



## WEST LONDON VOLUNTARY SECTOR NEWS ISSUE 2 – Feb 2011

West London Network (WLN) is pleased to be issuing its second E-Newsletter, providing updates for the wider voluntary sector of the West London sub-region. Our E-newsletter will be communicated via our partners across 7 boroughs, but if you would like to receive your own copy directly, please email [info@westlondonnetwork.org.uk](mailto:info@westlondonnetwork.org.uk)

We hope you enjoy this issue but if you have any additional comments, ideas or short articles you would like included in the next edition, email them to us on [info@westlondonnetwork.org.uk](mailto:info@westlondonnetwork.org.uk).

Fuad Uddin - West London Network Manager

### **STOP PRESS - Big Lottery Transforming Local Infrastructure bid a success for West London!**

Following the submission of our ambitious five borough bid to the Big Lottery Fund for the Transforming Local Infrastructure, we are pleased to announce that the West London Consortium was successful in its proposal for modernising infrastructure support services. We can also confirm that this was the largest award made in the country, which demonstrates that our collaborative working can overcome difficulties faced by the VCS in our sub-region, especially in the face of a challenging economic climate. The award means that just under £1 million pounds will be brought into the five boroughs of Hillingdon, Hounslow, Harrow, Brent and Ealing.

"This is excellent news for West London and will help the VCS in our sub-region prepare to face future challenges during these difficult economic times" - Sylvia Francis, WLN Chair.

For more information, visit [www.westlondonnetwork.org.uk](http://www.westlondonnetwork.org.uk) or email [fuad@westlondonnetwork.org.uk](mailto:fuad@westlondonnetwork.org.uk).

We are also pleased to announce that the Transforming Local Infrastructure proposal from Hammersmith & Fulham was a success and that this will open up new partnership working in the borough. For more information, email [olivia.leu@cavsa.org.uk](mailto:olivia.leu@cavsa.org.uk).

## WEST LONDON UPDATES

### **London Councils**

WLN will be coordinating a joint response to the consultation by London Councils on the funding of the voluntary sector. The Steering Group will be discussing identified priorities at its next meeting and make a collective response to the consultation. For more details, [click here](#).

### **Digital TV Outreach Programme**

WLN is continuing its work to carry out digital outreach activities on the analogue to digital switchover and the Help Scheme. Working with its partner CVS organisations across 11 boroughs, WLN has undertaken a series of training events and presentations to inform the wider VCS about the key changes and support available to people who will be affected by the switchover. In addition, WLN has also facilitated a small grants programme to fund organisations wishing to conduct their own outreach activity to residents. There will also be several advice points for residents in across London and details of these will be publicised shortly on our website. If you would like to find out more about the small grants programme, please email [fuad@westlondonnetwork.org.uk](mailto:fuad@westlondonnetwork.org.uk) or [click here](#) for more details.

### **TIDE training courses**

There are still some places remaining on the TIDE training programme, ranging from New Ways of Working in the VCS to First Aid. Courses are open to West London VCS organisations and either free or at a concession rate, depending on which borough you work in and the size of your organisation (some courses are only for Harrow based groups). For more information on the current programme, please [click here](#) or email [tide@ealingcvs.org.uk](mailto:tide@ealingcvs.org.uk) for details.

## West London Network Forums - Updates

WLN currently supports 4 sub-regional forums. Other than the Volunteering Forum, membership is open to all voluntary and community groups in West London:

- **West London Training & Employment Forum** – A well attended and successful awards ceremony was held for participants of the Third Age Foundation in Dec 2012, with the opportunity for networking of VCS organisations from West London. Plans are underway to hold an additional event in the summer of 2012 and more details will follow. If you are interested in joining the West London Training & Employment Forum, please contact Sylvia Francis on [info@thirdage.org.uk](mailto:info@thirdage.org.uk)
- **West London Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) Forum** – 2012 will see the running of the West London LGBT Forum being carried forward by Outwest, with support from the West London LGBT Development Project. Outwest are already gearing up for the year, with a recently held conference on hate crime, titled 'No Place for Hate.' For more details about the work of Outwest, email [info@outwest.org.uk](mailto:info@outwest.org.uk). Member organisations of the LGBT forum have also successfully collaborated to form a partnership to deliver a new Hounslow Hate Crime service. Partners include Outwest, Ealing Equality Council and the West London LGBT project. For more details, email [luke@ealingcvcs.org.uk](mailto:luke@ealingcvcs.org.uk).
- **West London Black, Minority Ethnic and Refugee Forum (BMER) Forum** – The February listing of news and events from REAP has just been published and can be found by [clicking here](#). For more details, email [communications@reap.org.uk](mailto:communications@reap.org.uk).
- **West London Volunteering Forum** – In preparation of the cross-borough youth volunteering bid, together with the West London Volunteer Centres, WLN will undertake a series of consultations with young people to help shape the development of its proposal. To find out more, email [lizzie@ealingcvcs.org.uk](mailto:lizzie@ealingcvcs.org.uk).

