

WELCOME!

Welcome to the quarterly edition of the East London CVS Network [ELN E-News

Special Interest Article

- Mental Health Awareness Project
 - Anti-Discrimination Charter
- Realising our Potential

Individual Highlights:

Boroughs/ Partners News

- Hackney Council for Voluntary Service is awarded NAVCA Quality Award
- Supporting LGBT Groups in east London

Equality and Diversity

- Consortium of LGBT Voluntary and Community Organisations
- Inclusion London - New support for Deaf and disabled people's organisations

Mental Health Awareness Project - Health, Work and Wellbeing Challenge Fund

We are pleased to announce that ELN has been successful in achieving a Department for Work and Pensions [DWP] Grant under the Health, Work and Wellbeing Challenge Fund.

The aim of the fund is to improve health within the workplace. We have chosen to concentrate on mental health awareness as we believe it is an area that requires concerted efforts in order to upskill professionals on mental health challenges and how best to respond to these and support those individuals in need.

Our Mental Health Awareness Project is designed to equip Council for Voluntary Services (CVS's) and over 90 frontline voluntary and community organisations in the East London sub region with intermediate knowledge and practical guidance regarding mental health awareness in the workplace.

Our delivery partners are:

Bexley Voluntary Service Council, Hackney Council for Voluntary Service, Havering Association of Voluntary and Community Organisations, Newham Voluntary Sector Consortium, Redbridge Council for Voluntary Service and Voluntary Action Lewisham.

Part one of the project comprises of a 2 day Train the Trainer course aimed at staff within the Councils for Voluntary service. This course will be delivered in September 2010 and will cover:

- Clarifying what is meant by mental health
- Identifying mental health issues
- How to support individuals with mental health issues
- Identifying and learning how to effectively manage stress
- Practical guidance on how to resolve potential conflicts and situations of distress
- Where to go for specialist support
- Practical guidance on how to develop a Mental Health Service Users Charter
- The importance of policies and procedures and how to develop these

In order to for the project to have the widest impact, course attendees from the 2 day Train the Trainer course will then cascade their learning via a 1 day mental health awareness training course to frontline voluntary and community organisations in their respective boroughs. This training will be delivered locally between September 2010 to January 2011.

Resources will also be developed and made available to members of the East London CVS Network, including a template for a Mental Health Service Users Charter.

Please contact Maneesha Sharma if you would like more information on this project.
maneesha.sharma@elcvsnetwork.org.uk / 020 8519 9500 option 2

Health & Social Care

- The Personalisation Agenda

London/National

- City Bridge Trust's Accessible buildings funding
- NAVCA's Improving Local Partnership Unit presents Skilling Up for Stronger Voices resources

Olympics

- Safe Exit
- Coalition Coalition Coalition!

Updates

- ICT - Lasa publications
- KnowHow NonProfit presents In the Chair
- London CVS Network Meeting
- Mycommunityspace

ANTI- DISCRIMINATION CHARTER

The East London CVS Network is pleased to announce the production of our **Anti Discrimination Charter**. This Charter has been produced in order to clearly demonstrate the anti discriminatory approach and ethos adopted and exemplified by member CVS' in the east London sub region. The beliefs and values that the Charter expresses are important to uphold and we hope that our members will show their support through displaying and publicizing the Charter to their respective members. We encourage our members to adopt the Charter and improve awareness regarding working within a positive anti discrimination culture and its' associated practices.

A copy of the Charter is available on our website, please visit www.elcvsnetwork.org.uk/

If you would like to adopt the Charter or have any questions regarding this area of work, please contact Maneesha Sharma: Maneesha.sharma@elcvsnetwork.org.uk / 020 8519 9500 option 2

REALISING OUR POTENTIAL

There is no doubt that East London is an area of fantastic opportunity, and now with the Olympics and Paralympics Games just over two years away East London is firmly on the world map.

The East London CVS Network [EN] is strategically poised in the heart of the London Thames Gateway and based in the host borough of Newham. We bring together the ten Councils for Voluntary Service in the boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Bexley, Greenwich, Hackney, Havering, Lewisham, Newham, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets and the City of London.

In just five years, ELN has established itself as a body of strategic importance, a vital conduit of information and contributor to the development of policy in London, the sub-region and partner boroughs.

'Realising Potential' illustrates, in brief, the strategic importance ELN plays in helping to shape a more robust and better functioning not-for-profit sector in East London. We invite you to take a few moments to download the **report** to find

out about some of the work we have done towards achieving this goal.



BOROUGH/PARTNERS NEWS

Hackney Council for Voluntary Service is awarded NAVCA Quality Award

Hackney Council for Voluntary Service (HCVS) has been awarded a Quality Award from NAVCA. For the borough's leading voluntary and community sector support agency, this award recognises the impact HCVS has on the local sector.

