Community CVS Breakfast Network

Meeting

Thursday 27th July 2017

Minutes

Attendees

Donna Talbot – Community CVS

Marselle Davies – Community CVS

Carole Brown – BwD Talk English

Kiran Sadiq – BwD Carers Service

Lauran Turton – Probation CRC

Rose Morgan – Blackburn Youth Zone

Sean Starkie – Blackburn College

Louise Taylor – Bootstrap

Sajida Shah – Bootstrap

Ilyas Patel – Blackburn Rovers FC

Apologies

Sufina Aslam – Carers link Lancashire

Tracy Davies – CAB

Uzma Raziq – Age UK Lancs

Helen Smith – CBP

Jay Ratcliffe – Nightsafe

Sharon Hardman – Healthwatch

Denise Hayhurst – Super Slow Way

Presentation from **Carole Brown – Talk English**

* Carole handed out a piece of paper with Thai writing on it – and asked everyone to copy the writing and translate what it says. – Everyone struggled with this
* “This test highlights how difficult it is for individuals who live in this country and cannot read or write – when confronted with paperwork the individual feels like they are being tested and it can be quite daunting.”

Talk English – a number of projects

* Strand 1 – Low level – pre- entry for individuals who have difficulty writing their name and address – not only writing it but remembering it.
* Strand 2 – focus on Muslim women as they have been identified as the most isolated group of individuals. In their day to day life they do not come across many English speaking people as the doctors and local shops will speak in their mother tongue, this results in ladies who have lived here for over 40 yrs. being unable to communicate.
* The project is aimed to teach English in an informal way – we wrap English around activities – walking, trips out to Clitheroe, Manchester etc
* Project delivered by volunteers – all vols need to have teaching skills/PGCE retired teachers.
* Vols needed for 2 hours per week (most vols work in pairs)
* There are resources accessible and available online
* Anyone can access resources at Audley and Bank Top
* Funding from central government until March 2018

Q: Would you be able to provide outreach classes?

A: We can offer classes at local community centres

Q: Do you run courses at Bank Top?

A: Yes we already run a group from there?

Q: Do you offer provision for teaching computers and English?

A: Yes this is something that can be organised

Q: What is the referral process for those who cannot read or write?

A: Just contact Carol we will run an initial assessment then we have 3 lots of courses arranged

5 classes running in September

5 classes running in October

5 classes running in January

Q: Is there a cost to the courses?

A: No – it’s all free

Q: How many vols are needed?

A: We need around 20

Q: What criteria for volunteers?

A: Level 3 equivalent qualifications - teaching qualifications/experience

Q: Where do you advertise opportunities?

A: Talk English website and Lancashire Volunteering Partnership

Q: have you booked a stall at the Blackburn College Volunteer Fair – October 19th 11am – 2pm

A: No not yet.

Q: Would it be a problem for a client accessing European funded projects – accessing your project?

A: No not at all – however if someone is going to college to learn English they won’t be able to access courses.

Presentation for **Ilyas Patel** from **Blackburn Rovers Football Club Community Trust**

* Bit of back ground about myself ran the social inclusion project at Preston North End for 7 years, then Healthwatch and now Im Social Inclusion Officer for BRFC
* I am wanting to link in with the wider community
* We would like to raise the profile of the club and I am looking for positive and negative feedback from the community.
* We have 2 projects running at the moment one is FFIT and the other is a walking group
* The FFIT project was initially piloted in Scotland and was very successful the project is looking at working with Male 18+ particularly in the BME community – anyone wishing to improve their health
* Free 12 week project – 2 hours per week
* First 45 min of each session – professionals invited in – NHS/ BwD council etc talking about smoking, drinking and healthy eating
* Then second half of the session will be a variety of sports
* Everyone will be issued with a “Fitbit” which has being proven as very motivational
* The aim of the project isn’t weight loss it’s more that the clients get the message about healthier lifestyles
* If the pilot is successful we hope to run the project for women and other groups
* Employment not a barrier so individuals working can access the project
* If you have groups of 15 – 20 individuals we can run a group in local community centres/sports halls
* Project 2 – walking group – open to any age group
* Open to men and women
* We meet at the stadium – walk around the pitch, talking and walking then go for a brew and a chat – most people don’t realise how much walking they have done and they enjoy it
* We really want to engage with the wider community – open to all ideas
* We are linking in with GP practices and we have had a positive reaction from then.

Q: Do you do anything that can be tailored to a certain group – I.E we work with families – parents and children on a Sunday – say a 6 week course or something

A: yes this is something we could look into – possibly at the rovers as we have an indoor centre or if travel is a barrier we could run something more local

Q: Have you linked in with community centres?

A; Yes this is something that I am in process of doing

Sean Starkie: At Blackburn College available if you need to book something contact Danny Davies @ BRFC

Update fro **Rose Morgan** – **Blackburn Youth Zone**

* New lads group – 50p on a Sunday 4.30pm – 6.30pm - male relatives welcome
* Activities – multi – sports, pool, climbing, cooking
* New Mini Members – 5-7yrs 50p on a Saturday 12.30pm – 2pm
* Activities – multi-sports, Parachute games, sensory dance, messy play and mini movers
* We have split the age groups of we have
* Senior Group 17- 19yrs
* Junior Group 12 – 16yrs
* Desperate for catering volunteers – we will do onsite training – health & Safety, induction, Food Hygiene and a number of other courses. Bob our chef is great
* Looking for volunteers from 16+
* Big Family Funday – 28th August – bank holiday Monday – joining forces theme with military style assault course, yester-year display, face painting etc
* We still desperate to identify forces family in the BwD area – many of the children have absent parent, move around a lot and find it hard to establish social networks.
* It was suggested by Marselle Davies that Rose may benefit from contacting Jackie McVan at CGL has she has linked in with forces families

Presentation from **Sajida Shah** from **Bootstrap**

* BBO – changing futures working in Blackburn initially then East Lancs
* My role will be to get those who are far from employment into work
* Im working with people over 50 yrs. Those who have previously worked, lost their jobs and has a consequence thy have lost their confidence.
* We can work with anyone of any age who is looking to get into work
* We provide advice and guidance and we use a person centred approach

Update from **Sean Starkie** from **Blackburn College**

* Careers Fair @ the Cathedral on 14th September 10am – 4pm
* Over 60 employers have already booked
* 1700 school kids will be attending
* Interactive workshops
* Public sector will be there Ambulance, Police and Fire brigade
* If you would like to book a stall please contact Safiyya Mulla – Safiyya.mulla@blackburn.gov.uk

Date of Next Meeting Thursday 21st September 2017