follows, question by question. Not all respondents answered all of the questions, and some questions allow for more than one response. Where possible, averages have been used.

### 1. How do you access our services?

You visit our office(s)	56.25%
VANL staff visit you	16.25%
By telephone	76.25%
By email	15.00%
By fax	2.5%
By post	43.75%
Via the VANL website	22.50%

### 2. How would you prefer to be able to access our services?

A total of 23 respondents said they were happy with the way they currently contact VANL.

You visit our office(s)	11
VANL staff visit you	
By telephone	8
By email	12
By fax	
By post	3
Via the VANL website	3

One was happy with all the options for contacting VANL, ("except fax. Don't like fax!") Several respondents preferred to visit an office. One of those preferring to visit in person said "Voluntary projects should have a personal touch." Two had no preferences, and one said they had "not really used you previously as always been independent."

### 3. Which of our services do you use?

#### Office services

Photocopying 33.75%  
 Printing 22.50%  
 Typing 5.00%  
 Poster/ticket design 17.50%  
 Laminating 2.50%  
 Other office services 2.50%

#### Payroll 8.75%

#### Community Accountancy

Annual Accounts preparation 8.75%  
 Accounts Inspections 8.75%  
 Bookkeeping 1.25%  
 One to one training/support 5.00%  
 General financial / payroll advice/support 5.00%

#### Community Pot (funding) 28.75%

#### Grassroots (funding) 1.75%

#### Training 20.00%

#### Communications

Newsletter 47.50%  
 Website 18.75%  
 Email news alerts 13.75%

#### Development work

Constitutions 8.75%  
 Funding advice 32.50%  
 Policies 12.50%  
 Trustee Development 1.25%

Business Plan 0.00%  
 Quality systems 0.00%  
 Monitoring/evaluation 3.75%  
 Networking groups 6.25%  
 Volunteer recruitment/management 18.75%  
 Vinvolved 5.00%  
 Who Cares 7.50%

Other services included:

- Equipment hire (4)
- HR support (informally)
- General and specific advice on fund raising and support for our efforts to run a youth group
- Community Interest Group
- A range of general advice and guidance via email
- Moral support & tea!

Two respondents said they had used services, but not recently. However, they knew where we are and what we do if they needed further support.

77 respondents said that the services offered met their needs.

We asked what other services might be useful, which we do not already provide. Responses to this question were wide ranging:

- More prayers!
  - Free training for volunteers
  - Volunteers
  - Hope to hire games for an event this summer
  - Personnel advice / Formal HR support and guidance.
  - A further course on PAYE – including sick pay etc. – the next stage of PAYE.
- Clerical support would be helpful now and again for Town and Parish Councils.

#### 4. **What else do you need to develop your organisation and its activities?**

Responses broke down into 3 basic areas:

More volunteers:

- More( active) church members
- We need new members to work on the committee and keep the organisation running.
- More volunteers - long term / retired?? Committed committee members.

- Further use of volunteers to support our activities.
- More members

More money:

- Grant funding to help fundraising proceeds for youth club.
  - Any grant available.
- Cash!

Greater capacity:

- More time! There is so much to do and members are living stressful lives due to their children's disability, myself included!
  - We need the capacity, especially TIME to source grant funding and get the project running efficiently.
  - More youth service support for voluntary youth clubs!
  - General increase in activities within the centre
- Advocacy Training for volunteers

Though there were some more varied needs:

- Cheap/free storage for two year periods for stands & 36 4 x 6 screens preferably in or near Brigg. Must be somewhere dry.
  - Setting up a website for a church
- Mediation services - had problems with venue hire and Council said it's up to the management committee.

And one group felt they had no further needs at the moment:

Daisy Lincs is progressing and expanding at a manageable rate and our members are positive about the group.

VANL already provides many of these services – if you need something, please call us. We may well be able to help.

#### 5. **We publish VANL News and the FACT Sheet, which tell you about what's happening in the voluntary sector in North Lincolnshire and about changes in legislation. How useful do you find these publications?**

VANL publications scored an average of 3.57, where 1 meant 'not at all useful' and 5 meant

‘extremely useful.

**6. We have set up email groups to send out information rapidly, as soon as we get it. There are groups on National Policy, Local Policy, Training and Funding. How useful do you find them?**

The VANL email groups scored an average of 3.15, on the same 1-5 scale as above.

A total of 32 respondents signed up to join email groups, some for all of them, others selected their preferences.

**7. Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire now puts on a regular comprehensive training programme. We asked if there is any subject we do not already offer, which respondents would like to be provided.**

Again, we had a wide range of responses:

- Youth Work Training Level 2
- First Aid
- Working well as a team / roles and communications
- Advocacy
- Health & Safety / Risk Assessments
- How to prepare a Risk Assessment
- Procedures at meetings
- Running a gala etc.

