



VANL NEWS

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire

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ISSUE 29

Seasons Greetings to you all

December 2006

Centring on Volunteering

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire have just been awarded funding to develop and manage a Volunteer Centre. This centre will be based at their office site on Frances Street, Scunthorpe and will act as a 'one stop shop' for both volunteers and organisations that involve volunteers.

The Volunteer Centre has been developed to help people who want to give time to the community and find volunteer roles to suit them.

Only in its very early infancy stages it can already boast many ways in which volunteers can become involved from environmental work, to health and social care, to serving on committees or befriending or mentoring services.

The centre will provide a service to both the volunteers and the organisations. In order to be able to offer a wide range of opportunities to prospective volunteers, Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire is also looking to recruit partner organisations which need new volunteers.

Partner organisations might need volunteers for a multitude of reasons including:

- To join the management committee
- To deliver the services of the organisation eg Befriending, Meals on Wheels
- To help run a friendship group or youth club
- As volunteer drivers

They might need volunteers with experience that will help them with a project idea, for example:

- Writing bids for funding
- Book-keeping or accountancy skills
- Gardening and DIY skills

The list is endless

Partner organisations can be voluntary groups, small community group, and public sector organisations.

Businesses, employers and organisations like Job Centre+ and training organisations can also be partners by

- Getting involved in employer-supported volunteering schemes or
- By linking unemployed people into the Volunteering Centre to help them to regain the skills and confidence they need to support them into employment.

The service that VANL can provide will range from offering free training and support for volunteers with help and guidance in identifying relevant volunteering roles, to offering the organisations support in developing appropriate policies and procedures to help and support them in managing their volunteers and understanding their responsibilities to the volunteer.

If you feel you have time and energy to support a voluntary group and would like to give a few hours per month to a group, or indeed you want to join forces as a partner organisation then please contact Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire on 01724 845155 to find out about the many volunteering opportunities we have.

Volunteer Centre
41 FRANCES STREET
SCUNTHORPE
DN15 6SN
TEL: 01724 845155



VOLUNTEERING OFFERS MANY BENEFITS

- Meet new people
- Learn new skills
- Gain Confidence
- Contribute to your local community
- Have fun
- Use and improve your skills
- Feel good about yourself
- Be involved in something worthwhile

You really can make a difference!

The Volunteer Centre holds information about volunteering opportunities across North Lincolnshire in many diverse areas. You don't need specific skills or qualifications to volunteer. Organisations may offer you all the guidance you need.

Volunteers come from all walks of life, helping out for a few hours a week and it doesn't matter whether you are young or young at heart, everyone has something to offer.

The Volunteer Centre is open Monday to Friday, where you will find someone who will give you the information, advice and support you need to find a voluntary opportunity that is just right for you—Free of charge

For confidential help and advice contact
Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire on
01724 845155

Anglian Water, have thrown Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire a challenge that will benefit one lucky community based group, in delivering or developing an aim or objective.

Anglian Water have offered 1 to 2 days of 7 their staff time to volunteer on a one off project that can begin and complete within that time. They have approached Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire to come up with a project that is a little different, exciting and offers a challenge to their staff, which is why we need your help.

We are putting this challenge out to you, the community groups to come up with genuine innovative and needed projects that will benefit you and your user groups in the community and make a real difference to you.

We are requesting that you describe your project, explain why it is needed and how it will make a difference to either your group, your area or your service users, on no more than two sides of A4 paper and send it in to Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire's Scunthorpe Office on or before the deadline of 31st December 2006, whereby it will go to be judged by the volunteer staff at Anglian Water themselves. It is anticipated that the work will then begin mid to late January. For further help or information on this unique opportunity please contact the Volunteer Centre at Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire on 01724 845155.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Barton has the chance to run a dream scheme project. Children do work in the community in order to save points for trips away.

But in order for it to be successful we need your help!

We are looking for people who like working with young people and would volunteer to

help run the overall project.

