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*working to create a genuinely
participative democracy*

For all the latest sector updates and to find out what's happening around the Network and its PESP project, join us on:

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1 Social Justice Approach to Community Development Programme - Small Grants

Small grants and mentoring support are available to local not-for-profit groups working in Northern Ireland to improve the quality of life for local people. The funding aims to support groups so that they can address local issues through collective social rights, such as the right of communities to be heard and to challenge poverty and social exclusion.

Locally based not-for-profit groups can apply for grants of up to £10,000, although most grants will be in the region of £2,000 to £2,500.

Applicants must have:

- An active management committee.
- A current governing document.
- A bank account in the name of the organisation.
- Up to date annual accounts.

In addition to the funding, grant recipients will receive mentoring support through the services of an experienced community support worker for three to four days. They will facilitate engagement with committee members and residents on an agreed piece of work.

Proposals should emphasise engagement in the community development process with a specific focus on social justice issues and principles.

To be eligible, proposed projects must identify:

- A practical project plan to achieve some recognisable progress against local issues and injustices identified for the project.
- How the project will directly improve internal relationships within the applicant group and its community; and with other communities, agencies and politicians.
- How the work will support the development of advocacy strategies.
- Examples include, but are not limited to, projects that:
 - Look to broaden the range of local people taking part in community activity and volunteering.
 - Identify needs within the committee or community and use the results to challenge local social issues.
 - Take stock of how the community is perceived by others and act to improve or challenge this.
 - Develop lobbying and advocacy work based on identified local needs.
 - Give an effective voice to local concerns.
 - Support effective engagement with councils and other agencies.

The deadline for applications is 4 September 2013. For more info see:

<http://www.communityfoundationni.org/Grants/Social-Justice-Small-Grants>

If the remaining budget permits, there may be a further round of grants; however, the number of awards is limited and early application is advised.

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2 Intercultural Arts Grants Programme funding information session

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland Intercultural Arts Grants Programme has opened for constituted community and voluntary groups working at a local level with minority ethnic communities. The programme aims to provide opportunities for minority ethnic communities across Northern Ireland to access the arts and use artistic activities as a creative vehicle in which to explore and highlight social issues that impede access and participation in the arts.

The Intercultural Arts Grants programme will support meaningful collaboration between ethnic minority communities and artists. Grants from £500 to £10,000 are available. You can apply for up to 100% of the eligible costs of the project.

Artist-led interventions can take many different forms- through music, visual arts (public art, sculpture, craft etc), performing arts (theatre, dance, carnival, circus arts) and literary arts (poetry, playwriting, short stories and so on).

To access an application and guidance visit <http://www.artscouncil-ni.org/award/iap.html>.
Funding information session

A support event facilitated by the Arts Council for Northern Ireland and Community Arts Partnership Programme for InterCultural Arts Support. in partnership with NICEM will take place on **Wednesday 14 August**. This is suitable for Voluntary and Community groups and also minority ethnic artists living in the North West at NICEM North West Office, The Old Church, Clarendon Street L'Derry, BT48 7ES.

This session is suitable for voluntary and community groups interested in making an application and also minority ethnic artists who are interested in applying for the Minority Ethnic Individual Awards under the SIAP programme (opening in early August.)

Agenda

10:30-11:00 Coffee and registration

11:00 Presentation on Intercultural Arts Grants for groups by Arts Council of Northern Ireland

11:30 One to one sessions for groups and minority ethnic artists

12:30 Lunch

1:00 Presentation on the Programme for InterCultural Arts Support (PICAS)

1:30 Presentation on the Support for Individual Artist Programme for minority ethnic artists by Arts Council of Northern Ireland

2:00 One to ones for groups and ethnic minority artists.

Please email lucy@comartspartner.org if you wish to attend (you can choose to attend morning, afternoon or both) and also to arrange a one to one session. It is advisable to reserve your one to one session soon as spaces fill up quickly.

Closing date for applications 12 September 2013 at 4pm.

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3 The Search For The UK's Digital Heroes Begins

TalkTalk has launched their search for the Digital Hero of 2013. The awards recognise and reward people who are using technology to help their communities. The awards are run in partnership with the charities Citizens Online and Go ON UK.

There will be twelve winners, one from each region of the UK, who will be decided by public vote and each will receive £5,000 to enhance their digital projects, with one overall winner chosen by an expert judging panel receiving £10,000.

