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2008 April E-News

Voluntary Action Waltham Forest E-Newsletter April 2008

Welcome to April's E-Newsletter from Voluntary Action Waltham Forest.

Here's whate we have on offer:

VAWF News
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National News
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VAWF News

VAWF's Venue Database.

We are re-vamping and improving the Venues Database for Waltham Forest in 2008. This is an online catalogue of all spaces to hire around the borough, so if you have spaces to hire, or if you know of any venues that need to be listed, please get in touch. If your venue is already part of the database, we would need you to take a look at your listings and give us any updates. Please email venues@voluntaryactionwf.org.uk for further information.

Can you nominate a board member for VAWF?

All full members of VAWF have all been asked if they can put forward nominations for new board members for us. If you have any nominations, or want to fine out more, please call us on 0208 521 0377.

Children and Young People Network - Staff changes.

With the end of the financial year, we bid a fond farewell to our hard working officer; Emma Dewey. Barbara Bishop will take over the mantle for Children and Young People's Service Providers.

Funding News

We have loads of up-to-date information of where to look for fundraising advice. Click on over to our website. If you want to discuss any of these schemes, please email mutmahim@voluntaryaction-wf.org.uk

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Dog Dancing?

Sunday 13th April 10am -3pm

Location: Coronation Gardens, High Road Leyton, E10

The PDSA (People's Dispensary for Sick Animals) the UK's leading veterinary charity will be offering free health checks for dogs in Coronation Gardens from 10am. Supported by Groundwork East London, the event will include free puppy training from the Stratford Pet Dog Club. Dog owners can get advice on how to get their dogs to 'heel' using music.

Groundwork East London will be giving advice to dog owners about the damage dogs can do trees in parks, supported by the Green Space Tree Management Team

Waltham Forest Climate Change Strategy

In February 2008, Waltham Forest residents were asked to submit their bright ideas on climate change. All the ideas are being considered for inclusion in the forthcoming Climate Change Strategy, which aims to reduce the borough's carbon footprint and minimise Waltham Forest's impact on climate change.

For more information see [Waltham Forest Website](#).

Swim and get fit for 2008!

Come and discover a well-kept secret - hidden away inside Waltham Forest College is the biggest indoor pool in the borough! It must be good as potential athletes for the 2012 Olympics and international swimmers use it regularly, as they know this offers the best local training facility.

Friends of the Pool (FOTP) would like to offer you the chance to swim in this quiet, hassle-free environment.

For more information:- Visit: www.waltham.ac.uk/wfc07/AuPool.html to download Membership Form, Open Swim Pass Application Form & Swim Timetable Email:

friendsofthepool@hotmail.co.uk

Immediate Vacancy for part time (up to 20 hours)

Administrative Officer

Short-term contract (10 weeks)

London North East Community Foundation is looking to appoint a part time organised and experienced Administrative Officer, for an initial 10-week contract. We are looking to fill this vacancy as a matter of urgency.

The Administrative Officer will be responsible for the efficient setting up and running of the Community Foundation's new office in Chadwell Heath. The successful applicant will:

London North East Community Foundation is an independent registered charity. Our focus is on building better and stronger communities for future generations

by creating a community of local donors and giving to local good causes and tackle social exclusion, poverty and social injustice.

To apply please send your CV with a covering letter to us at recruitment@lnecf.org.uk

or by post to us at London North East Community Foundation, LCCM House, Kemp Road, RM8 1ST.

National News

Donation scheme attracts political interest

By Paul Jump, Third Sector Online, 7 April 2008

Third sector minister Phil Hope has agreed to organise a meeting about a scheme that would allow shoppers to round up their bills to the nearest pound and donate the overpayment to charity. Pennies4Change, set up by international fundraising business Votiva, offers software that would allow overpayments made using credit or debit cards to be sent automatically to the company's charitable foundation.

[Full Story](#)

This Year's Budget.