Would like to see more offered in relation to disability, diversity, equality issues

VANL already provides some of these courses. If you didn't see them in our training schedule, please call VANL Scunthorpe office. There may be one on the way, or we may be able to arrange one for you. Unfortunately we may not be able to provide all of the suggestions, but contact us and we should be able to point you to another training provider who will be able to help you.

We asked what else we could offer to help people attend training courses. Answers related to the difficulty of getting to the courses due to operating times and distances to travel:

- Would need to fit into busy schedule
- Working people need evening meetings
- Free to volunteers
- Barton venue

Keeping attendance times/days open e.g. some to include evenings and weekends

If you can't get to a course you would like to attend, please contact us and let us know. We may be able to put on another at a time or place which would suit you.

**8. We arrange meetings, forums and conferences on specific issues.**

We asked if there is any subject respondents would like us to hold a conference on in the future.

- I found the presentation by Charity Commission very helpful a few years ago. Also Annual Accounts, Independent Examinations, preparation for AGMs.
- How to get people involved.
- Health & Safety
- Funding / volunteering
- End of life care - advanced care planning
- Disability issues – especially aiming to promote awareness and working to increasing participation in volunteering by disabled people.
- Finance and accounting

We also asked what would be the best time to enable respondents to attend. Most people did not respond, and a few put "N/A", indicating that they are not interested in conferences on any subject.

Those who did indicate a preference, were as follows:

- Weekdays or weekday evenings better.
- Any time (2)  
Afternoons.

Finally, we asked if there was anything else we could help with to enable people to attend conferences. To this, there was only one response:

Reasonable location within 15 miles of Barton

**9. We work to pass information between the voluntary sector and the statutory agencies through the Policy email group, Newsletter and FACT Sheet, meetings and events.**

We asked if respondents felt more aware of policy developments because of these initiatives. 67.50% said they were more aware.

We asked how we could improve this service. It appears there is little more we can do, as most did not answer this question! Comments included:

- Email the newsletter out
  - Very aware as I am a parent rep on N. Lincs. Panels.
  - Receive information by Newsletter.
- Satisfied with this service

**10. Are you aware that we aim to publicise the work and views of local groups and their successes in our newsletter and on our website?**

76.25% were aware that VANL likes to help groups with publicity, but only 27.50% had sent in any information about what they do.

**11. Do you need volunteers? We need organisations to offer volunteer placements. Would your group be interested?**

40.00% said they would be interested, and the contact details for these groups will be passed to the Volunteer Centre. Two said they had already signed up with the Volunteer Centre.

**12. Generally, what do you think about the standard of service from VANL?**

VANL was awarded a score of 4.43 on the scale of 1-5, where 1 = very poor and 5 = very good. We are pleased that our members are so happy with our services, and hope they will continue to use them, and suggest other services which may help. We will do our best to provide them, as requested.

We asked whether we met Members' needs, and 91.25% said we did. Of those who did not tick the 'Yes' box, not all said why, but two said they had not used the services offered. One was not aware of what was on offer, and that group has been contacted and may be able to get more involved now. Another group was very satisfied, but presumably had further requirements which we have not yet helped with. We hope they will

continue to tell us what they need and that we will be able to help them out in the future.

And finally – we asked for other comments or suggestions. Responses are shown below. They ranged from those who had not used our services,

- Not attended any of the above-mentioned conferences, meetings or forums.
- We have posters printed 3 times per year, and that's all the help we need. The newsletter has nothing in it we need as we get all our backup help from the Church.
- A WI has limited needs and is really only interested in the office support. WI nationally provides training and conferences.
- Not used. Would like to know where you could specifically help on Agricultural Show.

to those who were frankly exceedingly nice about us,

- Very pleased - all the problems have been successfully dealt with.
- We have ALWAYS got very good service and help when we needed it. Our needs are not so pressing these days.
- Always found VANL very helpful.
- Friendly helpful staff - good courses and on-going support.
- Good Neighbours Fellowship Group have members whose ages range from 70 to 96 years of age. Their real interests are friendship, speakers / entertainers and outings. Grants that are given to provide transport for outings, eg visits/ group invitations are very much appreciated!
- VANL have been really helpful every time I've wanted anything. Nice to know you're there for support when we need you.
- Always there to help! I know I can turn to VANL as a voluntary group & I will receive an excellent service.
- Anything we've ever needed has been dealt with - very impressed!
- We have lots more needs, but can only work on so much at once. Will continue to use VANL for support as we work through the rest. Very good service.

to those with useful suggestions, which we will do our best to deal with over the coming year.