If you are interested please come along to our meeting: The Knotted Note Wednesday 6 December 6pm - 7pm

For more information contact: Joanne Dixon 01652 633297 or 07751823853
joanne.dixon@hwrcc.org.uk

HeartWell Works with Volunteers to Improve Health

Do you have an idea which will help your community live healthier lives? HeartWell is here to help you turn those ideas into a reality. Small amounts of funding are available to help projects which aim to address HeartWell's key priorities, namely:

- Increasing physical activity
- Improving well being
- Healthier eating

There are many successful projects which HeartWell have funded in the past. Initiatives which aim to improve heart health are very important to your community. Please contact us if you have even an acorn of an idea and we may be able to help you get started.

Although HeartWell does not have a minimum or maximum amount that people can apply for, we do only have a limited pot of money available each year. Therefore most bids are normally in the region of £200 - £2000.

For an application form please call Pauline Todd (Programme Coordinator) on 01652 600118 or Elaine Matthews on 01652 600100. Alternatively, if you would like an electronic copy of the application form please email elaine.matthews@nlpct.nhs.uk or pauline.todd@nlpct.nhs.uk.

If you are unsure whether your project would be suitable for a HeartWell Grant or need some advice to help complete the application form please do not hesitate to call Pauline Todd on the number above.

SITA Trust Small Grants Scheme - change of deadline

SITA Trust has launched its community Funding Small Grants Scheme ahead of schedule.

In a change to previously published information, guidelines and application forms are now available on the Trust's website, and the initial deadline for applications has been moved forward to 15 December 2006. The first deadline in 2007 is now 2 February 2007.

The Small Grants Scheme provides fast track access to funding for community improvement applications of up to £10,000.

The funding is provided through the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) and under the rules of the Fund projects must:

- Take place within a ten-mile radius of an active landfill site owned by SITA UK;
 - Be operated on a not for profit basis; and
- Be open to the public.

Funding can be provided for the following types of project:

- Historic Buildings (Grade I listed places of worship and historic monuments with an appropriate designation.)
- Sport and recreation facilities.

Any not for profit organisation can apply to the Fund including community groups, parish councils, charities, local authorities and voluntary organisations.

For more information, contact Dawn Grinhall, North Lincolnshire Council 01724 297781, or email

dawn.grinhall@northlincs.gov.uk

What is the 'What it Takes' Award?

The award is intended to recognise existing projects that use problem solving approaches to tackle crime, drugs or ASB. Wherever possible we are seeking to encourage applications from diverse communities and voluntary and community groups.

An expert panel, assembled from across the region, will assess the positive impact that projects have had on their communities. Impacts might include improved safety, community engagement, community cohesion and/or regeneration.

We are asking that all applications support the aims of the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) for their area and contribute towards supporting the delivery of the CDRP targets and this will be included as part of the assessment criteria.

The total award fund is £35,000 comprising £20,000 for the overall winner and an award trophy and £5,000 to each of the other sub-regional winners with framed certificates.

The closing date for submission is midday on the 5th January 2007. Unfortunately any submissions received after this date will be returned and not considered for inclusion as part of the assessment process.

Application forms and guidance are available electronically from the GOYH website at www.goyh.gov.uk, or hard copies may be obtained by contacting Richard Kenyon on 0113 283 5384

Local Network Fund for Children and Young People - Funding Available, Apply Now!

Many community groups will be familiar with the Local Network Fund which Humber and Wolds Rural Community Council has administered in this area since 2001.

Unfortunately, this nationwide Fund will come to an end in 2007.

The last approvals for grants will be during the summer of 2007. However, there is still plenty of money left in the grants budget for this year, so why not apply now?

Grants up to £7,000 are available for community groups who want to provide activities for children and young people aged 0-19 years.