The 2008 Budget statement included the good news that Gift Aid will be paid at a transitional rate of 22% for the next three years even though the income tax rate goes down to 20%. This is worth about £100m to the sector each year for three years.

For more information see [NAVCA's website](#).

Capacitybuilders board considers Futurebuilders proposal

By Andy Ricketts, Third Sector Online, 7 April 2008

The Capacitybuilders board will discuss ways of working more closely with Futurebuilders England at a meeting later this month after Stephen Bubb, the Futurebuilders chair, raised the possibility of the two bodies merging.

After reading a comment made by Bubb in his Acevo blog last week, Chris Pond, chair of Capacitybuilders, said the organisation wanted to examine ways that it can work more closely with other agencies.

[Full Story](#)

Local Elections 1st May...

Local elections will be taking place across Wales and parts of England, as well as the Greater London Authority election, on 1 May. You must be registered before you can vote in these elections. The deadline to register to vote is 16 April.

[Find out more.](#)

New-look Futurebuilders sets out on investment roadshow

By Helen Warrell, Third Sector, 9 April 2008

The Adventure Capital Fund, which recently won the tender to run the Government's £215m Futurebuilders funds, has started a drive to find new candidates for investment by holding roadshows and having dinners with members of voluntary sector chief executives body Acevo.

"A big change in emphasis will be making Futurebuilders a very outward-facing organisation," said Jonathan Lewis, chief executive of the fund and the new head of Futurebuilders.

"We want to try to meet people in the market and work out what they want from the fund."

[Full Story](#)

Government pulls the plug on £6.4m fund

By Andy Ricketts, Third Sector Online, 8 April 2008

Charities have criticised the Department for Communities and Local Government after its eleventh-hour decision to drop a "crucial" £6.4m partnership scheme.

Last week, the department wrote to the third sector organisations that had applied in December to become strategic partners with

the department to tell them that it had pulled the plug on the scheme. The scheme was part of the department's strategy for working with the voluntary sector, published in June.

[Full Story](#)

Networks - Children and Young Person's Providers

Waltham Forest Children and Young People's Service is delighted to announce it's new online Directory.

Visit the directory at www.walthamforest.gov.uk/csd

Emma Bond

Networks - Health Providers

Healthcare for London - Consulting The Capital.

Assembly Hall, Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, London SW1P 3NZ on Tuesday **6 May at 9am.**

The meeting will hear presentations from:

- Ipsos MORI: Analysis of consultation responses
- The Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Response to consultation
- The London Health Commission: Health Inequalities Impact Assessment (HIIA) and Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

Members of the public are welcome. Please call Jo Lobban on 020 7932 8759 or email jo.lobban@london.nhs.uk and register your attendance.

Chair sought for Waltham Forest Primary CareTrust

We are seeking inspirational leaders with board skills gained in major complex organisations in the public, private or voluntary sectors. As Chair you will have a critical role designing the shape of local health services.

[More Detail](#)

London Health Commission Awards: entries close April 30, 2008

The London Health Commission (LHC) has launched an Awards programme to recognise and reward community and voluntary group achievements in health and well-being. The Awards, focused on community action for health and well-being, will celebrate the contribution made by groups working on a wide range of projects across the capital in the areas of cohesive communities, mental well-being, partnerships with local government, partnership achievements with business sector and community campaigning and advocacy.

The projects must have been up and running for at least a year and groups must have an annual turnover of less than £100,000. Winning entries will receive £1000 as well as additional support such as training.

Groups have until April 30, 2008 to apply.

For more information and to download an application form, please visit www.londonhealth.gov.uk/awards.htm

Training

Free fast track 10 week course - NVQ Level 2s in Customer

Service and Business Administration

Prevista is currently closing a small project and it is their intent on making sure that everyone possible knows about it. It is separate to the Train to Gain programme but does offer free NVQ Level 2s in Customer Service and Business Administration for anyone employed or volunteer who doesn't have 5 GCSEs A-C or a Level 2 qualification. This is a fast track 10 week course. For information please contact Zoe from Prevista via email zoen@prevista.co.uk or call 0207 619 8304.

