



Community First
Building better communities

in Herefordshire & Worcestershire

Community First E-Bulletin 13/08/10

Funding Alerts:

[New Fund for Rural Communities](#)

A new fund has been launched to help improve the long-term sustainability of the British countryside. The Prince's Countryside Fund inspired by The Prince of Wales's aims to raise money from a wide range of businesses and their consumers to help improve the long-term sustainability of the British countryside and its rural communities.

The Fund will provide grants for up to three years to support projects that:

- Improve the sustainability of British farming in areas of deprivation;
- That improve the sustainability of rural communities;
- Reconnect people with the countryside.

Funding is available for both capital and revenue funding. Applicants can be, but do not need to be, charities. All applicants must however be able to clearly demonstrate a significant level of public benefit arising from their activities (which fulfil the Fund's charitable objects). The Prince's Countryside Fund has identified the three initial projects it will support and is likely to announce the next funding round later this year.

[The Co-operative Group – Community Fund](#)

The Community Fund is the Co-operative Group's main grant making programme. Charitable organisations and community groups can apply for grants of between £100 and £2,000 (£500 if the applicant is a newly formed group) to help them find co-operative solutions to community challenges. The Co-operative Group is particularly interested in supporting locally led and run groups that can demonstrate co-operative values and principles, such as self-help, equality, democracy and concern for the community. Last year the total funding available was over £1 million. Applications can be submitted at any time.

[European Youth Foundation](#)

The European Youth Foundation is an independent, international, non-governmental organisation dedicated to the positive development of children and young people throughout the world. To support its objectives the Foundation makes grants to international not for profit youth organisations and networks. The types of activities supported include international youth meeting, the development of projects that benefits young people and help towards the administrative costs of eligible organisations and networks. In addition the Foundation also funds a range of pilot projects. The next application deadline is the 1st October 2010.

[Get Connected Fund Opens for Applications](#)

The Social Care Institute for Excellence has announced that 'Get Connected' Funding Cycle 3 is now open to applications. Under the scheme, grants of up to £20,000 are available for capital expenditure that will support adult social care providers and micro, small and medium sized organisations to enhance quality of life and/or skills through enhanced access to ICT. To be eligible projects must improve access by people who use services, carers and staff to ICT to enhance the quality of life offered within the service and/or support their learning, training and development. The closing date for submitting expression of interest is the 10th September 2010.

[Help The Homeless](#)

Help the Homeless, a national Charity which aims to help homeless people throughout the United Kingdom to resume a normal life, is currently accepting applications from small and medium sized charities and voluntary organisations. Grants of up to £3,000 are available towards capital costs to support projects that assist disadvantaged individuals in their return to mainstream society, through residential or training facilities. Grants to larger charities may be considered if the project is suitable innovative and only possible for a larger organisation to develop it.

Previous projects supported include a grant of £2,845 to Lamp Community towards the

cost of computers for reintegration work at their drop-in centres and a grant of £2000 to Spires, a South London Homeless charity towards the cost of providing their daily services to clients, including food and clothing. There are four application deadlines a year.

The next application deadline is the 30th September 2010.

Baily Thomas Charitable Fund

The Baily Thomas Charitable Fund is a registered charity which was established to support projects in the area of learning disability and to aid the care and relief of those affected by learning disability by making grants to voluntary organisations working in this field. The Trust consider under learning disability the conditions generally referred to as severe learning difficulties, together with autism. In this area, they consider projects concerning children or adults. Application for funding is normally considered for capital and revenue costs and for both specific projects and for general running/core costs. . They will not offer grants for research into or care of those with mental illness or dyslexia. They offer grants from £250 upwards. The next deadline for applications is the 1st October 2010.

Events:

Community First: Conference. 27/09/10.

Don't miss our annual conference on Monday 27 September at Bishopswood Environmental centre. All our staff will be available throughout the day to provide lots of useful advice and information aimed at building sustainable communities and sustainable organisations. Small or large groups, registered charities and social enterprises will all find something of use to them and you don't have to stay all day! More information and registration forms will be available from mid August. Put the date in your diary and we will see you there.

