



Dear Community Group Representative

Welcome to the August 2011 edition of the Regional Refugee Forum North East's e-bulletin to RCOs. Please forward this to your RCO members to share the news and opportunities with them.

Please note: The e-bulletin now has a new format!. Your comments welcome

In this E-Bulletin:

- A. News from the RRF (including training, jobs and volunteering opportunities at RRF)
- B. Regional and National Policy updates
- C. Jobs advertised by other agencies
- D. Training offered by other agencies
- E. Funding information for community groups
- F. Training offered by other agencies
- G. Other news

Don't forget to check out the RRF's website. You can find it at www.refugeevoices.org.uk

Got something you want to share with RRF members? Send an email to joem.kamanga@refugeevoices.org.uk with details of your news, event or activity to be included in the next e-bulletin.

Do you have suggestions for improving our e-bulletins? Please let us know!

A: News from the RRF



RRF - Training and Development Project in Wearside

The Regional Refugee Forum North East Training and Development project has been operating in Wearside since December 2010 and we have made some progress in developing our members who are mainly focusing on:

- Economic inclusion
- Health Agenda
- Community Safety

On the 15th July 2011, The Regional Forum through T & D Project organised a Network Event for the first time in Sunderland, the event was to bring together RCOs Wearside region and a few support agencies and the event was a big success with 48 attendees.



Representatives of RCOs in Wearside got an opportunity to talk about their work to address issues identified by their communities. They also got an opportunity to share experiences of success, challenges and explored common areas that could be addressed collectively. The RCOs also got valuable information from Next Steps, Sunderland Community Development Team, The Arch Group and Sunderland BME Network about how refugee communities could access mainstream support.



The T&D Project has helped Jambo Africa to develop a project with Sunderland council which has led to the signing of a service level agreement. The group encourages parents and kids to learn from each other on different issues relating to family life in a new context. The project encourages discussions between parents and children, creating an environment of open communication between members of families, a new culture to many families. Some of this work is



encourage by joint cooking sessions between parents and children. The ICT sessions give an opportunity to young people to help their parents to learn from their children about latest knowledge on information technologies that young people are generally a step ahead over their parents. Relating to up skilling agencies on cultural competencies from refugee perspectives we have organised a training session with Next Step staffs by working with one of our project participants from Durrimaknun on how to best to support and promote services to refugees seeking

advice from them. Feedback on the Training was very positive from Next Step.



T&D is in the process of developing strategies for students from Sunderland University to access learning opportunities with RCOs in Wearside. The main focus will be the departments of Social Sciences. This will help students learn about best practice when working with refugees and could also help develop working relationships with students before they even go into practice.

For more information about support from the RRF Training and Development project in Wearside please get in touch with: **Samouka Dore** Sam.dore@refugeevoices.org.uk or [07423430591](tel:07423430591)

B: Regional and National Policy Updates

Immigration Advisory Service- Administration

The Immigration Advisory Service has gone into administration. We are aware and concerned that this will leave a considerable amount of vulnerable individuals without any legal representation. If you know people within your community who would be affected by this situation, there is an alternative way to help them by referring them to **Brar & Co Solicitors, 240A Chillingham Road Heaton Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 5LP**, who have expressed the desire to assist in any way possible. You can contact directly by telephone on 0191 276 6880 to speak to Mandy Wilson Caseworker.

For leaflet information on Asylum and Immigration click PDF documents

18th July 2011 Equality Impact Assessment on ESOL is published “Skills Minister John Hayes today pledged to provide more effective, targeted help for people who face barriers to learning the English language skills communities”:

Minister Hayes announced that the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills will work in partnership with the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) on developing new forms of support for those who need informal, community-based learning of English

Key measures announced today include:

- BIS will work in partnership with DCLG on developing new forms of support for those who need informal, community-based learning of English
- Reiterating the offer of fully funded ESOL training for jobseekers to help them gain the language skills they need to get into work.
- For further education colleges and training organisations, a clearer remit to provide good quality English Language provision that employers are willing to pay for.

Over the summer, BIS and the Department for Communities and Local Government will work together to establish criteria for targeted local projects that meet community needs

For news announcement see

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/Detail.aspx?ReleaseID=420448&NewsAreaID=2>

The full impact assessment is available here:

<http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/further-education-skills/docs/e/11-1045-english-for-speakers-of-other-languages-equality-impact.pdf>

30th, June 2011 New briefings from VONNE on Localism bill and Local Enterprise Partnerships

VONNE has produced 2 new briefings on the Localism bill and Local Enterprise Partnerships. These handy briefings are 2 sides of A4 containing the most relevant information for third sector organisations.

The Localism Bill - Getting it "Right"

A new proposal which will dramatically affect the way services are delivered to the public and how individuals and communities engage in public service delivery at a local level is currently going through parliament. Proposals in the bill focus on reducing bureaucracy and increasing powers and freedoms to councils and communities. Decentralising powers from Whitehall to local authorities and encouraging planning and spending to be managed locally with local people included in planning and delivery of services. This briefing explains the proposals and how the VCS is best placed to be involved.