- Legal advice would be helpful
- Is there anyway VANL could be involved in a way that North Lincs people would know that they could contact VANL / Who Cares, eg by posters etc, to access a database of local organisations/charities etc. which is kept up to date. There is a huge issue to do with groups like ours being able to let local people know we exist, although Who Cares events are helping. GPs don't put up posters etc, and not all people go to hospital departments. Interested in funding support.
- We miss your transport hire with volunteer Drivers. It enabled our members to get to out of town events.
- Please always include some kind of statement in invitations to attend events etc around access needs to encourage more people who may need additional support to participate to contact you to make you aware of their needs
- VANL is a valuable source of information and support from staff in all projects. We don't always need to contact on a regular basis, but when we need advice or information VANL staff have always been helpful. I have to say though that I have found the website hard to access and information not always current. Clerical support now and again would be helpful. Newsletter needs to be as brief as possible.

We would like to thank all our members who took the time to respond to our survey. We know it looks rather overwhelming, but if you don't tell us what you think, we can't even try to provide what you need.



**Good news!! Funding for Training Co-ordinator post extended**

I'm delighted to be able to let readers know that the post of training co-ordinator, which is part of the Volunteer Centre, has been given a 'stay of execution' for a while. I'm sure that you will all

be as pleased as I am (well maybe not **quite** as pleased!!) to know that VANL can continue to provide a variety of training options to support the voluntary sector. This is especially important in these challenging economic times when volunteering can offer people the opportunity to develop their existing skills or learn new ones in readiness for employment opportunities.

A few weeks ago we weren't sure that we'd be even be able to offer this quarter's training diary but we're still here and have the following courses planned up until October:

- Food hygiene
- First Aid
- Minute Taking
- Managing Volunteers
- Sage level 1 New
- Drugs Awareness
- NVQ level 3 OCR in Information Advice & Guidance New  
(Offered in partnership with Hull College)
- Managing Anxiety New
- Monitoring & Evaluation New
- OCN working with young volunteers

For more details, please check out our web site [www.vanl.org.uk](http://www.vanl.org.uk) or call the office to request a copy of the training diary.

In addition, we often put on 'one off' events' that we will let you know about as they come up. To ensure you are not left out, please advise us of any changes in your contact details so we can update our records.

Pleased to still be here!  
Jan Rilatt  
Training co-ordinator

## **The Volunteer Centre – aspirations to realisations**

We are very pleased to be looking forwards to progressing Quality Assurance for our service with Volunteering England. This will help us further evidence a quality of service to both our partner organisations and users of our service.

### **Are you trying to find how best you can get back into work? – we can help!**

The Volunteer team will be participating in the national scheme to enable people who have been long term unemployed to access a volunteer role that matches their interests and needs. Volunteering develops both hard and soft skills and our flexible training programme is produced to support organisations and individuals involved in volunteering.

**Mr Blanchard** is using volunteering to strengthen and broaden his experience he said

....

**‘The people that I have met through volunteering have been supportive and friendly, which gives you a great feeling to keep volunteering.**

**Also volunteering has helped me to gain valuable practical work experience to go with my qualifications, which has helped my prospects in changing careers.’**

Our team are skilled in supporting people with long term health problems and additional needs so do get in touch!

## **Volunteering – the National Agenda**

The value of volunteering for individuals and the community has been recognised and publicised by government. Volunteering benefits those with long term health problems, can address health inequalities and maintain or develop peoples skills if they find themselves out of work.

### **Volunteer Coordinators Forum**

The Forum is open to anyone involved in supervising volunteers and last met in April. A wide

range of people who are involved in volunteering in a paid or unpaid capacity attended. We were very fortunate to have Jason Taylor who volunteers for Freshsteps. Jason shared his experiences of the role volunteering had to play in helping him leave drug use behind and his huge contribution to the local community. Everyone welcomed the opportunity to learn from Jason’s very honest, open and informative input... Working closely with people in under represented groups to find the best volunteering placement for them can offer a pathway of support and progression that can lead to many other opportunities. Working with underserved groups can enrich our services, skills and community. Research evidences that volunteering improves our health and well being...as well as building up our skills.

To receive details of the next meeting please contact [penny.oliver@vanl.org.uk](mailto:penny.oliver@vanl.org.uk) or phone the VANL office.

## **National Volunteers Week 2009**

This week is always the first week in June and a range of events are already scheduled by local groups. We hope for great local press coverage of volunteering activity that week !

We are able to advertise your event. Please contact us if we can help.

Are you thinking of volunteering but not sure what to do? Again contact us directly or visit that day.

Information on national events is available on the volunteering England website [www.volunteeringengland.org](http://www.volunteeringengland.org)

### ***Did you know????***

***Volunteering is good for you. 63% of 25-34 year olds and 62% of over 65's say volunteering helps them feel less stressed, while 71% of volunteers who offer their professional skills and experience say volunteering helps combat depression. Nearly half of all volunteers say volunteering has improved their physical health and fitness.***

## Who Cares Information Events

Over the coming weeks and months Who Cares will be out and about in North Lincolnshire letting as many people as we can know about the work we do.

