

# Children's, Youth & Parenting Organisations' Network

## Newsletter May 2010

If you lead or help run a voluntary/community organisation in North Somerset that works with children, young people or their families, read on.....



In this issue you will find information under the following headings:

- News
- Funding Information
- Training
- Events
- Feedback

### NEWS:

#### INTRODUCTIONS

Hello,

We are the newest members of VANS Children and Young Peoples Services team- Sue Youde and Frederique Wigmore. We are here to support groups and to provide information on current issues, including how to develop your team and work with others in your local area.

We are looking forward to talking and meeting with you- please contact us if you need free help and advice with:

- Training; induction; supervision; appraisals, mentoring and/or qualifications
- Safeguarding, meeting Every Child Matters outcomes, Common Assessment Framework etc
- Working with others in your local area
- Any other issues

#### TACKLING CHILD POVERTY LOCALLY

Thousands of children live in poverty, simply because their parents do not claim all the financial support to which they are entitled. By not claiming benefits and tax credits, parents are missing out on vital income and their children's well-being may be suffering as a result. Many parents don't take up what they are entitled to simply because they don't know they are eligible. For example, many wrongly assume they can't claim financial support because they are working. A simple guide to benefits and tax credits has been produced by the Government to help family-facing staff direct parents who are struggling financially to the support they need. The [Helping you, to help families: Financial support guide](#) will help staff to show parents the different forms of financial support available, who is eligible and how they should go about claiming.

#### CHILD SAFETY WEEK 21-27 JUNE 2010

Accidents are one of the biggest killers of children in the UK, second only to cancer. Make time for safety. Child safety week isn't about wrapping children up in cotton wool. Nor is it about telling people what to do. Instead, Child Safety week helps children, young people, parents and carers understand the real risks to children's safety, giving them the confidence to make children safer from serious injury. That way, children can be free to thrive and grow without unnecessary harm. For more info go to <http://www.childsafetyweek.org.uk/child-safety-week>

## **CWDC REFRESHES COMMON CORE OF SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE**

The Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) has launched a refresh of the common core of skills and knowledge that everyone working with children, young people and families should have. The common core, first launched in 2005, enables professionals and volunteers in the children and young people's workforce to work together more effectively in the interests of the child and underpins successful multi-agency and integrated working. The [refreshed common core](#) is available online, detailing the six areas of expertise required by everyone working in the children and young people's workforce: effective communication and engagement with children, young people and families; child and young person development; safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the child or young person; supporting transitions; multi-agency and integrated working and information sharing. For more information visit: [www.cwdcouncil.org.uk](http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk)

## **FUNDING INFORMATION:**

### **Cash-in-hand grants for young people**

O2 has launched a £5m programme offering cash-in-hand grants for young people to make a difference in their local communities. The programme, Think Big, will enable 13-25 year olds to apply for a £300 grant to fund projects aimed at addressing local issues identified by the young people themselves.

### **Home Access**

Home Access is a government drive which will help low-income families to get access to a computer and the internet to get online at home. If you answer yes to the three questions in section one, and yes to at least one question in section two below, you could be eligible for a Home Access Grant.

#### **Are you a parent or guardian responsible for and living with a child:**

- who is in school years 3 to 9, which normally means age 7–14?
- who attends a state-maintained school in England full-time?
- who has not already had a computer from a Home Access Grant or any other similar programmes, such as Computers for Pupils?

#### **Do you receive at least one of the following?**

- Free School Meals for your child
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Support
- Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and an income of less than £16,040
- Guaranteed Pension Credit (not Savings Credit)
- Income-based Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

**Call 0333 200 1004 for an application pack, or visit: [www.homeaccess.org.uk](http://www.homeaccess.org.uk)**

### **Sport England Small Grants**

This is open to any bona fide non-for-profit club or association, statutory body or educational establishment. The programme aims to support local community projects which seek to increase participation, sustain participation or develop opportunities for people to excel at their chosen sport. Grants available are of between £300 and £10,000 towards projects which total costs do not exceed £50,000. Projects the programme will support can include helping a club expand its age range by funding extra team kit or paying additional coaching fees helping youth clubs work together with local sports clubs to get more young people playing sport. For further information please visit [www.sportengland.org/funding/small\\_grants.aspx](http://www.sportengland.org/funding/small_grants.aspx), phone 08454 508508 or email [funding@sportengland.org](mailto:funding@sportengland.org)

## **CHILDREN IN NEED LAUNCHES NEW GRANTS PROGRAMME**

**BBC** Children in Need is offering small grants of up to £10,000 a year for three years for third sector organisations working with children and young people. Application deadlines are on 15 July and 15 October 2010. To find out more please click [here](#).

## **FIRST LIGHT MOVIES**

Provides grants to projects that enable young people to participate in all aspects of film productions. The funding is available to organisations such as schools, youth services, community and voluntary groups that work with young people aged between 5 and 18. Every year approximately £700,000 of grants are available through three funding streams.

**THE SCRIPT AWARDS** provides grants of up to £3,000 for script writing projects that team young people with script professionals, re-opens for applications on the 10th August and the final deadline is 5th October 2010.

**THE PILOT AWARDS** provides grants of up to £5,000 for one short film of up to five minutes in duration, re-opens for applications on the 10th August and the final deadline is 5th October 2010.

**STUDIO GRANT** provides grants of up to £30,000 for two to four films of up to ten minutes in duration, re-opens for applications on the 10th August and the final deadline is 5th October 2010

To find out more please click [here](#).

