**MINUTES OF NETWORKING MEETING ON Thursday 26th July**

Attendees: Mark Wood-Age Uk, Imran Hasat- BWD LUP, Nadine Ray- Blackburn College, Kiran Sadiq- BWD Carers service, Ian Leadbeater- N-Compass, Paula Swainston-Ynot Aspire, Anthony Milligan-CAB, Kathryn Clay- Alzheimer’s Society, Gabrielle Aspinall-CBP, Rohan Awan-BYZ, Lynne Mitchell-Near Neighbours.

**Presentation by Anthony Milligan from C.A.B;**

* New to the role and been in post for 2 months
* The purpose of the new role is to find out about what services are available in the local area so we can signpost people to the relevant services.
* Currently don’t offer 121 support – this is done in Blackburn at shelter
* Most of the work is done by telephone and we offer a specialist debt service
* Currently linked in with probation and looking to work in partnership[ with other services

Q. What risk are the offenders that you deal with

A. High risk offenders, serious violence

Info – You could link in with Christian stables still open in Accrington – don’t know

City of sanctuary – someone will give you a bed for the night

**Presentation by Paula Swainston from Ynot Aspire;**

* Based in Accrington and the project works with young people from 11 to 25 that have different issues
* We recruit volunteers and train them to become mentors
* We are currently in the process of putting volunteers in high schools to be a mentor for those who want to speak to someone about their mental health issues.
* The aim of the project is to improve children’s mental health and wellbeing
* Currently developing a web chat
* Project No Stigma – positive mental health for those in year 8
* Project no Fear – Crime and consequences project for those in year 10 ( running for 5 years)
* Your Space – Trailer Blaze aimed at those aged14 to 25 to tackle homelessness, they don’t offer accommodations but do signpost to the right services.
* Currently need volunteers to help out on the project
* We have potential to expand in other areas but we are just seeing how things go in Hyndburn at the moment

Q. Who promotes that in Clitheroe

A. A worker goes over every Thursday – can email the info out

Q. How do you keep volunteers?

A. Its best to get college students who need the experience – There is a volunteer fayre in October

**Presentation from Kathryn from the Alzheimer’s society;**

* Currently need volunteers to link in with people to take to activities
* The need for support is growing
* At events currently I have attended there has been a decrease of footfall –
* I tend to work on a 1:10 ratio – so we would need to invite a lot more people to these events to increase the footfall
* We need to think about working differently

It would be best to discuss this in more detail so Donna will put a slot on next month’s agenda so we can spend more time on this.

Discussions need to be around – time to recruit, social media, encouraging footfall, type of events to be done to encourage volunteering, promotion of volunteering and the benefits of volunteering. We need to think about working smarter and more partnership working. September and January are the best times to recruit volunteers. Suggested that Brain Taylor would be invited to these meeting to have influence on suggestions.

Other areas for discussion were

* Festival of making – maybe link in with these bigger events
* Having a contact to change the info in line with GDPR
* Access to the mall – pop up stalls f.o.c – for awareness raising
* Suggested a volunteer academy running for a number of weeks to keep people interested and accredited course – so individuals get something at the end
* Service speed dating – but information sharing instead.
* We need to promote the benefits of volunteering to gain more interest as we would like to smash any stigma
* Together Lancashire suggested they could help with organising volunteer events
* We could also get the police cadets involved to help promote events.

**Presentation from Gabrielle Aspinall from CBP;**

* Game changer project is part of BBO to help people set up businesses
* For the resident of higher croft only
* Can put on different workshops for duration of about 6 weeks then ultimately we would like to residents to take this over
* We are currently in the process of opening up a café on 14th September at energy zone
* We give out £5.00 bags of food ( which need to be ordered) we also give away free bread ad vegetables to anyone
* We need the volunteer to run the workshops and help out in the café
* We are open Monday to Thursday

**Presentation from Clair from community CV Funding portal;**

* Access via community cvs website - [www.communitycvs.org.uk](http://www.communitycvs.org.uk)
* **Click on funding portal to register**
* **Once you have registered you can access all the funding from the national charities**
* **You have the ability to search under various headings and for specific funding pots**
* **If you’re successful with the funding bid please share on the site to show others.**
* **Donna will send link out to all**

Updates; There is a quiz nigh tonight at the vault in Darwen from 7.00 £5.00 ticket free pizza

Youth zone – volunteers needed for mini bus driver to do school drops and an LGBT youth worker to facilitate groups.

Near Neighbours – have £5,000 funding pots to give away for anyone wanting to bring different faiths together – could be an activity or a coffee morning. This is to build relationships.

**Next networking meeting to be held on Thursday 23 August at 9.00@ Community CVS**