Every year, HCVS supports hundreds of local community organisations to achieve more for their communities. HCVS helped Little Troll Productions set up in 2006 and since win thousands of pounds of funding. Ragga Gudmundsdottir of Little Troll Productions said:

'You don't get this type of targeted one-to-one support anywhere else. Before HCVS I used to run into a lot of walls,

here they give you a lot of information.'

HCVS Director of Programmes, Rebecca Clarkson said:

'We are delighted with this award, which represents our commitment to quality here at HCVS and is the culmination of a year's worth of rigorous evaluation of our organisation. That we have emerged with this externally awarded quality mark is testament to the high standards we expect of ourselves.'

For more information please call Gillian Trevethan at HCVS on 020 7923 1962 or email gillian@hcv.org.uk

Supporting LGBT Groups in east London

In 2009, the East London ChangeUp partnership identified the need for generic and mainstream infrastructure organisations to better engage with LGBT frontline organisations and raise awareness of LGBT issues and challenges.

Recently, the East London ChangeUp partnership sought to understand the barriers and challenges faced by both LGBT groups in accessing services and also the challenges to generalist infrastructure, namely CVS's; in trying to provide support to LGBT organizations in the East London area.

In order to inform understanding, attention was paid to a series of reports and research studies produced by LGBT specialist and infrastructure organisations. Meetings also took place between the ELN Coordinator and two LGBT specialist infrastructure organisations, Kairos in Soho and the Consortium of LGBT voluntary and community organisations.

In order to better understand how to

support LGBT groups across the east London sub region, the east London ChangeUp partnership approached the Consortium of LGBT Voluntary and Community organizations to request that a programme of training be developed and delivered for CVS frontline staff in east London. The aim of the training is to:

- Provide CVS staff with information on the needs of the LGBT sector
- Raise awareness of the issues the sector faces.

We anticipate that this training will take place later this year.

If you would like to discuss this area of work, please contact Maneesha: Maneesha.sharma@elcvnetwork.org.uk / 020 8519 9500 option 2



Consortium of LGBT Voluntary and Community Organisations

The Consortium of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Voluntary and Community organisations is a national specialist infrastructure and membership organisation. We focus on the development and support of LGBT groups, organisations and projects; so they can deliver direct services and campaign for individual rights.

Membership of the Consortium is free and open to any voluntary or community group, network or organisation that provides services, support or other activities specifically for the LGBT communities. We have a national membership of around 450 lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans projects. Our vision is to see a vibrant, viable and valued LGBT third sector.

We support our members by:

- consulting with them on key issues and giving feedback to policy makers
- advocating their concerns and issues

- creating resources to help their organisations grow
- helping them develop through training and advice
- promoting the existence and value of LGBT groups and organisations
- providing a LGBT volunteer brokerage service

The Consortium currently has the following programmes:

- Health – especially collaboration and personalisation
- London Voice – focused regional development
- West Midlands Voice – focused regional development
- Composite Identities – the BME LGBT Network

W: www.lgbtconsortium.org.uk

E: information@lgbtconsortium.org.uk

T: 020 7064 8383

Inclusion London

Promoting Equality For London's Deaf and Disabled People

New support for Deaf and disabled people's organisations

Inclusion London provides policy, campaigning and strategic capacity building support to Deaf and disabled people's organisations (DDPOs) in the capital.

We aim to organise, support and ensure a strong collective voice that reflects diversity of Deaf and disabled Londoners organisations and addresses the strategic issues that impact on DDPO's ability to survive and thrive.

We do this by:

- Researching needs, views and concerns of Deaf and disabled people.
- Speaking out again Consulting with policy-makers, strategic organisations, government and others.
- Helping London's DDPOs to access the support they need to be successful.
- Removing barriers so DDPOs receive the advice, support, training and resources they need from providers.
- Raising awareness about policy proposals and providing information and support to help DDPO's participate in consultations.
- Supporting DDPOs to influence public policy and decisions.

Contact us on 020 7237 3181 Email: info@inclusionlondon.co.uk

'The Personalisation Agenda'

Skills for Care and East London CVS Network have joined forces to assist third sector organisations to better respond to the impacts, opportunities and challenges that arise from the Government's commitment to personalisation, particularly in the area of social care.

Personalisation is about ensuring that the people have choice and control over the services that they receive. It's about people having the necessary information and support to choose the options and services that they consider will best meet their individual needs and aspirations.