## **TRAINING:**

**Wed 16<sup>th</sup> June, 10.00am - 2.00pm**

VANS are taking part in **TAKE PART!**

This is a regional training initiative to increase people's confidence and skills to Become 'active citizens' and to influence local decisions and change things for the better. If your voluntary/community group would like to have a greater say and increase its influence, you may like to come to an introductory **VOICE** workshop, which will demonstrate a new toolkit produced by the Community Development Foundation. This is tool which we can use to help management committees of voluntary groups or local action groups assess how influential they are (or not) and 'action-plan' for increasing their influence. The workshop includes lunch. For more information and a booking form email [debby.grice@vansmail.org.uk](mailto:debby.grice@vansmail.org.uk) or phone 01934 – 410192.

**NB: Voluntary Action is happy to provide information on relevant training courses but is not responsible for content; please contact individual providers for full details.**

### **TRAINING FOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES:**

Are you a community pre-school group run by a Management Committee that would welcome brushing up on your skills?

If so, then you could become "Coffee break trustees".....

In six short coffee break sessions, which could be run just before or after your usual meetings, all the key areas crucial to running your group more effectively are covered.

Contact: [nicci.appelqvist@vansmail.org.uk](mailto:nicci.appelqvist@vansmail.org.uk)

## EVENTS:

### **LEAD PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS**

Calling all lead professionals, we are establishing locality based networks for all practitioners who have the Lead Professional Role. Lead Professionals co-ordinate the action planning with a child/young person and their family following a Common Assessment Framework meeting. The aim of the network is to provide peer support for Lead Professionals, offer the opportunity for professional development and the moderation of practice across Lead Professionals. It can also be a place to bring your questions and your issues and to tell us what support you would find helpful.

The arrangements for the network meetings are as follows:

**Weston South with Jenie Eastman**  
**9:30-11, at the 'Healthy Living Centre'**  
**24<sup>th</sup> February, 18<sup>th</sup> May, and 5<sup>th</sup> October**

**Weston East with Tim Blasdale**  
**9:30-11, at 'The Campus'**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> March, 19<sup>th</sup> May, and 20<sup>th</sup> October**

**Central with Jeannie Osmond**  
**9:30-11, at '4Oaks', Nailsea**  
**25<sup>th</sup> March, 11<sup>th</sup> May, and 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**North with Jan Harper-Shea**  
**9:30-11, at 'St Barnabus' Portishead**  
**2nd March, 6th May, and 16th**

Full details are available on CPD online. Any questions to: Louise Lynch, 01934 426373

### **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WORKING IN CHILDCARE???**

North Somerset Council is holding surgeries to provide one to one advice and support on working with children.

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2010, 1.00-5.00pm, Nailsea & Backwell Children's Centre

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010, 12-4.30pm, Yatton Moor Children's Centre

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May, 9.00-1.00pm, Banwell, Winscombe and Sandford Children's Centre

To book an appointment, please contact:

Sian Clason-Thomas on 01934426710 for the surgery at Nailsea & Backwell

Lisa Wood on 01934426633 for the surgery at Yatton Moor

Julie Bailiss on 01934426774 at Banwell, Winscombe and Sandford

If you are unable to attend any of these surgeries please contact Rhianon Jones, Workforce Development Officer on 01275884214 or email [rhianon.jones@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:rhianon.jones@n-somerset.gov.uk)

## FEEDBACK:

### **Whistle-blowing and safeguarding consultation**

Ofsted has launched a consultation on a draft of their whistle-blowing policy and guidance. This aims to clarify what Ofsted is able to do when it receives allegations from council employees and others working with children and young people who raise concerns about safeguarding practices and procedures.

The closing date for the consultation is 18 June 2010.

### **DCSF Consultations**

The DCSF have launched 2 new consultations. These consultations are designed to enable your opinions and views to be heard on the ISA/CRB arrangements.

The DCSF would like to hear from those who employ, supply or manage workers in Controlled Activity, and those who use services provided by such workers - **Closing date: Thursday 17 June**

The DCSF would like to hear from those who are required or recommended to undertake CRB checks now, and those who will have a statutory duty to check that individuals are ISA-registered in the future - Closing date: Wednesday 16 June 2010

## **SAFER RECRUITMENT**

The Children's Workforce Development Council have created full and summary guidance to help you to understand more about **recruiting volunteers and staff** safely into the children and young people's workforce this useful publication can be found at :

[http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/7160/safer\\_recruitment\\_summary\\_guidance\\_Nov09.pdf](http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/assets/0000/7160/safer_recruitment_summary_guidance_Nov09.pdf)

It also gives a useful explanation of the **changes to CRB and ISA procedures from July 2010.**

As many groups are concerned over the cost of CRBs( which will continue to be needed alongside ISA registration) we have produced a list of organizations who can provide CRB checks for reasonable prices-please contact us if you would like a copy of the list.

## **Provision of Parenting Groups:**

Do you run a Parenting Group?

The North Somerset Children's Strategy Group is collating information on existing provision in the form of a short questionnaire; please contact us for a copy:

## **CONTACT US ON:**

[sally.buddle@vansmail.org.uk](mailto:sally.buddle@vansmail.org.uk)

[sue.youde@vansmail.org.uk](mailto:sue.youde@vansmail.org.uk)

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**Don't forget to view the Voluntary Action North Somerset website:**

**[www.vansweb.org.uk](http://www.vansweb.org.uk) for regular updates on funding news, events and information.**