These information events give us the opportunity to speak to people across the whole of North Lincolnshire and gain new members to help us represent the views of as many people as possible. The events are very informal and allow the public to speak to the host staff, and more importantly the members of Who Cares over a cup of tea (and plenty of biscuits!)

We have already held an event in the Isle of Axholme, and have further events planned in Scunthorpe and Barton. We are well supported by other health and social care groups, who will be available for you to speak to and find out more information from. These groups include: Health Trainers, Fibromyalgia group, Fresh Start and the Men's Health group. A whole range of other groups are also set to be present including VANL's volunteer centre.

The confirmed dates for the Information Events for June and July can be seen below.

**Thursday 4th June - Riddings Youth Centre, Willoughby Rd, Scunthorpe - 10.00am-3.00pm**

**Sunday 14th June - Scunthorpe Gala - Brumby Hall - 11.00am-5.00pm**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Wilderspin National School, Queen Street, Barton – 10.00am-3.00pm**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Greeson Hall, Digby Street, Scunthorpe – 10.00am-3.00pm**

If you are interested in coming along to these events then please let Julie Ponting know by emailing her at [Julie.ponting@vanl.org.uk](mailto:Julie.ponting@vanl.org.uk)

## Who Cares Subgroups

Who Cares is currently launching its subgroups. The subgroups will concentrate on four main areas of health and social care, which are:

- Primary Health Care and Health Commissioning
- Secondary/Tertiary Acute Health Provision and Patient Transport
- Mental Health Provision
- Social Care Commissioning and Provision

The subgroups will highlight their own work topics and will also be responsible for addressing the issues which Who Cares members raise.

Membership of the subgroups is open to any Who Cares member, and you can be a member of as many of the four groups as you wish. Subgroups will meet as often as required with a large amount of autonomy resting with the groups themselves. Support with research and administration will be provided by the host staff, but topics and work plans will be entirely decided by the members of Who Cares.

For more information on any of the subgroups, or if you would like to tell us your views on any matter you feel these groups should be addressing then please contact Greg Gough via email at [greg.gough@vanl.org.uk](mailto:greg.gough@vanl.org.uk)

Fresh Steps Service User Involvement Group have been busy producing a DVD with North Lincs TV.

The dvd informs potential service users (people not in drug/alcohol treatment who may wish to be) on treatment services and how to access treatment. We have also developed an audio CD version of the script newsletter (with the help of the talking newspaper). We are launching the DVD for national tackling drugs week at Addaction on the 9<sup>th</sup> June and will be adding bits of it to Northlincs.tv and Safer Neighbourhoods website

If anyone/service would like to order a copy of the DVD for their service or be able to hold viewings or play in reception areas please contact Stewart Atkinson at VANL. Secondly



would anyone like a copy of the Audio version of the script? Would be useful to play on audio in clinic times or hand out to those with reading difficulties

Training not on training diary but coming up in June:

Befriending and mutual aid training covering listening and helping skills. We all need a good friend once in a while to help us through stressful situations; this training will explore what makes good information/advice what makes bad information/advice?

If interested please contact Trudy Norris or Stewart Atkinson at VanI




## Did You Know???????

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire payroll services are part of the Finance Department based at the Scunthorpe office. The department is staffed by two part-time employees. We offer a comprehensive payroll facility that is efficient, easy to use and is a cost effective solution to the payroll needs of charities, voluntary organisations and community groups in North Lincolnshire. In addition to processing the salaries, we are committed to the development of good practice in employment.

What we Offer:

- A professional payroll bureau tailored to your group needs.
- Calculation of salaries for all staff including sessional workers.
- Monthly payslips and reports detailing all payments and deductions, including payments due to HMRC.
- Statutory payments, student loan deductions and attachment of earnings catered for.
- Annual returns to HMRC
- Advice and support on all aspects of PAYE including registration with HMRC
- Information and advice on any issues relating to employing/paying staff.

For further information, just call Claire or Rachel at

<b>RURAL COMMUNITIES MONEY ADVICE PROJECT</b>		
<b><i>FREE HELP AND ADVICE WITH YOUR MONEY</i></b>		
Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday	2.00pm – 5.00pm 9.30am – 12.30pm 1.00pm – 4.30pm 9.30am – 3.30pm 9.30am – 12.00pm	Winterton Library Burringham Village Hall Ashby Local Link 31 Fleetgate, Barton 31 Fleetgate, Barton
<b>Tel: 07510 573986</b>	 Supported by <b>The National Lottery</b> <sup>®</sup> through the Big Lottery Fund 	

# vinvolvednorth lincolnshire



## Thank you!

The vinvolved team would like to extend a big thank you to organisations that have provided volunteer opportunities for young people in North Lincolnshire. At the end of v's first year, **171** new young people age between 16 and 25 years are now engaged in volunteering, plus **78** who have been involved in volunteering previously.