The Digital Hero Award for children and young is also running this year. The winner will receive £4,000 for their chosen charity and an Apple MacBook Air. The award will be presented by Baroness Lane-Fox.

You can find out more information on the awards and how to enter at: www.talktalkdigitalheroes.co.uk.
The Twitter hashtag is #digitalheroes

Entries are welcome until 14 August 2013.

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4 Equality Coalition Meeting

The Equality Coalition will hold its monthly meeting on **Wednesday 11 September 2013 at 12.30pm in the UNISON offices in L/Derry** (1 Clarendon St Londonderry, County Londonderry BT48 7EF).

All non- government/ community and voluntary sector organisations are welcome to attend, the meetings are designed to exchange information between groups on equality issues arising for their constituents and to discuss current work where there could be collaboration or support between groups.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact Emma on the details below.

equalitycoalition@caj.org.uk

Tel 028 9031 6016

Text Phone 077 0348 6949

Web www.equalitycoalition.net

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5 Respect 2

Londonderry YMCA has been successful in securing additional funding through the PEACE III Programme to continue delivering the new and exciting RESPECT Project. Following the huge successes experienced through the delivery of RESPECT in the Derry City Council, Strabane District Council and Donegal County Council areas, the **YMCA is currently recruiting Sports Clubs from the Strabane District, Omagh District and Derry City Council areas to participate in RESPECT 2**. The Project will look to recruit a number of Sports Clubs involved in Soccer, Cricket, Rugby, GAA, Hockey, Swimming and Boxing.

If you are involved in Sports, and would be interested in participating in this Project, then the YMCA would like to hear from you

The programme is supported by the European Union's PEACE III Programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body and delivered by the NW PEACE III Partnership.

General Secretary of Londonderry YMCA, Willie Lamrock, commented that "we are delighted to have been award an additional £107,600, to deliver the RESPECT 2 project and look forward to the challenge of delivering such an interactive and worthwhile programme. We are very enthusiastic and keen to start working with sporting clubs from across the Derry City, Omagh District and Strabane District Council areas. We look forward to recruiting a range of sporting clubs to come together to promote shared space, shared activities and workshops that will have lasting robust Good Relations outcomes and increase the sustainability of these clubs".

"The overarching aim of the RESPECT 2 Project is to build and develop an understanding and acceptance of the Good Relations issues within sport and an engagement across sports that will strengthen peace building at a grass roots level. This is a wonderful opportunity to promote inter-cultural, multicultural, cross-community collaboration through the medium of sport. The programme will address Good Relation issues within sporting clubs and promote engagement across all sports in order to strengthen Peace Building at a grassroots level. It will also look at capacity building as well as the development of policies and procedures within the sporting clubs involved".

- Activities planned include Sports Development sessions with local council Sports Development Officers. The content of these sessions will include Coach Development, Grant-Aid /Funding and other relevant current/future council initiatives on the theme of sport.
- A range of training sessions will be offered on topics such as Good Relations, Child Protection and First Aid; this training will increase the capacity of sporting club members to carry out club activities in a more safe and welcoming manner and influence potential leaders of the future.
- RESPECT 2 will offer Organisational Governance Training that will ensure that Clubs are operating at standards which meet the approval of their Governing Bodies.
- Finally, Hub Development sessions will be facilitated that will promote relationships between sporting clubs and increase cross-community participation. Hub Development sessions will enhance self esteem amongst members, celebrate cultural diversity, increase community spirit and promote social inclusion and integration.

The grand finale to the RESPECT 2 Project will come in the form of a joint Celebration of Success event. Participating clubs will be presented with RESPECT training kits to the value of £600 and a hoarding for their pitch highlighting that they have signed up to the PEACE III RESPECT Project.

The RESPECT 2 programme will run for mid August to mid October 2013. It is anticipated that demand will be very high for this programme, therefore, we would urge clubs to act quickly in order to secure places.

For further information on the programme and to find out how to take part in the Derry City Council Area, please contact: Thomas Lynch, Sports & Community Officer on 02871301662 or email Thomas@ymca-ireland.org

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6 Promote your Social Enterprise at our inaugural conference 2013

As a special feature at our inaugural conference on 24 October we want to capture the essence of Social Enterprise on camera.