[The Localism Bill - Getting it "Right"](#)³ - June 2011 (PDF 235kb)

Making Sense of Local Enterprise Partnerships

In this policy briefing Jo Curry looks at the new structures in the North East that are looking to drive up economic development in the region. We now have two Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) that between them cover the whole of the North East region.

[Making sense of Local Enterprise Partnerships](#)⁴ - June 2011 (PDF 235kb)

C: Jobs advertised by other agencies

See VONNE's website for details of jobs in the voluntary sector www.vonne.org.uk/jobs

D: Training offered by other agencies

Sustainable Solutions North East is a Big Lottery funded programme, led by the North East Social Enterprise Partnership, designed to enable third sector organisations to engage and trade with public sector commissioners and procurers.

You can find out more at www.ssne.org.uk but attached is a short summary of some of the provision available.

SkillsBridge – your chance to access professional expertise from the private and public sectors

An ambitious new project to support the North East's voluntary and community sector (VCS) has been launched. SkillsBridge has been set up by North East Enterprise Bond (NEEB) and will match up experts from the private and public sectors with VCS organisations, helping them to build bespoke, sustainable skills at a time when practical and financial support from elsewhere is in short supply.

As well as supporting the voluntary sector, SkillsBridge can play an important role in corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes for private and public sector organisations.

The Skills Bridge team are starting to match VCS organisations who have registered for support with professional volunteers who have offered their time. Guided by a cross-sector steering group the team aims to forge lasting alliances between companies and VCS organisations. With the support of volunteers from some of the region's top businesses and backed by leading figures in the public and voluntary sectors, SkillsBridge is setting out to bring a new wave of support to community groups and the people they help across the region. For further information about Skills Bridge and to register an interest in being involved in the project call 0191 275 5059 or email aiden.regan@northeastenterprisebond.org.

**Charities, trading and the law: an *Enterprising Charities* lunchtime event
Thursday September 15th 2011, 12noon-2.00pm, St Martins Parish Centre,
Roman Avenue, Byker, Newcastle. NE6 2RJ**

To book a place, please email info@pentagonpartnership.org.uk, stating your name, organisation, phone number and details of any dietary or access requirements you have.

Are you a registered charity or a constituted voluntary sector organisation interested in exploring trading and social enterprise as a means to complement grant and contract funding and improve your sustainability?

Do you work in Tyne and Wear?

If so, we'd like to invite you to lunch!

Fiona Wharton from Ward Hadaway law firm will speak about the legal implications and considerations for charities who want to trade.

Sustainable Enterprise Strategies (SES) offer a range of free support to organisations who want to explore trading and social enterprise; they'll be on hand to explain how they can help you.

We will hear from case studies that have been supported by SES to embrace trading as a source of income.

The session will also include a discussion forum - an opportunity to share experiences and thoughts on trading as an income generation option for the sector.

Due to limited numbers and the focus of the session, this invitation is only open to registered charities or otherwise constituted voluntary sector organisation that work in Tyne and Wear.

We expect this event to be extremely popular, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Confused about how to measure your impact? Download the Valuing Social Values 'Decision Support Tool' to help you make an informed decision

The Valuing Social Values partnership has recently completed an online 'decision support tool' which aims to support third sector organisations in articulating and communicating the value of their activities. Many tools, frameworks, and approaches (for example Social Return on Investment and Social Auditing) have been developed which may be relevant to different organisations at different times.

The decision support tool aims to help organisations have better and more informed conversations as to which is most useful for their particular circumstances.

The project was co-production and drew upon a University-funded Business Engagement scheme and in-kind resources of the partners, who were Co-Ops North East, the North East Social Enterprise Partnership (NESEP), Pentagon Partnership and VONNE.

You can read more about the project and download the decision support tool at www.ncl.ac.uk/kite/research/project/3013

For more information please contact chris.ford@newcastle.ac.uk

Next Step Workshops that are running in August:

**at the Next Step office 13 St James Street
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4NF**

Monday 1st August: CV Workshop 2.00 - 3.30pm

Monday 8th August: Job Search 2.00 - 3.30pm

Monday 15th August: Interview Techniques 2.00 - 3.30pm

If you would like to join on the Workshops or would like more information then please choose one of the following options:

Phone Emma Watson directly on 0191 232 2640 with your contact details

Send an email to ewatson@cfbt.com with your contact details (please state which workshop you would like to attend)

D: Funding information for community groups

GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) IMPACT Awards

Status: Open to applications

Application Deadline: 23 September 2011



Description

Annual awards competition offering cash prizes to charities that work in the fields of health and social care.

Details

Maximum Turnover: £ 1,500,000

Minimum Turnover: £ 10,000

Maximum Value: £ 25,000

Value Notes

Prizes are as follows:

- Eight winning organisations: £25,000.
- Four "commended" organisations: £5,000.
- Three runners-up: £3,000.