## Continuing to develop new volunteer opportunities for young people....

As we enter the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of v, we have high targets to develop a further **500** short term volunteering opportunities (one off events or taster sessions), **400** part time opportunities (a few hours a week for a few months, or ongoing), and **20** full time placements (up to 30 hours per week for 13 weeks). If you have opportunities already available within your organisation, please get in touch with us so that we can advertise them to young people through the [www.vinspired.com](http://www.vinspired.com) website. We encourage young people to think about their own personal interests, skills and passions when they register with v, so we may your organisation if it can accommodate a young person who may bring a new perspective to your service. Contact Jacky to register volunteer opportunities for young people).

## North Lincolnshire Volunteer Challenge Programme

This is a new and exciting way of offering volunteer opportunities to people of all ages. The v team are targeting children and young people through local schools, colleges, youth clubs etc, to get involved in volunteer challenges, such as supporting national initiatives like Comic Relief or Children in Need, or local programmes.

Can your organisation offer a volunteer challenge? Perhaps you need a website developing or awareness raising posters designing? Maybe you need funds to provide a special event for your service users? What ever the challenge, register it with v, and we will promote it for you. Local schools have taken a great interest in this programme, and are actively encouraging their pupils to get involved. **Hope you do to!!**

Contact Ben for more info  
[ben.hodge@vanl.org.uk](mailto:ben.hodge@vanl.org.uk)



## v Awards

If you have young people age 16 – 25 years currently volunteering within your organisation, please encourage them to record their voluntary hours. Once they have completed 50 hours, they are eligible for a **v50 Award**, and will have the opportunity to go on to complete the **vIMPACT Award**. This is valuable evidence for potential employers, and recognises the significant contribution young people are making in North Lincolnshire. Presenting awards is also a great way of rewarding your volunteers, and gives you an opportunity to promote young volunteers *and* your organisation within the local press. Contact David Plumtree ([david.plumtree@vanl.org.uk](mailto:david.plumtree@vanl.org.uk)) for more information about v awards, and registering volunteers age 16 – 25 years.

## Training and Development Opportunities for young volunteers

Young volunteers age 16 – 25 will have the opportunity to work towards the **ASDAN Community Volunteering Award and Qualifications** from July 2009. Details of ASDAN courses, and many others, will be included on VANL's training diary, and on the vinvolved website (to be launched in June 2009), so look out for details @ [www.vinvolved.vanl.org](http://www.vinvolved.vanl.org). If you would like to find out more about ASDAN awards, please contact Jacky, [jacky.birkett@vanl.org.uk](mailto:jacky.birkett@vanl.org.uk)

## Training and Development Opportunities for organisations

Here are VANL we are committed to supporting our partners to develop high quality volunteer programmes. A happy volunteer is the best advert for your volunteer recruitment programme!

We are currently working on an extended training and development programme for our partner organisations, and facilitate quarterly Volunteer Co-ordinator's Forum's where members can discuss any issues that concern them, or share good practice (see [www.vanl.org](http://www.vanl.org) for details of meetings).

To help organisations meet the needs of young volunteers, v has developed an **OCN Level 2 Working with Young Volunteers** course. The first course has been very well received, and further dates are planned for Sept 2009 and Feb 2010. Reserve your place by contacting Jacky or Jan.

# Funding News Funding News

## **Modernisation Fund**

In February 2009 the Cabinet Office announced the *Real Help for Communities: Volunteers, Charities and Social Enterprises* action plan. The plan includes a series of new funding programmes targeted at helping third sector organisations through the recession.

Funded by the Office for the Third Sector, the £16.5 million Modernisation Fund will help voluntary and community groups be more resilient to the impact of the economic downturn. The focus is on helping organisations that are providing services to those worst hit by the recession. The funding will be targeted at helping these organisations overcome barriers to collaboration and merger, or take other steps to adapt to the recession.

One part of the new plans is the Modernisation Fund, which will comprise a mixture of grant and loan funding. Bursaries of £1000 and grants of up to £10,000 will be distributed from June.

Grants are provided to those groups who may need professional support and help to explore opportunities on how to increase their impact in local communities. This funding will be targeted at third sector organisations with an annual turnover of between £150,000 and £750,000, which primarily provide recession related services.

These services are classified as:

Wellbeing and health

Advice, information and guidance

Loss of income, training and skills

To check whether your organisation is eligible to apply for these grants then visit <http://www.modernisationfund.org.uk/grants/index.html> where you can complete a quick and easy online eligibility assessment.

The fund can also offer third sector organisations interest free loans, for up to five years. These loans range from £30,000 and £500,000, which must be fully drawn down by March 2010.