To have your Social Enterprise promoted amongst delegates and government officials please submit a High Res Jpeg photo that sums up the spirit of your work. Those selected will be displayed in a photo gallery at the conference.

So don't delay, get snapping!!

Please email photos to events@socialenterpriseni.org by Friday 9 August.

Please note that The Social Enterprise Awards deadline for has been extended to Monday 19 August
www.socialenterpriseni.org

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7 An Overview of Welfare Reform

Title/Reference: An Overview of Welfare Reform (Ref: OWR/SEP/2013)

About the Course: This half day training course provides participants with a dynamic overview of the proposed and already implemented changes initiated by welfare reform. It covers reforms and potential reforms to benefits for children, working age and older people, including means tested benefits, non-means tested benefits, child tax credits and working tax credits, disability benefits including PIPS and ESA and housing benefit. It also outlines the different elements of Universal Credit and how they might apply to single people, families, disabled persons and to housing costs.

Who Should Attend: The course is aimed at advisers, policy workers, those involved in lobbying and campaigning, community champions interested in advice work and those working in the subject area to update and refresh their knowledge in this ever changing subject matter.

Location/Time/Date: The course will run on the 4th September 2013. It will be delivered at Advice NI offices in Belfast. The course runs from 9.30am to 1.00pm.

Fees: Advice NI Members - £30
Voluntary and Statutory Sector organisations - £45

Private and statutory sector organisations - £70

Educational/ Professional Framework

This course can be used as evidence towards a range of units in our Advice and Guidance NVQ's at Level 3 Certificate and Level 4 Diploma including Understand the Importance of Legislation and Procedures (Unit 30).

It is also linked to the National Occupational Standards for Legal Advisers including:

- IB19 – First Line Welfare Rights and Legal Advice.

[Advice NI Training Brochure 2013](#)

Please contact Ryan Fitzsimmons for further information:

Email: RyanF@adviceni.net / Tel: +44(0)28 9064 5919

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8 Free Course For All LGBT Groups

Aware Defeat Depression, the only charity in Northern Ireland working exclusively for those with depression, is offering free courses to those in the LGBT Communities. This is your opportunity to learn about the importance of understanding mental health, what it is and how to look after it.

The Mood Matters for Adults programme helps adults learn about mental health, stress, anxiety and depression and recognise the importance of self help strategies to improve mood. If you would like to learn more, then this is the programme for you.

The Living Life to The Full programme helps people develop life skills, using the principles of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, that help them tackle feelings of low mood, stress and distress. This programme can make a big difference to your life. It could help you sleep better, feel happier, have more energy, gain confidence, get out more and enjoy better relationships. Recommended for people with mild to moderate depression.

To book your place or find out more information call Aisling today on 028 7126 0602 or email aisling@aware-ni.org.

Take the first step to understanding depression today.

www.aware-ni.org / 08451 20 29 61 / info@aware-ni.org

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9 Free Strengthening Families Programme Training

The Strengthening Families Programme (SFP) is an evidence based family skills programme which delivers multiple benefits to vulnerable families and emphasises the critical role of families in prevention and reducing risk.

Delivered over 14 sessions the parenting skills, children's life skills, and family life skills training program is specifically designed for high-risk families. Parents and children participate in SFP, both separately in the teen and parent sessions and together in the family sessions. The programme aims to promote a healthy parent and child relationship by improving communication, bonding, parental monitoring and rule setting. Over the 14 weeks 12 families will come together one night a week, a meal is provided for all families, as is childcare and transport for those requiring it.

Anyone wishing to refer families on to the programme must complete the two day training.

The next two day training is taking place on the 9th and 10th of September 2013 at the Waterfoot Hotel, Derry. If you would like more information or an application form please contact Leona on 07403050507 or Leona@derryhc.com

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10 Supporting research and evaluation in the community and voluntary sector - 5 September 2013

A workshop co-hosted by the Institute of Public Health (IPH), Community Development and Health Network (CDHN) and Community Evaluation Northern Ireland (CENI)

Date: Thursday, 5 September 2013

Venue: Farset International, Springfield Road, Belfast

Background

Evidence-informed action to tackle health inequalities and the social determinants of health requires active participation of the community and voluntary (C & V) sector in research and evaluation and active engagement with public funders.

Workshop Aim

This workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss the role of the community and voluntary sector, and begin planning for the support it needs to participate in research and evaluation in Northern Ireland.

