**Minutes of the networking meeting on Thursday 27th September 2018**

Attendees: Donna Talbot, Beverly Marsden and Sadiq Patel from Community CVS, Feroz Sidat from Blackburn College, Sarah Newell from BWD Carers Service, Pauline lau from community helping hands, John Raper and Scott Sheridon from Active Lancashire, Leanne proctor and Kerry Cameron from billy project, Rose morgan and Rohan Awan from Blackburn youth zone, Sue Edwards and Kirsty McLoughlin from Step, Jason walmsley from CRC, Angela Dean Volunteer from CVS, Jay Ratcliffe from Nightsafe, Nancy from Shadsworth Hub, Maggie Asquith from ELHT, Jean Rapper from Snowdrop, Thelma from Shelter, Denise Cotton from BWD.

**Presentation from Beverly Community CVS – Drinks meter**

* Drinks meter is a short 5-7 min questionnaire to raise awareness about individual drinking habits
* Linking in with members of the public, companies and groups
* Relating drinking habits to national figures
* Doing a campaign during alcohol awareness week 19th November to 25th November
* Currently linking in with public health and the Mall

**Q.** Is there anyone I could like in with who would be willing to complete the survey or would like more information about drinks awareness?

**A**. Billy project – could come down to the gym and have a stand. Active Lancashire – will arrange a drop in on a Thursday.

**Presentation from Jay – Nightsafe**

* Young person’s homeless charity since 1990 for 16 to 25
* Emergency self-referral homeless shelter for 9 nights
* Have premises at cornfield cliffe which is supported housing for 6 people for up to 12 months and is staffed 24/7
* Witton project is for those ages 16 -19 working towards educations and employment
* Platform 5 is the day centre open from 10.00 to 4.00 Monday to Friday provide activities and peer support. Have volunteer mentors to support the young people.
* We also have skilled volunteers – at the moment we have a hairdresser that comes in every Tuesday.
* We have arts and crafts and currently making xmas cards to sell.
* We are always raising funds for activities for the young people. We are hoping to take them to a pantomime this Christmas.
* We also have shared houses – 4 people share a 2/3 bedroom house. We offer floating support for those in these houses.
* We having been working with “trail blazer” working with children from 14+ adapting services to cater for this age group.
* We are trying to prevent homelessness by educating schools.
* BRCT going to do a sleep out and money to be split between the charities
* We have our own allotment
* We have a food bank at cornfield cliff
* We have a LEAP project give out food vouchers, clothing and bedding. We have had to turn people away as there is a demand for emergency services.
* We have a target of £50,000 per year to keep the shelter open
* We also work with stepping stone – numbers of homelessness are increasing
* We have been invited to Darwen vale school on 10th October which is world homeless day

**Q.** is there an increase of people being homeless? We have come across a service called pact team – we are already linked in with these.

**Q.** Do you have dealing with rescue rummagers?

**A.** Yes we are already linked in with them

**Q.** Are you in contact with the big local?

**A.** Yes – funding from comic relief and children in need

**Q.** Where do people go to when they are turned away?

**A.** If we are full we will ask them to come back in the morning – and call housing needs

**Presentation by Sadiq Patel – Bowel Cancer**

Power Point presentation about raising awareness about bowel cancer.

**Q**. Why is the screening not reduced to 50?

**A.** We are currently looking into this

**Q.** Why does is happen in younger people?

**A.** It’s an expensive process that’s why it’s only for ages 60 to 74 years. Bowel cancer can happen at any age.

Some of the Symptoms of bowl cancer;

Bleeding bowels, losing weight, constipation, mucus in stools, and can be hereditary.

**Q.** Does eating disorders have an impact on it?

**A**. Research shows not

**Q.** Can you request a kit at 60

**A.** Yes

**Presentation from Sidat at Blackburn College**

* It’s challenging to get young people into education, work placements and work experience
* A lot of student’s have NVQ and BTEC but no work experience
* Working on “The Edge” project to get students out on placements
* Covering construction and digital
* Looking for companies to take on students for over 45 days
* Those age 16 to 19 have to do a work placement, volunteering or shadowing – something outside the college course.
* We are currently targeting the second year students

**Q.** Is it a constant 45 days?

**A.** It’s over the academic year

**Q.** Can you get work experience with voluntary groups?

**A.** Yes

**Presentation from Rose Morgan – Youth Zone**

* We have a programme for 14 to 19 year olds – “Able to Manage”
* It’s a money managing course that explains in more detail about the APR’s on loans
* It’s a 10 week programme educating people and looking at living independently.
* We have mentors that offer 121 support.

**Q.** What times / dates?

**A.** It’s tailored around the individual.

**Presentation from the Billy Project**

* Age from 16 and open to any vulnerable women
* It’s a Womens only gym
* We offer signposting service and partnership working
* Creates friendships and bonds, builds self esteem
* Promotes exercise and good nutrition
* Will take people who have an offending history

**Q.** Do you help pregnant ladies?

**A.** Yes

**Q.** Is it a free service?

**A.** The project is funded – yes it’s free to those who access it. Those that would like to access extra classes like yoga there will be a reduced charge of £1.00.

**Q.** Are you looking for volunteers?

**A.** Yes

**Presentation from Scott – Active Lancashire – New project**

* This is a new project and we have just moved to Shadsworth Hub
* Monday morning we have a drop in from 10.00 to 12.00
* Wednesday we have yoga from 1.00 to 2.00
* Friday is a learning day – basic courses eg maths, English, writing etc
* Recruit those who have mental health issues

**Q.** Would you work with high risk offenders?

**A.** yes but there would have to be a risk assessment

**Q**. would you deal with low to medium risk?

**A.** yes

**Information from Donna**– Volunteer event at King George’s Hall on Monday 13th June and we have the capacity for 500 people.

**Next networking event will be held on Thursday 25th October @ The Boulevard centre**

**Breakfast will be provided**