To qualify for investment, an organisation must meet the following eligibility criteria:

You must be a third sector organisation delivering services affected by the recession (i.e. services in wellbeing/health, advice and guidance services, or employment and/or training services);

You must not be able to secure a loan from a commercial lender;

You must use the funds to become stronger and more sustainable through, e.g. new processes and systems introduction, new staff recruitment, current staff retraining, merging with other organisations, etc.;

You must be a solvent business when you apply, You must be willing and able to take on a loan; Your services must benefit people living in England.

For much more information on the Modernisation Fund, and guidance in how your organisation can apply for grants then please visit <http://www.modernisationfund.org.uk/index.html> The website also contains much more guidance and a whole range of useful resources for voluntary and community groups.

**A Local Funding Workshop** will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2009. The purpose of this event is to give delegates information about funding opportunities like Community Grants, Capacity Builders Modernisation Fund and the Community Pot that are available to voluntary and community groups in North Lincolnshire.

The Workshop will take place at Winterton Rangers with registration at 9.30am concluding by 12.30pm. What is more it is **FREE** for voluntary and community groups.

If you would be interested, contact Gary at VANL tel no 01724 845155 or email [gary.allen@vanl.org.uk](mailto:gary.allen@vanl.org.uk)

## **BBC Children in Need Launches New Grant Programme**

**BBC Children in Need** announced the launch of a new grant programme, Fun and Friendship, which will focus on disabled young people aged 12-18 years old living in the UK.

The £3 million grants programme, Fun and Friendship, was set up following commissioned research revealing a significant lack of opportu

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nity for independent socialising for disabled young people, often leading to feelings of loneliness and isolation. BBC Children in Need are targeting organisations that can provide these opportunities for friendship, and identify and address the barriers disabled young people face as teenagers growing up.

BBC Children in Need intends to award up to 12 three-year grants of up to £300,000 each. The Fun and Friendship grants programme is in addition to BBC Children in Need's general grants. David Ramsden, Chief Executive of BBC Children in Need says "Fun and Friendship is aimed at projects that empower disabled young people and work to support opportunities for friendships, fun and social independence."

The scheme is designed for organisations with the infrastructure and experience to support the participation and leadership of disabled young people, and those who are willing to engage and share with the network of Fun and Friendship projects and others in the field of disability.

Ramsden continues "We want to increase learning across the wider sector, and with each successful applicant's contribution, work together to promote new and effective ways of doing things."

The primary focus of applications should be social interaction, with disabled young people actively engaged in determining how that develops, combined with a commitment to sharing what is learned in the process.

The deadline for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> July 2009 and projects can apply online at: [bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/funandfriendship.shtml](http://bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/funandfriendship.shtml)

Those who are successful will be awarded a grant in February 2010.

For more information, please go to [bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/funandfriendship.shtml](http://bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/funandfriendship.shtml) or email [pudsey@bbc.co.uk](mailto:pudsey@bbc.co.uk)



## **Fun and Friendship**

Fun and Friendship aspires to encourage confidence and create opportunities for friendships to flourish and fun to be had.

The UK wide programme will fund projects aimed at achieving relatively independent socialising for disabled young people aged 12-18, and those successful will be expected to generate and share learning to inform wider practice and policy.

Projects will be expected to undertake their own self evaluation of the funded project as well as take part in our independent evaluation, which will work with the projects to identify what approaches work effectively and how good practice might be shared.

Up to 12 grants will be awarded with a value of up to £300,000 over a three year period. Fun and Friendship grants programme is in addition to BBC Children in Need's general grants.

Applications will be online only. Deadline for submission is 31<sup>st</sup> July.

Research was commissioned by BBC Children in Need and carried out by New Philanthropy Capital and by Birmingham University School of Education.

For an application or for more information, please go to [bbc.co.uk/pudsey](http://bbc.co.uk/pudsey)

## **BBC Children in Need**

The BBC Children in Need Appeal is a charity registered in England and Wales (802052) and Scotland (SC039557) whose aim is to make a positive change to the lives of disadvantaged children and young people across the UK.

Every year, thanks to public donations and the amazing efforts of fundraisers, schools, businesses and corporate partners, BBC Children in Need is able to make a difference to thousands of young lives.

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In 2008, BBC Children in Need received its largest ever cheque of £2.5 million from ASDA colleagues and customers.

The next BBC Children in Need Appeal will take place on 20 November 2009.

For more information please visit [bbc.co.uk/pudsey](http://bbc.co.uk/pudsey)

## Secret Millionaire fund

The Big Lottery Fund and 'The Secret Millionaire' have teamed up to give viewers of the TV programme a chance to act on the charitable inspiration fuelled by the show. Lottery funding worth £1m has been lined up and grants of £300 and £10,000 are available. You can propose a community project or organisation you think would benefit from BIG funding or apply directly if you have an idea for a project that can bring real improvements to the lives of communities. [http://secretmillionaire.channel4.com/fund\\_info.shtml](http://secretmillionaire.channel4.com/fund_info.shtml)

## NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

### For Organisations Managing Community Buildings

**Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities (NLDC) is a Small Grant Fund** allocated by The Learning and Skills Council (LSC). Hull and East Yorkshire Community Foundation is the programme manager for the Humber Sub-Region and it will be delivered in North Lincolnshire by Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire (VANL) through the Community Pot.