Who is this workshop for?

This workshop will be of interest to those working in or with the community and voluntary sector (particularly those with a focus on tackling health inequalities), academic researchers, the statutory public health sector and local government.

Programme

10:00am - Welcome and Introduction - Kevin Balanda, IPH and Dr Chris Gibson, Centre of Excellence for Public Health (NI)

10:05am - The C & V sector and public health research and evaluation in NI - Nicola Armstrong, HSC Research & Development Division, Public Health Agency

10:20am - What does the C & V sector need to participate in research and evaluation? - Joanne Morgan, CDHN

10:35am - Some research and evaluation resources

CENI, Brendan McDonnell, CENI

The Health Well, Lorraine Fahy, IPH
11:15am - Break
11:45am - Panel discussion: Looking forward - Presenters and Nigel McKinney, Building Change Trust
12:00pm - Roundtable discussions
Scope and experience of research and evaluation
Opportunities to further develop the role of the C & V sector
Identification of barriers, skills gaps and support required
12:45pm - Summing up
1:00pm - Lunch

For further information and to book your place please contact: leah.friend@publichealth.ie

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11 Exciting BBC opportunity - please action now!

We all know women are most affected by poverty internationally but have least opportunity to influence the ways that poverty is tackled. As you probably know VSO UK is running a campaign that aims to increase women's role in politics and public life.

The BBC, led by the UK's most important news programme The Today Programme, is planning to conduct a poll in 60 countries around the world to ask one 'big' question. The results of the poll will come around in December but the question to be polled is being decided in the coming couple of days. That's why we need you to take action now!

What can you do?

Send an email to today@bbc.co.uk with 'Asktheworld' in the subject line

Please make it clear that you'd like the Today programme to ask the question 'If politicians were predominantly women would the world be a better place?'. Use your experience from your own country to suggest why that is an interesting question to ask.

Use your personal Twitter to tweet one of these suggestions:

- 1) Hope #r4today pick 'If politicians were predominantly women would the world be a better place?' for #asktheworld (pls RT)
- 2) My vote for #r4today #asktheworld is 'If politicians were predominantly women would the world be a better place?' (pls RT)
- 3) 'If politicians were predominantly women would the world be a better place?' is a superb Q for #r4today #asktheworld (pls RT)
- 4) 'If politicians were predominantly women would the world be a better place?' is best Q for #r4today #asktheworld (pls RT)

If you have time please forward this request to partners and volunteers.

If the BBC choose to ask tens of thousands of people globally about women and politics this will generate an important debate in many of the countries that we work in. It will also present VSO with an important opportunity to offer the BBC our research and interviewees (including volunteers and partners working on gender equality) for a story that will likely be picked up on BBC World News and the various BBC radio and TV stations around the world.

If you have any questions please get in touch with will.tucker@vso.org.uk

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12 Open Call for Board Members

St Columb's Park House are seeking additional Board members to join our Board of Trustees in 2013.

Established in 1994 as a centre for reconciliation, we seek to contribute to peace-building and social inclusion through a range of programmes promoting civic participation, human rights, and democratic pluralism. We also provide assistance to local community groups with the commissioning of research.

In addition, the Trust manages St Columb's Park House as an income generating community business offering conference, catering and residential facilities.

The House has recently under-gone a major renovation and extension increasing accommodation to 50 beds and conferencing for up to 150 people. We have also established a community cafeteria on site. Income from this commercial activity supports the charitable activities of the Trust.

We have 14 full, part-time and volunteer staff as well as a number of consultants who support our programmes.

We are looking for new members with a range of experience as the organisation looks also to extend its social enterprise opportunities as well as peace building programmes (see below). We are seeking to appoint a Board that meets Section 75 requirements.

If interested, please respond in writing briefly outlining;

- Your background and experience
- Interest in joining the Board

The deadline for expressions of interest is Friday 9th August 2013 at 5pm. Please forward your letter to brian@stcolumbsparkhosue.org or post to St Columbs Park House, 4 Limavady Road, Waterside, Derry-Londonderry. For further information please phone 02871343080.