Institute for Leadership and Management (ILM), Health and Well-being training (Herefordshire only)

What is an ILM Health and Well-Being Management Endorsed Programme? Wellness Works is delighted to offer this practical programme, developed by LifeCraft, which is full of resources aimed at maximising employee health and well-being in your organisation. This course is aimed at Directors and Managers who have organisational and employee management and development responsibilities. Suitable for HR professionals, line and general managers who are responsible for the health and well-being of their employees. This programme will provide clear and useable knowledge of the nature of Health and Well-being and can be based around a 'live' project for your organisation. This programme gives those with management responsibility the knowledge and tools to take long term responsibility for this costly area of employee management. Wellness Works will be starting new courses for Herefordshire employers in September and November. To find out more and to book a place please visit the website using the link above. Please be aware that bookings must be made by 1st September 2010 for Course 1 and 25th October 2010 for Course 2.

Mood Masters Training (Worcestershire only)

The new Improving Access to Psychological Therapy (IAPT) service pilot will be starting in two localities Wyre Forest and Redditch in October this year. The geographic coverage and access to the IAPT service will be limited in this first phase due to reduced finance. Worcestershire NHS is pleased to have commissioned Community First to provide MoodMaster training in order to support the wider dissemination of knowledge and skills to support emotional health and well-being. MoodMaster is a new programme which aims to provide a fun, upbeat approach to working on physical and emotional wellbeing. The emphasis is on peer support and uses guided discussions and worksheets. The one hour weekly sessions are supported by a session leader and teach a number of simple, straightforward techniques that will help you to deal better with situations that cause you worry and stress or bring your mood down. I am pleased to be able to distribute information about the next MoodMaster training course for people in Worcestershire. If you know of anyone in Worcestershire that would be interested in attending this course then please visit the website using the link above. Sessions will be held with small supportive groups and spaces are limited to 12 so booking is essential. Bookings must be made by 25th August 2010.

Mental Health First Aid Training (Worcestershire only)

The new Improving Access to Psychological Therapy (IAPT) service will be starting in two localities Wyre Forest and Redditch in October this year.

The geographic coverage and access to the IAPT service will be limited in this first phase due to reduced finance, so we have commissioned Community First to provide Mental Health First Aid Training, in order to support the wider dissemination of knowledge and skills in mental health. This training will be free to partner agencies, from across Worcestershire, who have expressed an interest in working with the IAPT initiative, and would be particularly useful for staff supporting clients with anxiety and depression. Mental Health First Aid is the help given to someone experiencing a mental health problem before professional help is obtained. The aims are:

- to preserve life where a person may be a danger to themselves or others
- to provide help to prevent the mental health problems developing into a more serious state
- to promote the recovery of good mental health
- to provide comfort to a person experiencing a mental health problem

MHFA does not teach people to be therapists. However, it does teach people how to recognise the symptoms of mental health problems, how to provide initial help and how to guide a person towards appropriate professional help. Interested people will need to contact Sophie Mead at Community First for a copy of the course overview and a booking form to be completed and returned in order to secure a place.

News:

[Hereford City Plan](#)

The Hereford City Plan is a Community led planning project. It is about members of a community coming together to say what is good and distinctive about where they live; how they could work to protect and improve where they live and how they wish others to help them do this. This information will be used to help the community to become active in improving their neighbourhood and will help those who provide services to them to understand local needs. There will be a planning for real event in High Town, Hereford on Saturday 21st August from 10:00-4:00 where Herefordians interested in where they live can come along and have their say. Or visit the Hereford City Plan website by clicking the link above and fill in the quick survey to have a say that way. Alternatively ring Pauline Striplin or Karen Humphries on 01432 262970 for more information.

[LAST CHANCE TO WIN ONE OF 5 £25 M&S VOUCHERS!!!!](#)

Community First's ICT support project is carrying out this survey which will assess:

- * where the voluntary and community sector stands in its use of ICT
- * what the support needs are
- * what types of support could be provided by voluntary sector support agencies. **All**

completed questionnaires returned by 1st September 2010 will be entered into a prize draw to win 1 of 5 Marks and Spencer Vouchers worth £25.

[Rural Deprivation in Worcestershire](#)

Click the link above to download a report on rural deprivation in Worcestershire. The report was commissioned by Community First and carried out by Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion (OCSI).

and finally....

[Newsline](#)

The summer edition of Community First's newsletter 'Newsline' is now available. This edition contains information on best practice when sending emails, details on Community First's payroll service, information about our conference and a forward from Richard Quallington on the 'Big Society'. Click the link above to access the online version or email cheryl@comfirst.org.uk to request a hard copy.

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