Personalisation is most advanced in social care, where the policy is also referred to as Transforming Social Care and Putting People First. Personalisation is concerned with the service user controlling the budget that is assigned to them; however it is wider than this, because it is concerned with a transformational shift in approach, from people accessing established services to services being organised around the aspirations and choices of the individual

A joint workshop was held in March 2010 which aimed to support capacity building organisations that support front line organisations to:

- Better understand the implications of personalisation for the provision of services and for the funding of social care.
- Illustrate how personalisation is being implemented locally

Begin to consider how individual third sector organisations can best prepare for the challenge of personalisation.

The event was described as thought provoking and the information provided was described as great and useful to support work back at individual organisations. The event assisted attendees to have a clearer understanding of the transformation agenda and to understand the scale of the change required by personalisation. The event also provided those present with a good networking opportunity.

Comments from delegates included:

'Great event, have some ideas for future which I will take away. Also plan to read everything in my pack'

'I enjoyed the event it was well planned full of information, handouts were excellent.'

'I can read at home and use for future reference. I have more awareness of the Topic'

A report has been produced following the workshop, which includes Ten Top Tips for Personalisation. The report provides an overview of the processes and steps required in order to fully embrace the Personalisation Agenda.

These include:

- Change Management
- Change Models
- Environmental Scanning

The report complements an earlier report produced in 2009 which outlined key recommendations for frontline and second tier organisations and also Local Authorities. Both reports are available upon request.

If you would like further information on this workshop and accompanying report, please contact Maneesha Sharma: Maneesha.sharma@elcvsnetwork.org.uk / 020 8519 9500 option 2



Delegates at the Planning for Personalisation – next steps Event in March 2010

City Bridge Trust's *Accessible buildings* Funding

Can disabled people access your community services?

Accessible buildings grants help London-based community organisations make their services more accessible to everyone.

Applicants to the Trust must have an access audit carried out. An access audit report identifies barriers to access and makes recommendations. Grants of up to £5,000 can be made for access audits, disability equalities training and related consultancy.

Access and Sustainability Advisory Service (ASAS)

- Free advice and information for community groups, on access issues and application to the *Accessible buildings* funding, is available from the Centre for Accessible Environments (CAE)

For more information contact Wai Chan, ASAS Adviser at CAE
E: asas@cae.org.uk / T: 020 7840 5816



Funding available for access improvements:

- major venues will usually be subject to a limit of **£50,000**
- local projects can, at the Trust's discretion, be considered for grants of more than £50,000.



NAVCA's Improving Local Partnerships Unit presents *Skilling Up for Stronger Voices* resources

An orientation course to equip course participants with the information and materials they need to deliver the *Skilling Up for Stronger Voices* Resources in their area of benefit.

This course is not for representatives themselves, but is for course participants who will then deliver the materials to local representatives.

29 & 30 June London

It is expected that course participants will be:

- A competent trainer.
- Working in the area of representation in public partnerships e.g. Local Strategic Partnerships and their relevant theme groups, community representation, community networks and the political context that these operate within.
- Likely to be delivering training to a cohort of representatives before March 2011.
- From a local infrastructure organisation

or an organisation that supports the capacity building of local third sector groups.

By the end of the session you will have:

- Developed competence to deliver the units and be provided with an approved provider agreement to use the *Skilling Up for Stronger Voices* resources.
- An understanding of the content of Units 1 to 5 of the "Skilling Up for Stronger Voices" resources.
- Gained experience of how to mix and match the materials to integrate within existing meeting structures that provide support to representatives.
- Received copies of monitoring templates that need to be completed when you have delivered training.

For booking procedures and costs please see www.navca.org.uk/events or call 0114 278 6636

www.improvingsupport.org.uk/campaigning
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LOTTERY FUNDED

Safe Exit

Safe Exit is a partnership project that brings together voluntary and statutory organisations in Tower Hamlets to reduce the scale of prostitution in the borough and to improve outcomes for those selling sex.

As London is preparing for the 2012 Olympics, Safe Exit's concern is about the impact that the event may have on women involved in prostitution. The elusive nature of prostitution limits our knowledge of the number of women selling sex in the five host boroughs. A number of different agencies that Safe Exit interviewed during May and July 09 bring the estimate to approximately 1,000 women selling sex indoors and 400-600 women involved in street-based prostitution.

Safe Exit is working with key decision makers in the five host boroughs to ensure that women are treated fairly in the run up to, during and in the aftermath of the Games. More specifically, we aim to:

- Improve cross-borough, multi-agency partnership working at strategic and operation level
- Improve coordination of policing strategies, with women's safety as a central concern, across the five Olympic boroughs linked to provision of support where appropriate
- Increase the scope, coverage and accessibility of services which can meet the physical, sexual and mental health needs of those who sell sex.
- Increase reporting of serious violent crime against women in prostitution to the police, improve safety for women and improve support for victims.
- Increase the scope, coverage and accessibility of services which can meet the holistic needs of those selling sex are met, including both to reduce harm and supporting exiting.
- Improve coordination of efforts to reduce demand for prostitution and reducing re-offending.