National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) pro-diversity & inclusion leadership training

Managers and staff with diversity & inclusion and equal opportunities responsibilities benefit tremendously from the NCBI 3-day training by being able to cascade skills learned instead of trying to implement theory.

The training uses participatory activities, which include:

1. The celebration of the participants' identities.
2. The examination of stereotyping, misinformation and internalised oppression.
3. Small learning sets where participants receive individual coaching and practice skills.
4. The combination of diversity intelligence and practical skill training, enabling participants to learn quickly in a safe environment.

Next 3-day training dates: 15/16/17/ May 2008;

Location: London;

Training costs: Charities £175 | Public Sector £300 | Business £450.

Places are limited so early bookings are advised.

To book go to <http://ncbi.org.uk/documents/booking%20form.doc>

or see <http://www.ncbi.org.uk/London/courses> or email them ncbilondon@ncbi.org.uk .

TRAIN TO GAIN

Your local contact for Train to Gain – Gerry Henry

His role as a Training Promotion Consultant is to establish links with Organisations to appraise them of free training which leads to nationally recognised qualifications (NVQ Level 2) in a range of subjects under Train to Gain and register employees/volunteers who are eligible.

He looks forward to serve as your local contact. Please contact him on: train2gain@ntlworld.com or call him on 07861 253 801.

Financial advice and training for small charities and voluntary groups

Find out more on: <http://www.cash-online.org.uk/content/2/10/>

Opportunities for work experience in Europe from the European Commission

Opportunities for work experience in Europe from the European Commission Lifelong Learning Programme. Available to those aged 18 – 35 years old, participants can have paid working experience in another European country for a period of between 12 and 16

weeks during 2008. The grants would cover foreign language tuition, transportation and accommodation costs. If you are interested and you are a British citizen, please contact: info@gorea.co.uk or phone 020 8578 7614.

Training for development workers

PQASSO Quality Mark peer reviewer training

The new externally assessed "kite mark" for PQASSO has just been launched. Charities Evaluation Services is offering training to assess organisations against the PQASSO standards. Payment and expenses for your employer are available.

26, 27 and 28 March, London

12, 13 and 14 May, Birmingham

23, 24 and 25 June, London

For more information see www.pqassoqualitymark.org.uk

UK Skill - National Training Awards

UK Skill wants to promote the idea of information sessions on this year's National Training Awards to businesses and voluntary organisations that they network with. They want to brief organisations on how to enter. This year, the closing date is 25th April 2008 and the Award categories are:

individual, partnership and collaboration award, large employer, medium employer, small employer and providing education and training awards. Organisations who can apply are those who take pride in staff training and Individuals who want their personal success through training recognised and rewarded. Please let them know of possible dates so they can arrange a date with UK Skills. Contact Christine, who is an ambassador for the National training awards on: ahec2000@yahoo.com or go to:

<http://www.nationaltrainingawards.com/entering/index.htm>

Local Area Agreements: Brave New World?

30th April - Methodist International Centre, London

Support Solutions have announced new dates in London to reflect high demand and still have availability on our April and May half-day seminar series on "Local Area Agreements: Brave New World?". Please visit <http://www.supportsolutions.co.uk/training.htm> to see current availability.

Local Area Agreements are a fundamentally significant change to the arrangements we currently work to so these events are important. These are half-day events (9.30 - 1.00 & 2.00 - 5.30) and will include a valuable Resource CD-ROM which will include a great deal of useful information, tools and resources of direct relevance to the subject matter.

The cost for each event is ONLY £75 + VAT to include materials, refreshments and lunch.

Check out the website for more information.

[Booking Form](#)

LVSC Short Course Programme - April 2008

Open the link for the short courses LVSC will be running in April 2008.

