

BEDS-SPREAD

June 2007

Smokefree Day **SMOKEFREE is Nearly Here!**

Your organisation needs to be aware that from 1 July 2007 it will be against the law to smoke:

- in virtually all enclosed and substantially-enclosed public places and workplaces
- on public transport and work vehicles used by more than one person

In addition:

- "no-smoking" signs will have to be displayed in all smokefree premises and vehicles
- staff smoking rooms and indoor smoking areas will no longer be allowed, so anyone who wants to smoke will have to go outside.
- managers of smokefree premises and vehicles will have legal responsibilities to prevent people from smoking.

Visit www.smokefreeengland.co.uk for more information, resources and a model Smokefree Policy that your group can adopt.



FUNDING FAYRE 2007

Thursday 14th June 2007
12.30pm - 5pm

Bedford Corn Exchange

A Last Reminder to Book your place for the Funding Workshops. Alternatively just pop in and visit the Funders Marketplace



Community & Voluntary Service

Mid and North Bedfordshire
43 Bromham Road
Bedford
MK40 2AA

Tel: 01234 354366
Fax: 01234 347503

E-mail: info@cvsmidandnorthbeds.org.uk
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Contacts

To email the people below simply prefix the individual's first name to @cvsmidandnorthbeds.org.uk

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CVS - Mid & North Beds operations are funded by:

Bedfordshire County Council, Bedford Borough Council, Mid Bedfordshire District Council, Change Up, The Learning & Skills Council and the Bedford Charity

This edition of Beds-Spread comes a

Guide to Public Service Commissioning

Serving the Voluntary and Community Sector in Mid and North Bedfordshire

Registered Charity: 1091423

TRAINING

CVS Training

- Wednesday 4th July 2007*
Managing a Budget
 Learn how to prepare, submit and agree a budget for a set operating period, involving monitoring actual performance against agreed budget and taking necessary action in case of variances.
- Tuesday 17th July 2007*
Promoting Equal Opportunities and Diversity
 Learn how to promote equality of opportunity and diversity beyond compliance with legislation, working towards awareness of, and active commitment to, ensuring equal opportunities and benefits of diversity.

For further details on any of these **free** one-day courses below, please contact **Jan** at **CVS** on **01234 354366** or email: jan@cvsmidandnorthbeds.org.uk



BME Organisations are invited to send staff on FREE Training

Accredited NVQ Level 3 in Management

Do you perform a management role/function as an employee, management committee member, trustee or volunteer in a voluntary or community organisation?

Would you like to gain a qualification that acknowledges your experience and skills?

NO examinations

The course is portfolio-based and builds on and develops the experience and skills you have been using, whilst providing workshops to underpin your knowledge and ensure your success.

Please contact **Jan** at **CVS** on **01234 354366** or email: jan@cvsmidandnorthbeds.org.uk

Green Issues

Charities, Voluntary and Community Groups are increasingly being encouraged to improve their environmental efficiency. The local information may assist in achieving that aim:

Community Buildings - Energy Efficiency Workshops Greener Community Buildings - How energy efficient is yours?

Saturday 14th July at Renhold Village Hall

Beds Rural Communities Charity in partnership with **National Energy Action (NEA)** are offering a FREE workshop, along with FREE copies of the **NEA booklet 'Energy Efficiency in Community Buildings'** to all that attend. Reducing your community building's energy use also helps to reduce bills, so you'll be doing your bit for the environment but also for your village hall or community buildings funds! To book a place at the workshops contact **Sue Norman** on **01234 832614** or email her at suen@bedsrcc.org.uk

Mid Beds District Council - Climate Change Resources

At the recent "Moving to Another World" conference **Mid Beds District Council** signed the **Nottingham Declaration** pledging:- "We acknowledge the increasing impact that climate change will have on our community during the 21st century and commit to tackling the causes and effects of a changing climate on our district." As a result Climate Change web pages have been created at www.midbeds.gov.uk/council/corporate/corporateinformation/climate_change.asp, including resources such as a Carbon Footprint Calculator.

Please visit our new Green Issues page on our website for the latest news on how your organisation can play its part in combating Climate Change:

www.voluntaryworks.org.uk/cvsmidandnorthbeds/GreenIssues.asp

FUNDING

Community Lunch

Public Service Delivery by the Third Sector

**Place: The Harpur Room, CVS Mid & North Beds
43 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2AA**

Date: Thursday 5th July 2007

Time: 12pm – 2.30pm
(light buffet lunch included)

During the last few years government has taken a number of steps to ensure third sector organisations (social enterprises, voluntary and community groups) are included and encouraged to help design and contract to deliver public services. The reaction from the sector to this policy has been mixed and is seen by many to pose both a 'threat and an opportunity'.