If you would like to be involved with this initiative, please contact Miriam Merkova, Safe Exit Manager on Miriam.Merkova@toynbeehall.org.uk / 020 7392 2982.

Coalition Coalition Coalition!

It's the question on everyone's lips... 'what will the new Conservative/Liberal Democrat Coalition government mean for me?'

The Coalition document 'Our Programme for Government' can be downloaded from the [Directgov](#) website and outlines the Coalition Governments' proposals for the future. Other information of interest includes the Chancellors announcement on Monday May 24th of £6.2 billion of savings from Government spending in 2010-11. [Click here](#) for more information.

Regeneration in East London

Across East London we await information regarding spending cuts that may affect the continued regeneration of the London Thames Gateway and the areas surrounding the Olympics Park. Plans for a new river crossing in East London and discussions concerning the extension of the East London Line to Abbey Wood may now be under threat. ELN will continue to follow progress as more details are announced.

Voluntary Sector's new Minister

Read [Civil Society's](#) interview with Nick Hurd and his thoughts on the future of the voluntary sector. Read Nick Hurd's interview with Civil Society Magazine: http://www.civilsociety.co.uk/fundraising/news/content/6612/nick_hurd_is_new_charities_minister

UPDATES

ICT - Lasa publications

The **monthly London ICT e-bulletin** is published by Lasa in collaboration with Superhighways, provides up to date ICT news, events, funding, tools, tips and resources for staff in small to medium-sized voluntary organisations. [Get the London ICT e-bulletin by email.](#)

Lasa's quarterly magazine **Computanews** provides straight-forward, clear information on the use of ICT for staff in small to medium-sized voluntary organisations. [Get Computanews by email.](#) Computanews is published quarterly as a free Acrobat pdf file [download.](#)

KnowHow NonProfit presents In the Chair

KnowHow NonProfit presents In the Chair – a series of governance podcasts exploring how nonprofit and charity chairs are helping their organisations and fellow board members deal with times of crisis and change. Come and listen! <http://www.knowhownonprofit.org/leadership/governance/in-the-chair>

If you don't know about KnowHow...

KnowHow NonProfit (www.knowhownonprofit.org) is a fresh new **website** built solely for people working in not for profit organisations. Read [more.....](#)

London CVS Network Meeting

You are invited to the next **London CVS Network** meeting on **24 June 2010** from **14:00 to 16:30*** at Voluntary Action Islington. Registration and refreshments will be from 1.45pm. The event is for Senior CVS staff.

- Ian Redding, Head of Grants, London Councils
- Peter Lewis, Chief Executive, LVSC
- Neil Cleeveley, Director of Policy and Communications, NAVCA

The meeting will provide chief officers of London CVS with an opportunity to hear about and discuss the impact of the election on the sector and your own organisations. It will be chaired by Eithne Rynne, Director of Community Links Bromley and chair of the Chief Executive Group of the South London CVS Partnership. We are also delighted to have an exciting and engaging panel of speakers including:

There will be plenty of opportunity for questions, comment and debate. We are also pleased that a representative from LVSC will be attending to provide an update on LINKs research, as requested at the last meeting.

To attend this event, please reply to this email (admin@slcvspartnership.org.uk) and ensure you have provided us with the attendees details and any access requirements.

MYCOMMUNITYSPACE

MyCommunitySpace is a place for community and voluntary sector organisations to find or advertise premises for hire. Whether you're after long-term office space or a room for a one-off event, you'll find it on MyCommunitySpace. They also offer free advice and resources on all aspects of finding and managing premises.

www.mycommunityspace.org.uk. For further information, please contact 020 7837 7887



ELN Contacts:

Andrea Chott co-ordinator
E: andrea.chott@elcvsnetwork.org.uk

Maneesha Sharma co-ordinator
E: maneesha.sharma@elcvsnetwork.org.uk

Josephine Mason administrator
E: josephine.mason@elcvsnetwork.org.uk

Ononju Okonkwo Administrative Assistant
adminsupport@elcvsnetwork.org.uk

East
London CVS
Network
[ELN]

Burford Business Centre
First Floor
11 Burford Road
Stratford
London E15 2ST

T: 020 8519 9500 [option 2]
F: 020 8221 2779

Please feedback your comments
on e-news

E: info@elcvsnetwork.org.uk

W: www.elcvsnetwork.org.uk

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