



CAVOS

newsletter

January 2008

BIG LOTTERY SUCCESS

CAVOS has been successful with a BIG Lottery bid to the sum of **£438,983** over 4 years

The money is to develop CAVOS' services and deliver support to Voluntary and Community Sector groups and organisations until 2012.

CAVOS is one of only 2 organisations in County Durham to receive the BASIS funding which was for supporting organisations such as Councils for Voluntary Services (CVS) (CAVOS is the CVS for Sedgefield Borough).....

See page 2 for details of the work we will be delivering

CAVOS urgently needs your views!

As the Council for Voluntary Services (CVS) for Sedgefield Borough, CAVOS believes very strongly that support services for our local voluntary and community groups should be delivered by a local CVS.

Please see the enclosed letter from Julia Bowles, the CAVOS chair, and complete the short questionnaire.

You can send the questionnaire back to us at our FREEPOST address.....or if you care to save us postage, ring us and we will send an electronic copy for you to return by email.

We need your questionnaire returned by Friday 1st February.

YOUR VIEWS ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO US

Thank you for your support.

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If you have any queries relating to this newsletter, or would like an article published in the next issue please contact us:

Tel:

01388 811115

Email:

enquiries@cavos.org.uk

Did you know?...

Bishop fm have set up a brand new comprehensive online events calendar for South West Durham.

Do you have any information, news or an event that you would like to publicise?

Get in touch with Michael Fryer at Bishop fm on **07917694588** or email **michael_fryer@hotmail.com**

If you just want to know what's going on in the area then check out the calendar on the Bishop fm website

www.bishopfm.com



....continued from page 1

We intend to carry out a wide range of tasks over the next 4 years that include the following:

- Developing networks to ensure groups with similar aims can learn from and support each other
- Develop a voluntary sector consultation panel to allow for input into decision making
- Provide resources with step-by-step guides for community groups and organisations
- Update funding information resources for community group use
- Provide a wider range of policies and information bulletins
- Evaluate CAVOS services to make sure we are delivering what our customers need
- Upgrade our website to allow for downloads of support materials and provide a website notice board and queries page
- Provide a comprehensive training programme to build skills and confidence
- Funding support to help groups generate their own income
- Support community groups to be well organised and promote themselves effectively
- Deliver a seminar programme on topics and issues relevant to the sector
- Provide funding surgeries and events with funders
- Support new people into volunteering
- Support groups with charity registration
- Support groups in consultation exercises

We want to know what you want from CAVOS to ensure we use this Lottery funding for the benefit of our local voluntary and community sector

Please complete the questionnaire inside and return it to us FREEPOST

We would like to publicly thank BIG Lottery for the funding

Is your group in danger of closing due to lack of funds or other support?

CAVOS is trying to find out which groups may fold in the near future, or are struggling to stay afloat. Please contact us to let us know what your situation is and if there is anything we can do to help

Would your Management Committee like any support?

Being a volunteer Management Committee member can be daunting, especially if you are a charity, run a building or employ staff.

If you as an individual would like any support in understanding your role and your responsibilities, then let us know and we will offer a support session to you and others in a similar position.

If you think your group could do with a kick start for 2008 — let us know and we will help.

Would you like to become a trained Volunteer Funding Advisor?

CAVOS is looking for 3 volunteers to train with us to become funding advisors to small community groups.

Training will initially take place at CAVOS with a later opportunity to gain a Level 3 Open College Network accredited qualification in 'Giving Funding Advice'

Volunteers will be accountable to the CAVOS Chief Officer and must work within the CAVOS guidelines. A full support and training programme will be given.



Applying to become a Charity

If you are a community organisation with charitable aims and have an income of more than £5,000, are you aware that you should register as a Charity with the Charity Commission?

For more information contact CAVOS

See our training programme for our information session 'Charity Registration' on Tuesday 12th February.
Booking essential

CAVOS Reference Group

CAVOS is seeking to set up a reference group of members and beneficiaries who have a say in the way we deliver our services. The purpose of the group is to ensure that CAVOS delivers the right service for the voluntary and community sector and that all support is delivered to a high quality.

We would also welcome ideas and discussion on potential new services and support we could offer.

All members of the reference group would be fully supported to understand the role of the group, and information will be given to ensure everyone who would like to be involved can be.

We intend to hold 2-3 meetings a year, and the outcome of meetings will help us to deliver our services in the best way possible.

CAVOS has a small staff team and we are all dedicated to offering support to a high standard – the reference group can help us do that.

If you would like to find out more about the reference group or would like to sign up, please complete the questionnaire with this newsletter.

We would welcome your interest

Be an Every Action Counts champion

Every Action Counts (EAC) is an innovative programme that will engage national and local voluntary and community sector organisations in work to protect and improve our environment and to deliver sustainable development solutions. The project provides support and resources for voluntary and community groups and community development workers.

EAC is looking for over 1,000 'Community Champions' to lead change in their neighbourhoods.

What is a Community Champion?

Someone who encourages local community groups, clubs and societies to take small actions that support 'one planet living', by creating an action plan to create a more sustainable future.

What's in it for me?

- Recognised and accredited training with an opportunity to access more
- Experience working with community groups, clubs and societies on sustainable development supported by the UK's leading organisations in community involvement and development
- Support from an interactive website with online and offline resource banks.

How do I qualify?

No formal experience or qualifications are necessary, but you must be over 18 and enthusiastic about your community and the sustainability of that community.

How much of my time will it take?

After two days' training, you'll probably spend a few hours a month meeting local groups, clubs and societies to help them create an action plan.

The Every Action Counts Community Champion training course is now open for booking in Newcastle on 4 & 5 February

Other dates are available in various other parts of the UK

For more information on how to become a Community Champion contact the BTCV Community Champions Team on **01302 388841** or email **everyactioncounts@btcv.org.uk**.



Get active and have fun in Sedgefield Borough

Are you entitled to free activities at your leisure centre?

Free use of the sports hall and outdoor all-weather pitch:

@ Ferryhill Leisure Centre & Shildon-Sunnydale Leisure Centre

Free swim sessions:

@ Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre & Spennymoor Leisure Centre

There are also a variety of additional activities where concessionary prices are available. Concession rates are available for benefit claimants, over 60s, juniors, people with disabilities, GP referrals and students. There are also free activities available for some postcode areas.

To find out if you are entitled and for further information, contact your nearest leisure centre

Ferryhill Leisure Centre: 01740 654123

Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre: 01325 300500

Shildon/Sunnydale Leisure Centre: 01388 777340

Spennymoor Leisure Centre: 01388 815827

CAVOS and the Volunteer Centre have developed a programme of training opportunities to meet the needs of the Voluntary and Community Sector in Sedgefield Borough.

See the enclosed training programme for more details.

If there is a training course you would like to attend that we are not running, let us know and we'll see what we can do to help you

Interested in volunteering?

Or is your group/organisation looking for volunteers?

Have you thought about registering with the Volunteer Centre?

Contact Sharon or Vicky at CAVOS for more information 01388 811115

If you would like a copy of this newsletter in a bigger font ...or if you have difficulty reading from this paper and would prefer it in another colour call us on 01388 811115 or email enquiries@cavos.org.uk



Sedgefield Borough
Local Strategic Partnership