If you have your own premises, either owned or leased then a total sum of £19,800 is available for allocation within North Lincolnshire for Capital items of equipment which will enable or improve learning activities to take place in a community building.

Examples include; computer equipment and software, items of furniture for a training room, possibly minor alterations to premises.

**This year you must explain how the equipment you seek funding for will aid you to provide training and support to learners to develop their skills towards gaining employment or voluntary work experience.**

The timescale is tight and completed applications must be received no later than Friday 19 June 2009 for appraisal by the Community Pot Panel. Successful applicants will be notified by 30 June 2009 and receipts for the purchased equipment must be received by VANL no later than Friday 24 July 2009.

The application is simple, so if you would like a pack please contact Gary, Ann-Marie or Barbara on 01724-845155 or email [enquiries@vanl.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@vanl.org.uk).

## Public Benefit

There have recently been a number of changes in the law which affect charities and voluntary groups. One of the most pertinent changes regards public benefit reporting. All annual reports submitted to the Charity Commission for the financial year 2008-09 onwards must now include an explanation of how the charity has met the public benefit test.

Public benefit is 'the legal requirement that every organisation set up for one or more charitable aims must be able to demonstrate that its aims are for the public benefit if it is to be registered and recognised as a charity.'

There are two key principles of public benefit which must be met in order to show that an organisation's aims are for the public's benefit. The principles and the important factors of each are listed below.

### **Principle 1 – There must be an identifiable benefit or benefits**

It must be clear what the benefits are

The benefits must be related to the aims  
Benefits must be balanced against any detriment or harm

Principle 2 – Benefits must be for the public, or a section of the public

The beneficiaries must be appropriate to the aims

Where benefit is to a section of the public, the benefit must not be unreasonably restricted

by geographical or other restrictions

by ability to pay any fees charged

People in poverty must not be excluded from the opportunity to benefit

Any private benefits must be incidental

Public Benefit reporting should not simply be seen as a statutory duty that charity trustees have to meet in order to fulfil a set requirement. Reporting on the benefits a charity makes in the local community can help to raise public awareness of the positive impact which has been made by a charity. It is up to each individual organisation to decide on how to best utilise this opportunity. Some charities may wish to provide a brief summary of how it meets the public benefit requirements, whilst others may wish to go into a little more detail. The Charity Commission have provided guidelines, but there is by no means a one size fits all reporting method.

For more information and guidance on the public benefit requirements then visit the Charity Commission website at [www.charitycommission.gov.uk/publicbenefit/default.asp](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/publicbenefit/default.asp)

## Charities Petition

Voluntary Action staff member Carol Thornton has recently launched a petition to call on the govern-



ment to develop a strategy which has a more co-ordinated approach for the funding of charitable causes. Many worthwhile projects are lost because they over-run their funding agreement.

Carol explains the reasons behind the petition by saying 'Funding provided through government departments is strictly time-limited and has many targets to monitor. Often (possibly always), the start date for funding is delayed through no fault of the charity. Because there is no guarantee at this point that the funding will materialise, the project cannot begin until the funding begins. The monitoring process slows down the project, using up as much as a third of the available time in some cases. The end date cannot be changed in general.

If a project can show that it is approaching sustainability at the end of its funding period, and that there is a need for the services it provides, there should be a way of extending the grant funding for a further period to enable the project to reach sustainability and continue as long as the need exists, rather than allowing valuable work and staff to be lost simply because there was not enough time at the end.'

If you would like to sign the petition then please visit the following website <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/SaveOurCharities/>

# events

## FREE PARTICIPATION WORKS TRAINING YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER

Participation Works are holding the following free training courses in the Yorkshire and Humber region.

Our courses are designed to meet the needs of a wide range of staff including managers and trustees as well as young people themselves, and will include accredited training. The training programme is being delivered England-wide by a team of Participation Works approved trainers, including young people who are aged 16-19 years.

Courses are free to voluntary, community and other third sector organisations (1 person per organisation) and £85 for statutory organisations.

To book a place or find out more about the courses visit our Gateway: <http://www.participationworks.org.uk> or call the Enquiry Line: 0845 603 6725

### WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

Do you work or volunteer with young people?? If the answer is YES then this is the event for you!

Taking place on

**Wednesday 17th June**

**At The Reeds Hotel, Barton**

**Time 12pm till 5.00pm**

Buffet Lunch provided from 11.30am

Find out about:

youth work training, funding for youth projects, how to involve young people working together in youth services and more.