Applications are available by ringing 0845 133 0161 (RNID Type talk 18001 0845 113 0161)

Don't forget that there is free help and advice available with your application in the form of the Outreach Service, and it is recommended that you take advantage of this. Details are in the application pack.

Please ring the Grants Officer, Pat Greenwood on 01430 434041 if you have any queries.

North Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board

Expression of Interest

Are you involved with supporting Children, Young People and their families?

Would you like to advocate for voluntary and community sector children's and young persons organisations working with multi-agencies on issues around children's safety and well-being?

The Local Safeguarding Children Board in North Lincolnshire is looking for individuals to join some of its seven sub-groups.

The Local Safeguarding Children Board is set up in compliance with The Children Act 2004 and it is the body that co-ordinates and evaluates the work of agencies who are working with children. The Board and sub groups are made up of representatives from Health, Education, Social Care, The Police, Connexions, Probation, CAFCASS.

The seven sub-groups are the working groups of the LSCB, focusing on the key responsibilities the LSCB has. These are: Training, Communications and awareness raising, Looked After Children, Policy and Procedures, Human Resources, Common Assessment and Child in Need and Serious Case reviews.

The Board in conjunction with Voluntary Action North Lincs would like to invite expressions of interest from Voluntary Sector organisations to nominate individuals to sit on any of the sub-groups described above.

Sub-group members will need to have sufficient experience of child protection issues within their arena, experience and knowledge about other agencies and the legislation we all have to work to including statutory requirements. It would be useful if members also had some experience of committee work.

The sub-groups meet monthly, so we ask for commitment to a sub-group for 1 year.

The LSCB will be offering training and information on a range of safeguarding issues and your input will be essential.

Please send in your details as soon as possible, to Carole Phillips at 41 Frances Street Scunthorpe, or Katie Newborn at The Grove, Scawby if you would like to nominate someone.

Make a Positive Contribution—

Things to consider

Do you work with young people to make them aware of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens?

Are staff and volunteers aware of opportunities for young people regarding Xpress Youth Forum?

Do you encourage your members to have a voice in the local youth forum?

Do ALL young people have an opportunity to be included in decision making processes?

Are rules simple and applied?

Do you promote law abiding and positive behaviours by your members?

Do you lead by example?

Does your group challenge discrimination, and treat all members fairly?

Do you have a Bully-Free Zone?

Do you take action to reduce anti-social behaviour?

Do you ensure that members are aware that they should not drop litter or behave loudly when coming to or leaving your premises?

Do you promote RESPECT?

Respect for the staff and volunteers, respect for other group members, respect for the venue/surrounding area, respect for themselves as individual group members.

Does the group get involved in the local community?

To Achieve Economic Well-Being—

Things to consider:

Do you encourage young people to be independent and creative?

Do you help them to increase their self confidence and self awareness?

Does your programme of activities include opportunities for young people to learn skills that will be useful in their working life such as team-building, communication, co-operation, problem solving, budgeting etc?

Do you offer them support using developing their ICT skills, producing posters etc?

Do you have access to a Careers based ICT package such as Fast Tomato?

Do you have posters that show that young people can access non-traditional employment?

Do you promote the value of education? Do you know what opportunities are available?

Do you work with young people to encourage them to be motivated and positive about joining the workforce of the future?

Do you know who can help young parents, and less able young people to access further learning opportunities?

Do you promote learning as a positive thing that all young people can be involved in?

To Enjoy and Achieve

Some things to consider

Are Children and Young people the heart of the group?

Do you include them in programme planning for the group?

Do you encourage them to take ownership of the projects and activities that the group undertakes?

Do staff and volunteers recognise the achievements of the members and give praise or rewards?

Do you provide or have access to any accredited learning opportunities for young people? Eg First Aid, Sports Coaching courses, ASDAN etc

Do you have any types of Award/Reward scheme for members?