This workshop will:

- introduce steps taken so far to encourage third sector organisations take advantage of these opportunities
- share reflections from the sector on this policy
- give details of what will be demanded and how to become involved in public service delivery

It will be jointly led by **Ian Curtis**, Collaborative Working Officer for **CVS Mid and North Beds** and **Mr Mike Nacey** of **Bedfordshire County Council**.

Please reserve a place by contacting **Jan** at **CVS** on **01234 354366** or email: **jan@cvsmidandnorthbeds.org.uk**

Community Lunch



Launch of The Bedford Charity's Themed Grant Programme

HOMELESSNESS

**Place: The Harpur Room, CVS Mid & North Beds,
43 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2AA**

Date: Friday 8th June 2007

Time: 12pm - 2.30pm
(light buffet lunch included)

The Bedford Charity is significantly increasing its grant-making over the next few years with a series of themed grants programmes.

Chief Executive **David Russell** and Grants Manager **Lucy Bardner** will launch the third of their themed programmes, Homelessness.

There will also be a presentation from **Thames Reach**, a London-based agency helping homeless and vulnerable people. Applicants to this themed programme will be expected to work towards clearly identified outcomes. **Thames Reach** will therefore be sharing their considerable experience of developing successful outcomes-based approaches to supporting homeless people.

Please reserve a place by contacting **Jan** at **CVS** on **01234 354366** or email: **jan@cvsmidandnorthbeds.org.uk**

What will our funding be like in five years' time?

This is a question the **Performance Hub** has attempted to answer with the publication of their free booklet entitled '**Future Focus 1: What will our funding be like in five years' time?**'. This informative and useful guide takes you through the major forces and trends that could positively or negatively shape the future of your organisation. These forces include: increasing competition for funds; the increased expectation to trade and charge for services; the increasing complexity of contracts and loans; strategic and engaged grant-making; the stronger expectation of evidence and the importance of cost and value.

We will be distributing this at the **Funding Fayre** on 14th June, but you can download a copy from the **Performance Hub** website at: **www.performancehub.org.uk/publications**

Social Enterprise

Bedfordshire Social Enterprise Network

Bedfordshire Social Enterprise Network (BSEN) is a democratic membership organisation limited by guarantee (Company No: 04162745) providing networking facilities for Social Enterprises from Bedfordshire and Luton. It was established to work within the objectives of SEEE (Social Enterprise East of England). SEEE's objectives are delivered "through networks of social enterprises at sub-regional level". **BSEN** supports the DTI definition for a social enterprise:

"A social enterprise is a business with primarily social objectives whose surplus are principally reinvested for that purpose in the business or in the community, rather than being driven by the need to maximize profit for shareholders and owners".

In line with the SEEE objectives, **BSEN's** terms of reference are:

- to create a sustainable social enterprise network within the County
- to promote the social enterprise sector within the County
- to lobby and influence policy relating to social enterprises within the County
- to represent the views of social enterprises within the County
- to share information and good practice within the County
- to identify and improve the skills and knowledge of individuals working in social enterprises within the County
- to maximise the capacity to trade of social enterprises within the County
- to maximise the social impact of social enterprises within the County

BSEN is currently undertaking a mapping exercise of social enterprises across the County. Please contact **BSEN** if you are a social enterprise so we can include you in our findings. To contact **BSEN** go to www.bsen.org, e-mail info@bsen.org or ring **07860 844763**.

SNIPPETS

Bedfordshire Rural Sport and Physical Activity Group present LONDON 2012 – How can rural Bedfordshire benefit?

An interactive presentation on how rural areas might be able to benefit from the Olympic Games, plus some short practical workshops for groups working in rural areas.

Saturday 23rd June 2007 from 9.30am – 12.30pm - Wilstead Village Hall

There will be a charge of £5 per person. If you would like any more information at this stage or additional booking forms, please contact: **Sue Norman** at **Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity** on; **01234 838771 x 104**. The booking form and leaflet are also available to download at www.bedford.gov.uk/sport.

Pioneer Group - We need a leader!

The Pioneer Group is a support group for people living with a long-term condition, which could be anything from diabetes, heart conditions to less common conditions such as ME. We have found that people living with a chronic conditions face similar issues that have required them to make significant life changes. Everyone seems to benefit from meeting with other people in similar situations and we aim to encourage the development of a more positive, confident and active lifestyle, helping people to help themselves. The group set up in 2003, after completing a self-management course. The group consists of a number of enthusiastic individuals, but unfortunately the founding chairman has had to step down from his position due to illness. We are therefore now looking for a volunteer to help lead the group and bring new ideas to help benefit more people.

We would like someone full of enthusiasm and an understanding of living with a long-term condition, who wants to help people to help themselves. If you would like more information please contact **Kate Parsons**, group secretary, on **01234 351150**. Or email on thepioneergroup@hotmail.com.

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