For further information check their website:

www.lvsc.org.uk/courses or call the Learning Team on 020 7700 8113.

Writing for E-Bulletins and the Web

8th May 2008 (10am - 4.30pm)

NCVO, Regent's Wharf, 8 All Saints Street, London N1 9RL

Cost: £50 (0-5 staff), £100 (6-30 staff), £150 (31+ staff)

How do you make your web pages and e-news attractive and readable and get the point over quickly? How do we write like human beings, and not sound institutional? What do we do to make our pages and e-news accessible? Do we do it the same as for print? This practical 'hands-on' course has the answers.

To book a place, please call Sharon Stainsby on 020 7700 8192 or email cascade@lvsc.org.uk

Alison online free training

Alison free courses are financed by sponsor partners, and also through advertising, allowing you to make enormous savings on education and training within your organization. Registered learners in over 200 countries worldwide have already accessed the following high-quality interactive content for free: ICT (Information and Communications Technologies); Touch Typing; Health & Safety (10 courses); Financial Literacy; Business English Test, and much more.

For further information and to book a course visit:

<http://alison.com/go/march/homepage>

Employability activities at the MRC

The Migrants Resource Centre is running various employability activities which started in March. The Migrants Resource Centre works with migrants and refugees and in partnership with other agencies, to effect social justice and change, enabling migrants and refugees to fully participate in this society. Please see the attached leaflets for more information.

Please register via email or phone:

laura@migrants.org.uk 02078211273

Personal Best Programme Realise your potential today At Tom Hood School

The Personal Best Programme is for people who are not in work or education, but would like to gain opportunities to volunteer in their community and at the same time improve their skills and chances of getting a job. These courses are FREE. We look forward to seeing you very soon.

The course covers 9 topics

1. Volunteering and the Olympics
2. Becoming a volunteer
3. Effective customer relations
4. Equality and diversity
5. Public safety awareness
6. Emergency and basic fire awareness
7. Conflict resolution in a public setting
8. Team and interpersonal skills
9. Preparing for and reflecting on a volunteer placement – course includes a 30 hour volunteering placement

To get more information and to book a place on this course, come to an information and enrolment session at Tom Hood School on Monday 21st April or Wednesday 23rd April at 10.00am. If you have any questions telephone 020 8558 6805.

Tendering for Public Sector Contracts Workshop

Supply London is a programme funded by the London Development Agency and is designed to assist small businesses and third sector organisations in London in their efforts to be a great supplier and win future contracts.

Who is the workshop for?

Managers, directors and development workers, who feel their organisation is ready to take the necessary steps to becoming 'Fit for Purpose' and is suitable for those who wish to apply for contracts up to the EU procurement threshold of about £154,000,

What is the workshop about?

The workshop is designed to explore and clarify the tendering process and provides a user-friendly overview of the procurement practices in both public and commercial sectors.

Venue:

The Epi Centre, Waltham Forest May 15th 9am – 4.30pm
To book a place on this workshop, please complete the attached booking form. PLEASE NOTE: only upon receipt of the £75 refundable deposit will your space be reserved.
To find out more information contact Andrea Chott on 01708 778 060

INTRODUCTORY COURSE ON COUNSELLING REFUGEES OCTOBER 2008 - JULY 2009

Are you a refugee or asylum seeker? Would you like to help others? Are you interested in learning about counselling? Would you like to work in the community? Yes? Then this course is for you.

The Refugee Therapy Centre is running an introductory course on

counselling
for people who would like to learn about working with refugees
and asylum
seekers in the community. The Introductory Course on
Counselling Refugees
offers you the opportunity to use your own experiences to help
others.

The full fee for the year is £840. However, concessions are
available for
asylum seekers and unemployed refugees.

If you are interested in applying for this course, or would like to
know
more information, please contact the Course Administrator, on
020 7272
2565 or at info@refugeetherapy.org.uk.

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