As part of your group activities, do you include opportunities for **LEARNING AND FUN**

Local Area Agreement

The Local Area Agreement draft submission was presented to Government Office Yorkshire and Humber (GOYH) on the 15th September 2006. The submission was well received although there are some issues we need to address. We will be doing this during November and presenting our final submission on 1st December 2006. The submission includes a VCS statement of involvement and we will be working hard to strengthen working relationships with the VCS and to develop the North Lincolnshire Compact.

FAST Information from VANL

Would you like to find out about forthcoming training courses, new funding opportunities, or new legal requirements more quickly than through VANL newsletters?

The Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire Membership Survey this year revealed that some groups would like more up-to-date information

when available.

To try to meet this need, we are setting up e-mail lists for interested organisations. Anyone signing up to these lists will receive updates on their requested subjects, which could be funding, training, legal updates, etc.

If you would like to be included in a Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire e-mail list, please email in your name, address, organisation, and subjects on which you would like to receive updates, to

ann-marie.loader@vanl.org.uk

Under the Data Protection Act, Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire will not use these details for anything other than forwarding on information on the subject indicated. Anyone wishing to be deleted from the list has only to email anyone at VANL asking to be removed.

Trading Standards—are making people aware of the following scam.

A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel, and that you need to contact them on 0306 6611911 (a premium rate number) You may receive a telephone call giving the same information.

DO NOT call this number, as this is a mail scam originating from Belize.

If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message, you will already have been billed £15 for the phone call.

If you do receive a card with these details then please contact Royal Mail Fraud or ICTIS (the premium rate service regulator) or your local trading standards office. This is a genuine scam and is under investigation by ICSTIS

ONE IN FIVE people over the age of 55 have some difficulty with their hearing and that rises to one in three as the years go by.

Clearer hearing makes all the difference in so many situations—with family and friends, at meetings or just watching TV.

Many people need some help with their hearing and with our busy lives it is no longer just associated with the old. At the age of 55 as many as one person in five has some difficulty with their hearing.

FREE—10,000 working samples to be given away.

If you are over the age of 55 and have a mild or moderate hearing loss, you may claim one of the 10,000 Instant Ear post aural aids allocated to this national campaign. Apply today to receive your Instant Ear voucher plus full list of participating branches nationwide.

Claim your free aid today! **PHONEFREE 0800 515349** when calling please quote ref number **SAPT5240**

GIRL POWER

Over 30 women members of Community the union for life, have boosted their skills in an unusual area thanks to a women-only DIY course. Funded by the Learning and Skills Council, and delivered by Met-UK, the course was run at a nearby centre and was aimed at teaching women how to carry out simple DIY tasks around the home with the aim of increasing their confidence and skills

With two hours of theory and an hour of practical work in a workshop, the course, called The Home Safety Award, covered basic practical instruction and assignments in home plumbing, electrics and gas safety. The course aimed to help participants to gain the basic understanding and practical experience to "make safe" home emergency situations and repair basic home faults, as well as offering a practical insight into opportunities for further learning

If you would like more information, ring Keith Crampton on 07801 253219

Keith can also arrange pensions presentation, interview techniques, and computer training for all Union Members and Community Learning Reps at Level 1 to 3.

BT Community Connections

A nationwide award scheme that connects local community and voluntary groups to the internet. Since 2000, the scheme has awarded more than 4,600 internet ready PCs to community and voluntary organisations. In 2006/7 over 1,300 awards will be made to groups who can demonstrate how a PC and internet connection will benefit their work and the local community.

Applying for an Award

- Simply log on to www.btcommunityconnections.com for an application form
- You can view case studies of previous winners and judges' top tips to help you complete your application
- Applications should be submitted prior to the closing date, Thursday 15 February 2007

Every application form will be assessed and those short-listed will be judged by a regional panel in England or national panel in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

You may be interested to know, but there have not been any applications from this area for this award, so get applying!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all

Out opening times over the Christmas period are : Close 12 noon on Friday 22nd December 2006 And reopen on Tuesday 2nd January 2006