Organisations will also receive free training of up to £4,000 as part of the IMPACT Awards Development Network.

Turnover Notes

Maximum annual income must not exceed £1.5m.

Extended Description

The IMPACT Awards are an annual programme sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline and administered by the King's Fund.

They are designed to recognise and reward small to medium sized charities that are doing excellent work to improve people's health.

Organisations will be expected to demonstrate how their work reflects the following six areas of **IMPACT**:

- **Innovation** - Organisations must demonstrate leadership, creativity and initiative in addressing current challenges in healthcare access and delivery.
- **Management** - Organisations must demonstrate efficient use of resources; quality of management processes; equality of opportunity; clear objectives and plans; strength and financial effectiveness.
- **Partnership** - Organisations must demonstrate how they work effectively with others; willingness to share 'best practice' and to learn from others.
- **Achievement** - Organisations must be able to demonstrate that they have achieved measurable results in terms of number of people benefited; impact on access to healthcare; reflective approach to evaluation of the work; measurement and monitoring of performance.
- **Community Focus** - Organisations must be able to demonstrate how they involve and respond to users and the community; are open and provide information; adapt to changing circumstances and needs.

- **Targeting Need** - Organisations must be able to demonstrate their awareness of community issues and priorities through a detailed understanding of the target community; ensuring services are accessible to and focus on those people in need.

Latest Information

The current deadline is 5pm on 23 September 2011.

Key Criteria

To be eligible organisations must:

- Be located in the UK.
- Be a registered charity.
- Have existed for a minimum of three years.
- Have total annual income of between £10,000 and £1.5 million.
- Be independently constituted from any national umbrella organisation.
- Target community health needs in the UK. Community can be defined as a geographical community or a community of interest.

Eligible Expenditure

All funding is unrestricted. The awards are designed to recognise achievements for existing work and are not for new projects.

Restrictions

Awards will not be given in respect of the following organisations:

- Research bodies.
- Advice agencies.
- Organisations principally concerned with broad social welfare work (organisations should have a health focus).

Application Procedure

All applications should be made via an on-line application form available from the King's Fund website.

In November 2011 all shortlisted organisations will be visited by an independent assessor. Final judging takes place in January 2012 by a panel consisting of experts in community health and health related issues. All shortlisted organisations will be notified by early February 2012.

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this funding opportunity locally, please contact the following:

Contact details:

GSK Impact Awards
King's Fund
11-13 Cavendish Square

London
W1G 0AN
Telephone:
020 7307 2466
Email: [Email contact](#)

F: Events/Activities organised by other agencies

all points north **summer fun**
Young People's Events
16-25 years old

Wednesday 3rd August 10.00 - 4.00pm
@
MIMA (Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art) Middlesbrough

- *Meet New People
- *Arts & Media
- *Challenges
- *Cultural Workshops
- *Health & Well being
- *Music
- *Nail Art
- *And lots more...

For more information contact Dino Saldajeno
07584233381/01642217447
or email: dino@refugee.org.uk
visit our website: www.allpointsnorth.org.uk

G: Other news

Latest edition of the Tees Valley Economic Briefing: this is produced by Tees Valley Unlimited, the Local Enterprise Partnership for Tees Valley. It brings together up to date information from across Tees Valley, covering economic trends, business news stories and developments for June.



DNE X 2011

The Annual Exhibition of Disability North, takes place on **September 21st and 22nd 2011** at **Newcastle Racecourse**.

Disability North is holding the North's largest Independent Living Exhibition DNE X at **Newcastle Racecourse** on **Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd September 2011**. DNE X is open daily from 10.00am and is a must attend event. There is something for everyone including digital technology, aids and adaptations for independent living and accessible leisure facilities.

This free exhibition provides information, advice and equipment for disabled people, older adults, carers and health / social care professionals on a range of disability related issues. For more information about DNE X 2011 visit the Disability North website at by clicking here: [DNE X 2011](#).



DNE X 2011 News

Newcastle United Legend To Open DNE X 2011 - Disability North are delighted to announce that Newcastle United legend Malcolm Macdonald will be opening DNE X 2011.

Enter the Digital Zone – This year DNE X will feature a range of seminars around disability and digital inclusion. More details will be made available soon.

DNE X 2011 Leaflet Available for Download – To view the promotional leaflet for this year's DNE X Exhibition please click on the following link: [DNE X Leaflet](#).

In summary, DNE X 2011 is an informative and rewarding experience in an accessible location and is designed to assist you, or those close to you, in putting the pieces together to achieve greater independence and a better quality of life.

To find out more about visiting DNE X 2011 please click on the following link: [Visiting DNE X 2011](#) or contact Disability North by e-mail by clicking here: [DNE X E-Mail](#), or telephone on 0191 284 0480.

If you do not wish to receive these emails please reply to this email with 'remove me' as the subject.

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