Our current programmes are;

- **Londonderry Bands Forum;** Consisting of 10 urban and rural Protestant Marching Bands it aims to resolve internal frictions/conflict; address local issues of concern including educational attainment; promote accessible cultural awareness to promote good relations across the city using a series of workshops; and develop a city -wide inclusive project during City of Culture 2013.
- **Wider Horizons Programme;** A cross-community 20 week employability programme for 21 young people which includes an 8 week training and employment placement element in Canada. The young

people complete the Europass certificate with specific good relations modules

- **Waterside Peace Walls (Creating Change) Programme;** Involves working with 4 local communities, Top of the Hill, Irish Street, Tullyally and Curryrierin on an inter-generational and research programme with the ultimate aim of cementing inter-face relations and progressing infrastructural change to the physical barriers in the two inter-face areas.
- **Cultural Heritage Identity Programme; Flags Forum;** We aim address the issue of symbols and flags in 8 areas throughout the North-west and promote shared space through local discussion and flags audit and household surveys
- **Foyle Youthbank Programme)** A cross-community grant-making committee of young people who distribute funding to local cross-community youth-led projects.
- **Sport for All programme;** Seeks to explore the relationship between sectarianism and anti-social behaviour using sport as a catalyst for change. It is working across 4 sporting clubs in counties Derry and each are under-taking an inter-generational sporting pilot project aimed at addressing anti-social behaviour in their areas.
- **National Citizens Service Programme;** Co-ordinated by Co-operation Ireland we are the north-west partner in delivery of this pilot programme involving 45 young from L'Derry, Castlederg and Portrush in a 20 week cross-community capacity and team building programme.
- **Forum for Cities in Transition (FCIT);** We are a steering group member and financial and administrative conduit which involves a network of annual conferences to share programmes and models of best practice with 12 international cities that are progressing out of conflict.
- **Unionist Forum;** An informal forum who meet monthly to address issues of common concern within the Protestant, Unionist, Loyalist communities.

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13 Tender opportunity: Design and Develop a Website and Online Forum

The Verbal Arts Centre in conjunction with its partners will devise, develop and deliver the 'Crows on the Wire' theatrical production. The programme is an innovative and creative 'Peace III' initiative which is commissioned by the Verbal Arts Centre from playwright Jonathan Burgess. This project is funded under the EU's PEACE III Programme, managed for the SEUPB by the consortium of Pobal and the Community Relations Council.

The Verbal Arts Centre would like to invite individuals/organisations to submit a tender to provide the following service: **Design and Develop a Website and Online Forum**

RECEIPT OF TWO HARD COPIES SUBMITTED BY 4.00PM ON MONDAY 19th AUGUST. (*Late entries will not be accepted*)

For further information please see the specification attached or contact Andrea Doran, Director of Programming and Learning on 02871266946 or email andrea.doran@verbalartscentre.co.uk

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14 Foyle Hospice Sunflower Appeal

Foyle Hospice has 2 collection days in the city during the Fleadh Cheoil Event.

We are looking for as many volunteers to give their support for just 2 hours to ensure the largest ever Hospice Sunflower Collection.

Collection days:

Thursday, 15th August 10 am – 7pm

Saturday, 17th August 10 am – 11 pm

Please contact Sharon Williams, Volunteer Coordinator on (028) 71 351 010 or by email at sharon@foylehospice.com.

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15 2013 Foyle Memory Walk - 1mile or 10k Challenge Walk

Sunday 15th September 2013 at Ebrington Square

Registration from 12pm

Walk begins at 2pm

Post-walk family day with activities for all ages.

To register now visit www.memorywalk.org.uk or call 0845 306 0898

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16 Theatre of Witness Workshops

The Playhouse Theatre of Witness Programme in association with Towards Understanding and Healing is offering **free** workshops for groups interested in Peace-building Through Storytelling.

Theatre of Witness workshops are an innovative peace tool which will offer groups the opportunity to work with experienced facilitators, and previous Theatre of Witness performers.

Workshops will include the screening of Theatre of Witness films, group discussion and creative reflective exercises. These two hour workshops will be tailored to meet the needs of each group and will introduce participants to healing power of Theatre of Witness.

These workshops will focus on a range of themes;

- Women's issues
- Youth issues and the Legacy of the Troubles
- Sectarianism
- Forgiveness and Reconciliation
- Becoming Peacemakers
- The Healing Elements of Storytelling
- Learning from, and Humanising the 'Other'

Workshops are free and open to all groups across Derry~Londonderry area

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