



Date: 14th September 2011

Welcome to the 1st Edition of Supporting Communities NI E-Biz

Supporting Communities NI is taking a new direction in Information Sharing!

Our *NEW* fortnightly E-biz will share news, events and initiatives relevant to members throughout the Community and Voluntary Sector.

Our *NEW* monthly E-Zine will contain Housing Community Network Reports, Best Practice, Stakeholder Submissions, Funding, Training and relevant Policy Developments. **First Edition will be launched on 3rd October 2011.**



Only available via email and the S.C.N.I. website.

Our *NEW* look website will be launched on **23rd September 2011** with new information sharing facilities - visit www.supportingcommunitiesni.org



On 23rd of September 2011, find us on Facebook by searching for 'Supporting Communities NI' and clicking 'like'.

NEWS



Community Places launches a Community Planning Information Pack

The pack provides updated information on the current proposals for Community Planning and is aimed at voluntary and community groups to enable them to better understand and participate in Community Planning. For more information contact Annie Clarke at Community Places on 028 90239444 or email annie@communityplaces.info

Draft Framework for Community Development in NI

The Rural Community Network (R.C.N.) is hosting an event on Wednesday 5th October 2011 to hear the views of interested groups on the Draft Framework. The event will be held at Oxford Island and is free of charge. To register an interest or book a place, contact Sarah Christie at R.C.N., on 028 86766670 or email sarah@ruralcommunitynetwork.org

Benefit Checks for Older People

The Social Security Agency is offering Benefit Entitlement Checks for older people living in the following Council areas; Ards, Belfast, Carrickfergus, Cookstown, Derry, Limavady, Moyle, Newtownabbey and Strabane. The checks can be accessed until February 2012. Call FREEPHONE 08002321271.

Are you up to date with your recruitment and employment policies and procedures?

Do you need to update your policies and procedures to reflect recent changes to employment law? Sector Matters offers a cost effective policy review service. To find out more, contact Louise Foster on 028 90875015 or by email louise.foster@sectormatters.com

CONSULTATIONS

Current consultations with closing dates:

Clean Neighbourhoods Environment Act (NI) 2011

Guidance on Fixed Penalty Notices

Department of Environment

Closing date: 30th September 2011

www.doeni.gov.uk/clean_neighbourhoods.htm

Sex Offender Notification and Violent Offender Notices

Department of Justice

Closing Date: 5th October 2011

www.dojni.gov.uk/index.htm

Draft Disability Action Plan 2012-2014

Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

Closing date: 28th October 2011

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/showconsultations?txtid=50908

TRAINING NEWS

The following training courses are currently offered:

Volunteer Now has published its Autumn training schedule. The full schedule can be accessed at www.volunteernow.co.uk

In addition, Volunteer Now is offering a certified course 'Adult Safeguarding - A Shared Responsibility' for those working with vulnerable adults, the course costs £20 per person. The course is available at the following locations:

Armagh Theatre and Arts Centre	13th & 20th October 2011
Belfast, Volunteer Now	15th & 22nd November 2011
Antrim Enterprise Agency	14th & 21st January 2012
Lisburn Enterprise Organisation	16th & 23rd February 2012
Enniskillen	19th & 26th April 2012

To book a place, go to www.volunteernow.co.uk/training-and-standards

A copy of the report 'Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults - A Shared Responsibility' is available from www.volunteernow.co.uk/publications

Advice NI Training Brochure



Training courses are offered on a range of subjects including:

- Debt and Money Advice
- Benefits and Tax Credits
- Age Issues
- Deaf Awareness and Sign Language

For a full list of courses, contact Michelle McGreevy on 028 90645919 or email training@adviceni.org

Equality in Employment Briefing from the Equality Commission NI

Tuesday 27th September 2011 from 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. in N.I.C.V.A.
A briefing on current developments in employment legislation and an overview of recommended employment practices.

To book a place, email margaret.thompson@nicva.org

EVENTS

Village Renewal North East Region

Please be advised that **Drop in Sessions** for those interested in applying to be shortlisted for **Village Renewal Project Grants** will be held as follows:

26 th September 2011 Castlerock, Coleraine	-Information Office
28 th September 2011 Millbrook, Larne	-Community Hall
3 rd October 2011 Kells Community Centre, Ballymena	-Community Hall

All of the information sessions will run from 7.00 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.

This is an opportunity for all groups who have an **eligible Village Plan** to come along and speak to staff on a one-to-one basis about their project ideas and about the Village Renewal Process in the North East Region. If you require further information contact, Caroline Carey, Village Renewal Facilitator, North East Region Tel: 028 20762225.