# events

For more information or to book your FREE place please contact Paul Hamlett on 01482 871077 email [paul@ervas.org.uk](mailto:paul@ervas.org.uk)

Barton Arts Week 27 June – 4 July 2009

There's something for everyone at Barton Arts Week. Despite the gloomy economic situation Barton Arts will be presenting new and vibrant live arts in an exciting programme during Arts Week. Dance, comedy, Shakespeare, poetry, art and calligraphy displays, musical theatre and music from the Baroque through Victorian to folk, hip-hop and brass band will all be featured.

Artists lined up are doyens of the folk scene Norma Waterson, Martin Carthy and Chris Parkin with support from our local folk band Workshy Profits. BADAOS will be performing the "Best of British" musical theatre and Illyria are presenting a magical open air performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream. For the more introspective Concert Royal will be celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup>. anniversary of Purcell's birth and North Country Theatre invite you to take a meditative walk along "The Path to Paradise". Comedy and Folk/Americana/ Roots are featured at the Rope-walk with Jon Richardson and Drew Nelson. The popular Victorian day in Barton will have themed stalls, exhibitions and games. Victorian music making and teaching can be explored in a lecture illustrated with both music and literature relevant to the period. For the younger people in town "4 you(th)" is Barton's best activity day ever. Demonstrations and workshops of street and hip-hop dance, textiles and collage craft, baton twirling and mask theatre are all brought together for a fabulous days fun.

Arts Week begins with a grand dinner and dance and the celebrations close with a concert from our award winning Northern Area Championship Brass Band.

But non of this could happen without the support of the local people so please come along and support any or all of the events and help make

# events

Barton Arts Week 2009 a splendid occasion to remember. Full details can be found in our Arts Week leaflets and posters or by visiting our website [www.e-voice.org.uk/bartonartsweek](http://www.e-voice.org.uk/bartonartsweek) For other information please telephone 079 3456 1556 or email [bartonarts@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bartonarts@hotmail.co.uk)

Debbie Brashaw is a NAVCA's Development Advisor for supporting the VC's work with offenders and their families. She is here to offer assistance and find the answers you may have about the third sector's work with the criminal justice system.

Did you know that many of the local front line, third sector organisations in your area will be delivering services that offenders and their families will access? After all, offenders live in these communities upon their release from prison. Considering that about one quarter of the working age population in the UK has some kind of a criminal record, it's easy to see that they are a part of our communities.

You don't need to be an expert at the criminal justice system (CJS) but just a little knowledge can greatly enhance the signposting and general support you offer to those groups that do work with offenders and their families.

To raise your awareness of the CJS and who offenders really are, I have organised a low cost, half day workshop (held 4 times in different locations in June and July) to help raise your awareness of who offenders really are and how you can effectively support your local third sector whose services users include offenders and their families.

For more information and to book a place, see <http://www.navca.org.uk/events/supportingoffenders.htm>

I hope you can join us and I look forward to seeing you there!

## Ensuring Dignity in Community Services

### When?

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June from 9.30am-12noon

### Where?

Alvingham Road Centre, Alvingham Road, Scunthorpe

### Why?

Find out about North Lincolnshire's NEW Dignity Audit Tool for Community Services  
Receive your **FREE** Copy of the tool  
You could sign up to be a Dignity Champion  
Please confirm your place by emailing [catherine.spencer@northlincs.gov.uk](mailto:catherine.spencer@northlincs.gov.uk)

This event is supported by North Lincolnshire's Well Being and Health Improvement Partnership

## NCVO Barclays Leadership Programme

We are now inviting applications for the NCVO Barclays Leadership Programme 2009/10  
If you are a Chair of Trustees, Chief Executive or Team Leader within a smaller voluntary and community sector organisation and would like to build on your leadership skills, this programme will enable you to reflect on and develop your leadership style, develop yourself as a leader of others and assist you to make a contribution towards leadership of the sector.

*"It has given me the space and time to reflect on my own leadership style and the impact this has on the organisation"* 2008/09 participant, Bristol.

Using a combination of facilitated workshops, action learning, assessment tools and self-directed learning, the emphasis of the programme will be on peer learning, linking learning to current workplace and sector challenges and building participants' confidence in their leadership skills. There will also be input from experienced sector leaders.

*"The programme has helped me to develop additional skills and confidence in my leadership. I feel much more able to effectively manage difficult situations."* 2008/09 participant, Leeds.

Thanks to the generous support of Barclays, the total cost of the programme is: £210 NCVO members or £300 for non-members.

### Eligibility Criteria :

Your organisation must have:

- A turnover of between £50,000 and £750,000
- A team of up to 15 people
- Be established and delivering activity.

**Apply online *Governance and Leadership NCVO***