

Volunteering Lancashire VCFS Consortium - Hub



Meeting of the Volunteering Lancashire Hub – [VL Hub]

DATE: 11th January 2008

VENUE: Preston DISC, 103-104 Church Street, Preston

PRESENT: Gael Finch (CSR VC); Dorothy Shears (HRV VC), Sarah McAuley and Janice Howard (WL VC); Janette Holden (BPR VC), Tony Hyland (Preston VB); Gordon Wardman and Sheron Hall (Grassroots BSR), Daveen Wallis and Leanne Rimmer (LWT), Lynn Saggerson (BWF VC), Beth Wadsworth (Lancashire Sport), Julie Claux (Groundwork), Erika Penrose (LYA).

REF	ACTION	BY WHEN	BY WHOM
VL.07.87	1. Apologies: Amir Akber (Youth Action), Ella Wardleworth (LEBP), Samantha Cronshaw-Haddock (BWF VC); Mary O'Dolan (LCC); Khalid Naseem (Blackburn with Darwen VC) and Adrian Blundell (Groundwork Pennine Lancashire), James Lively (Lancaster District 50 Forward), and Graham Whalley (LYA)		
VL.07.88	2. Notes of the last meeting: 7 th December – Apart from apologies from Beth Wadsworth not being recorded the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.		
VL.07.89	3. Matters Arising: 7. Tony sent the website link to Graham and to Tessa Willows of Volunteering NW.		
VL.07.90	4. SSC Funding: A questionnaire had been received by Gael who felt the LCC was dragging its feet, which she will comment on to them. Generally, it was felt the presentation was excessive and the timescale unrealistic. Adrian is covering the publicity for this bid but the instructions are not clear and he is trying to get clarity from LCC. He needs a complete age range and geographical range of volunteers, particularly school leavers and senior citizens. It was noted the names of some volunteers had already been put forward. Dorothy has been contacting volunteer centres re a series of programmes consisting of five sessions at one per month, geared to volunteer managers. Each VC may claim £1,100 and is asked to claim for training, publicity and marketing.		

	<p>Step Up to Volunteering course – initially five courses are to be held in the county in W & F, WL, Preston, Lancaster & C & SR and will target disadvantaged volunteers. From this course in February/March a resource pack is to be developed for all VCs to use. Discussions are taking place with AQA regarding accrediting this training.</p> <p>Daveen reported that a volunteer database is being developed to be loaded on to the intranet to obtain a picture of the volunteer situation, the information being gathered from VCs. Tony is working with Daveen on this. As Youth Net is developing a new V-database for launching in August, it has deferred uploading information; therefore a standard Excel database is being developed which can be loaded on to the new V-base in due course. It is probable that Signposts, who have contacts with relevant experts, will be commissioned to do this work. Tony will circulate spreadsheets to all VCs; Daveen plans for this to start by the end of March and be updated at monthly intervals.</p>		
VL.07.91	<p>5. Action Plan:</p> <p>a. Investors in Volunteers: Dorothy reported that the VL presentation received high praise from LCC which it was felt augured well for the future.</p> <p>b. Provision table: Lynn reported Khalid had finished the provision table and the booklet is ready for printing. This will be distributed through VL.</p> <p>Sam, Kate Lee, Gael and one other will be attending Investing in Volunteers partner training, run by Volunteering England.</p> <p>c. Online information – ICT Hub: No information.</p> <p>d. Youth Volunteering: As neither Ella nor Graham were present, there was nothing to report.</p>		
VL.07.92	<p>6. Newsround:</p> <p>Grassroots (BSR) – Sheron: Working with Preston CVS putting on a Breaking Barriers conference in February. Together they had launched an evaluation work pilot project. Gordon: Working on a Family Support Project for prisoners and receiving good response from volunteer centres. Ex-offenders and their families are becoming interested in volunteering. Funding is due to end at the end of June and bids are being made. WLVC – Have moved, need to do some outreach. The acting CO is to go out to see how other VCs are working. At their AGM on 10th Jan the acting CO was very optimistic about the future. LS – Are putting in several bids: one is a NEET bid with UCLAN which will offer four organisations' volunteers a week's taster session linking with youth games and sports awards. Also running child protection courses. FWVC – Are planning to cascade SAM</p>		

	<p>management training to volunteers and although a little hesitant about carrying on because of funding issues, are going ahead. Preston VB – Holding a supports needs conference at the Salvation Army Centre, Harrington Street, on 5th Feb which will be open to all, re enabling volunteers with support needs and explaining the barriers. Will include details about the Step Up to Volunteering courses “Breaking down the Barriers”. Radio Lancashire, with help from Tony and Gael, are running an event in Preston Guildhall on 20th Jan from 10.00am-2.00pm, when 20 organisations will be showing their “wares”. No booking required; this is for people who would like to volunteer with children. RL has guaranteed all comers to speak to four organisations. Freebies, climbing wall, taster sessions, on offer. Contact Liz Andrew on the RL Action Line if more information is required. HRV VC – Have received funding from the Home Office for a conference (to take place probably in April) for organisations who will be encouraged to take on ex-offenders as volunteers, using a centre in Oswaldtwistle. Workshops to be held to explain offending terms. Project will be taken over the county, will involve the police and probation service and will aim to break down barriers: making people aware of what ex-offenders can do. Dorothy will email details to everyone.</p> <p>Groundwork – The probation service has been in touch re the above conference. Funding: there are six prime contractors negotiating funding. Julie would be interested to know what other VCs are doing here re partnerships etc. The Globe Centre in Accrington is tendering for Gateway development when various events will be happening. LWT – Daveen – Funding: finishing off a Heritage Lottery Bid to develop volunteering. Leanne – Working on EGF volunteer community base project, bringing all consortium members together with county champions to develop sustainability. CSR VC – Preparing to teach in the Lifelong Centre; investing in partnerships volunteer training. Funding is in question but not too concerned. BwD VC – Healthier Lifestyle Workshops for all are being held on 11th and 18th February at Accrington Rd Community Centre with free healthy lunch provided – contact Khalid for more information.</p> <p>News for the website: VL members are requested to send any information they want to be publicised to Graham, not leaving too little time before an event.</p>		
VL.07.93	<p>7. Any Other Business:</p> <p>Step Up to Volunteering event – Sheron needs information to be able to raise awareness re this event: Dorothy will do a poster and liaise with Tony. Leaflets are available to take to the conference in February.</p>		

VL.07.94	<p>Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p>A request has been received from Amar at Youth Action in Blackburn that some VL meetings are held in Blackburn. It was agreed a couple of meetings at the end of the year could be. Discussion as to whether VL needs to meet every month: maybe bi-monthly would suffice and, if necessary, extra meetings could be called. The first one to be dropped could be Friday 8th February; Gael will speak to Graham.</p>		
SIGNED	Chair:	Date:	