Childcare Cost Survey 2011 Launch

Tuesday 27th September 2011 from 12.00 noon to 2.00 p.m. in the Long Gallery at Parliament Buildings, Stormont. Contact rachel.dennison@employersforchildcare.org

Northern Ireland Credit Unions Roadshows

Important changes to the regulation of Credit Unions are due to commence for the next financial year. From 31st March 2012 the Financial Services Authority (F.S.A.) will assume regulatory responsibility for Credit Unions. The impact of these changes will be discussed at a series of roadshows being run by the F.S.A. from 5.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. in the following locations:

Tuesday 27th September 2011 at Stormont Hotel, Belfast
Wednesday 28th September 2011 at Westville Hotel, Enniskillen
Tuesday 4th October 2011 at Waterfront Hotel, Derry
Wednesday 5th October 2011 at Canal Court Hotel, Newry
Thursday 6th October 2011 at Stormont Hotel, Belfast

For more information and to book a place, contact eventsbooking@fsa.gov.uk

Parliament Week to Visit Derry/Londonderry

Parliament Week 31st October to 6th November 2011
An all day event will be held in the Waterside Theatre in Derry/Londonderry looking at the work of the Northern Ireland Affairs Select Committee and Parliaments scrutiny of Bills.

The events are free of charge, contact parliamentaryoutreach@parliament.uk

N.I.C.V.A. Mens Policy Forum

Networking to raise awareness amongst M.L.A.s and decision-makers of issues affecting men and their families.

Tuesday 27th September 2011 from 10.45 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. in the Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings, Stormont.

Contact patricia.stewart@nicva.org by 12 noon on Thursday 22nd September 2011.

FUNDING



Arts Grant Scheme in Lisburn

Lisburn Arts Advisory Committee's Arts Grant Scheme is now open for applications from individual artists and arts organisations based in Lisburn.

The scheme is designed to grant aid arts related activities and projects from individual artists and arts organisations either born in or situated in the Lisburn City Council area.

The maximum grant awarded to any organisation or individual in one year is £3,000.

For an application form and criteria please contact Lynda McCord, Arts Administration Assistant on 028 92509509 or email lynda@island.lisburn.gov.uk

Deadline: 4.00 p.m. Friday 30th September 2011 (for projects happening from Jan-Apr 2012 or beyond).

D.O.E. Road Safety Grants

Grants are now available for individuals and community groups to fund projects which promote road safety, the programme will provide grants of between £5,000-£10,000 for innovative road safety projects that can be completed in six months. Projects must address road safety issues in a local community, they should also be based on sound research and road safety principles. Grants will be awarded to those community based projects, initiatives and activities that contribute to reducing the number of people killed or injured on our roads. To be eligible for funding, groups must be:

- properly constituted
- have a bank account
- be able to manage a small government funded project

To download an application log on to www.ctauk.org/roadsafetygrant or to request a hard copy please email roadsafetygrant@ctauk.org or call Sylvia or Jayne on 028 90941661.

Application packs are available from 1st September 2011, completed applications must be submitted by 12 noon on 30th September 2011.

Arts and Older People Grants - Baring Foundation Deadline

The Baring Foundation is focusing its funding on the theme of arts and older people.

Grants for projects in 2012 will support work to link different types of residential care settings into the community around them through the creative power of the arts.

Funding for 2012

They will aim to support around 15 arts organisations undertaking exemplary projects. The total fund will be at least £300,000 and the maximum single grant will be £30,000.

Key criteria for consideration will be projects which:

- respect older participants' rights and abilities to shape and determine the course of the project activities and to contribute to the arts organisation's development;
- reach and engage people who experience disadvantage and discrimination through economic, health or other barriers to full participation;
- display evidence of effective partnerships with residential care settings and in some cases other partners as well;
- link the care setting with the external community in a way which creates value to both;
- include a costed contribution from partners.

If you have any questions, regarding eligibility or project criteria e-mail them to baring.foundation@uk.ing.com or telephone 020 77671348.

It may be helpful for applicants to read the Baring Foundation publication: Ageing Artfully, which is available from their website and provides an overview of the state of the field of practice and the movement for age inclusive arts.

Deadline for first stage applications: 30th September 2011.



The Community Development and Health Network (C.D.H.N.) is opening a new round of funding through the Building the Community-Pharmacy Partnership Programme (B.C.P.P.).

B.C.P.P. is about local communities and pharmacists working together using a community development approach to meet local health needs.

Level 1

This funding is for those interested in working on a local community-pharmacy partnership. B.C.P.P. are here to support you throughout this initial stage and that is why we are now offering grants of up to £2,000 for a project lasting a maximum of 9 months. This funding will help get the project off the ground by developing ideas, partnerships and giving an insight into the needs and issues in your area.

Level 2

This is for those who have a clear vision of what their project will do, what issues it will look at, who they will partner with and how they will go about achieving the aims and objectives together. This funding is open to all constituted community groups and pharmacists. Grants of up to £10,000 will be awarded for projects that can last a maximum of 2 years.