## BOROUGH ROUND-UPS

- **Ealing** – Ealing Council and Ealing Community Network have started a major joint strategic review of partnership work to explore opportunities for VCS groups to deliver more public services. ECVS has also secured additional projects in partnership: with Ealing Council and Ealing Police, to tackle extremism for a three year project funded by the EU; and with Ealing Council, to promote new volunteering opportunities in local parks. For more info, email [andy@ealingcvcs.org.uk](mailto:andy@ealingcvcs.org.uk)
- **Hounslow** – Work to consult Hounslow's VCS on the set-up of a new Hounslow Community Network (HCN) is still ongoing and our analysis of a recent survey supported the idea of its establishment. The HCN will also be used to elect representatives on local partnership boards at the next open meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> March and lobby on behalf of the sector's interests. To find out more about HCN or to register your interest for the day, email [fuad@westlondonnetwork.org.uk](mailto:fuad@westlondonnetwork.org.uk). You can also [click here](#) for an analysis of the HCN survey.
- **Harrow** – Interim support for Harrow groups is continuing to be provided by CVSs from Ealing, Hammersmith & Fulham and Hillingdon, with services in Volunteering, IT, Group Development and Training. In addition, support for the development of a new CVS for Harrow includes: developing an up to date database of Harrow Groups; undertaking an E-Survey of groups to ascertain what they require of a new organisation; and working with both the Harrow VCS Forum and the interim VCS Board. Harrow Council is also consulting on the possibility of the CVS being a pilot for their new tendering system to be introduced from 2013. For more info email [julie.browne@kidscanachieve.co.uk](mailto:julie.browne@kidscanachieve.co.uk).
- **Hillingdon** – HAVS have bid farewell to the Ted Hill, who served as the former Chief Executive at Hillingdon's CVS. Please join us in wishing Ted the best in his new role and welcome Jim Wong, who will be serving as the new interim Business Development Manager for HAVS. If you would like to contact HAVS for more info, email [jwong@havs.org.uk](mailto:jwong@havs.org.uk)
- **Hammersmith & Fulham** – Desta Consortium, one of four VCS consortia managed by CaVSA H&F and supported by the Big Lottery BASIS fund, has successfully secured its first NHS contract of £670,000 to deliver the Expert Patient Services in the boroughs of Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster. The service will be delivered in a community setting and provide self management courses for people with long term health conditions and their carers. For more info email [olivia.leu@cavsa.org.uk](mailto:olivia.leu@cavsa.org.uk).
- **Brent** – CVS Brent, Brent BASIS Project and Women's Resource Centre are organising a free funding seminar for organisations working with women in the borough of Brent on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012. The

session will include advice from local commissioners, different ways of diversifying funding and further opportunities for networking. Spaces are limited but if your organisation works with women and is interested in working in Brent, email [development@wrc.org.uk](mailto:development@wrc.org.uk) to book a place.

- **Barnet** – Recognised for its 'Safer Families Project', 'Young People's Safeguarding Board' (Youth Shield) and 'Multi-Faith Group', Barnet picked up 'highly commended' for each of the three projects nominated for an award at the first London Safeguarding Children Board's annual conference held on Monday 5th December. The ceremony was hosted by London Councils and celebrates safe-guarding practices on the London wide level. For more info, email [Shereen.williams@communitybarnet.org.uk](mailto:Shereen.williams@communitybarnet.org.uk)

## NATIONAL/REGIONAL NEWS

**Book swaps for London:** A campaign with the goal of establishing a London-wide book sharing scheme by the opening ceremony of the Olympics, Book swaps for London will work to cement London as a capital of literacy as well as sport. With hundreds of thousands of visitors travelling through London's stations, this highly visible scheme will involve the establishment of "Shelves" at London's stations and commuters can use them to pick up books they would like to read and drop off books that they want to give away. VCS organisation can also get involved in the running of Book swaps at their local tube and train stations. If you would like to find out more, email [londonbookswap@gmail.com](mailto:londonbookswap@gmail.com).

**Stuff for Free:** Healthy Planet have organised a series of giant community reuse events in Acton, West London and encourages reuse (to help yourself) and reduce of landfill (to help the environment). Residents and organisations have been encouraged to drop off unwanted items and goods, as well as take a pick of the donated stock at either low prices or for free. A special half-term weekend of give and take on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February will be held, with free stuff for children and fun activities for all. For more details, visit [www.stuffforfree.org.uk](http://www.stuffforfree.org.uk). Address: Vision Warehouse 15, Kendal Avenue, Acton, W3.

**Bicycle Maintenance Training:** London Bike Hub have places to teach lessons to either staff, volunteers or even service users of VCS groups in West London about bicycle maintenance. Lessons can be tailored to individuals of all levels and your organisation can benefit from having someone who can provide basic service in bicycle maintenance. If you would like to find out more, email [info@londonbikehub.com](mailto:info@londonbikehub.com).

## Health Developments in West London:

London Cancer Alliance will be holding a meeting with other relevant stakeholders, including VCS organisations involved in the area of cancer, to develop a patient and carer involvement strategy. The date of the meeting is to be confirmed but will either be 20<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> February. The strategy aims to embed current good practice and ensure that cancer patients and their carers are engaged effectively during their contact with health services. If your organisation works in the area of cancer and would like to attend the meeting and contribute to the development of the strategy, please email [daniel.callanan@nwlc.nhs.uk](mailto:daniel.callanan@nwlc.nhs.uk) by the 8<sup>th</sup> February.

WLN will also be hosting a wider health conference for West London's VCS on the 29<sup>th</sup> March to discuss changes in health and the impact this will have on residents and the services they receive. If you would like to receive more details on the event, please register your interest on email to [info@westlondonnetwork.org.uk](mailto:info@westlondonnetwork.org.uk).

London Local Supervising Authority is recruiting up to 10 maternity service users to undertake audits taking place at hospitals across London. Candidates will have used a London maternity service in the past 5 years and be able to question, analyse and make decisions about sensitive and confidential issues. A commitment of 6-8 days per year is required, paid at £250 each day and application packs can be obtained from [carol.walsh@london.nhs.uk](mailto:carol.walsh@london.nhs.uk). Closing date is 20<sup>th</sup> February 5pm.

## CONTACTS

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