Level 3

Level 3 funding is for those who have already completed and evaluated B.C.P.P. projects and are now keen to sustain the work their project has already carried out. If this applies to you, then you could be eligible for a grant up to £10,000 per year for a maximum of 3 years. Applicants must clearly demonstrate how they have and will meet B.C.P.P. aims and objectives.

Contact Sharon Bleakley, C.D.H.N. on 028 30264606 or Email: sharonbleakley@cdhn.org.
Web: www.cdhn.org/bcpp

CLOSING DATES:

LEVEL 1 – 22nd September 2011

LEVEL 2 – 17th November 2011

Lush Charity Pot Funding (UK)

Grants of a few hundred pounds to a maximum of £10,000 (although the average grant awarded is £3,000) are available for small grassroots charities, community groups and non-violent direct action groups working in the areas of environment/conservation; animal protection; and human rights. We like to look after those who look after others and are committed to supporting small grassroots charities, non-violent direct action groups and other good causes working in the following areas:



- Environment/conservation
- Animal protection
- Human rights

We try to be open-minded but we particularly look for projects that create change and aim to get to the route of the problem. We also prefer to fund project costs rather than core costs. We occasionally fund salaries, but since many of the groups we support are run by volunteers we will only do this when it is clear that a paid employee is absolutely necessary.

For product donations, such as raffle prizes, please visit our product donations page. The funding is being made available through the Handmade Cosmetics Company's Lush Charity Pot.

Area: All around the world.

All types of organisations can apply, it is not necessary to be a registered charity. In the past, nearly all its grants have gone to small organisations with a turnover of less than £250,000 per year.

How to apply: To apply for a Charity Pot grant you will need to complete a funding application form. To request an application form, please email charitypot@lush.co.uk. This email address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it with the subject 'application form request'. In your email please give a brief description of your organisation and the project you would like funding for (just a couple of paragraphs). Please ensure you have read the guidelines carefully before deciding whether to apply.

When to apply: Applications can be submitted at any time

Website: <http://www.lush.co.uk/index.php?>

Big Lottery Fund Realising Ambition Programme Opens

Voluntary and community sector organisations throughout the UK may apply for grants of up to £3 million to support projects that help young people between the ages of 8 and 14 years avoid pathways into offending. Funding is available for between 3 and 5 years and will be offered with a package of tailored specialist support and technical assistance.

Realising Ambition is a £25 million Big Lottery funded programme with the aim of building the UK evidence base of what interventions work in helping young people avoid pathways into offending. The programme intends to support approximately 20 applications from across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. A consortium led by Catch22 has been appointed by the Big Lottery Fund to identify the best projects.

The Big Lottery Realising Ambition programme aims to make a real difference to the lives of children and young people at risk of becoming involved in crime, to enable them to fulfil their potential.

The Realising Ambition programme seeks to achieve the following:

More children and young people benefit from opportunities and support enabling them to fulfil their potential, avoiding pathways into offending.

Organisations working with children and young people have better evidence of what works in avoiding pathways into youth offending and are able to replicate the most effective approaches.

Big Lottery and others learn about how they can best identify and support the replication of proven practice.

Interested organisations should complete an online application form which is available on the Catch22 website.

Expressions of Interest are due by 9.00 a.m. on 10th October 2011. Full proposals will be invited and should be completed by December 2011.

If you are unsure of how to apply or have questions about eligibility, please call 0845 4102030 or email general.enquiries@biglotteryfund.org.uk.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation - R&D Programme: New Calls Announced

The following two new Calls have been launched which are part of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's Poverty and Ethnicity Programme, under the Poverty Theme:

Poverty and Ethnicity in Northern Ireland: a review of the evidence

This Call is for proposals for a review of the evidence about the relationship between poverty and ethnicity in Northern Ireland.

Project Timescale: 4 months, starting mid to late November 2011 (or as negotiated).

Project Budget: up to £25,000 (including VAT and expenses) for one project only.

Deadline: 6th October 2011 (11.59 p.m.).

For both Calls, applicants are asked to inform Helen Robinson at helen.robinson@jrf.org.uk by 16th September 2011 if they are planning on submitting a proposal.

Ulster Bank Sir George Quigley Award

The award is managed by the Community Foundation NI and aims to help the community sector reach sustainability, applicants should demonstrate how the award will:

- Enable them to develop and/or implement a strategy for organisational sustainability.
- Learn from the experience and share this with others.

What will be supported

- The development of a community business
- New community and voluntary based approaches to social economy
- New ideas that offer the community and voluntary sector strategies for organisational sustainability.
- Funding for feasibility reports, salary costs or ongoing running/programme costs will not be considered.

The Award

£10,000

How to apply

Check the C.F.N.I. website www.communityfoundationni.org

Closing date for applications is 23rd September 2011.

