

MEETING REPORT – Dumfries & Galloway Network

Date: 10th October 2013 Venue: Loreburn Housing, Dumfries

In attendance: Liz Forsyth (NHS Community Health Development Worker), Idris Dean (Dumfries & Galloway Council), Fleur Roddy (Loreburn Housing), Eileen Swan (NHS Community Health Support Worker), Linda Whitelaw, Morag Curtis, Heather Hall, Harriet Oxley, Morag Halliday (Age Scotland), Alan Sideaway, Joan Nelson.

Apologies: Alison Clyde, Cllr Peter Diggle (Dumfries & Galloway Council), Dorothy Aitchison (St Teresa's Education Centre), Scott McGill (Food Train Friends), Jim Cooper (Dumfries & Galloway Council), Rhona MacGregor (Dumfries & Galloway Council), Violet Wark (Dumfries & Galloway Council), Murdo Macleod (Building Healthy Communities), Fiona Marshall (Dumfries & Galloway Council), Peter Ross (BHC), Cllr Alistair Geddes, Cllr Stephen Thompson, Mandy Patterson.

The last meeting (6th June 2013) report was agreed and it was good to see that lots of new member have joined the network.

National update

Health paper – Intergenerational Approaches to improving Health and Wellbeing is making good progress.

Intergenerational Training – Training the Trainers Courses are still available for those who are keen to embed intergenerational approaches within their programme of work. Further information is available on the website at <http://generationsworkingtogether.org/events-training/training>

Photo & video competition – deadline was extended to 18th October 2013

GWT annual conference – Wednesday 19th March, Macrobert Arts Centre, Stirling (Date just been announced). Ideas and suggestions will be very welcome for speaker and workshop topics. What would you like to hear about next year? What would make you attend? Do you have a project you'd like to showcase? Contact Alison or Betty.

A showcase event is being planned for the Highland & Island networks in Inverness in Tuesday 29th April marking European day of Solidarity between Generations. The GWT team are also looking to collate ideas/ suggestions and projects to showcase on the day. For further information contact alison@generationsworkingtogether.org
<http://www.age-platform.eu/age-policy-work/solidarity-between-generations/campaign>

Luminate takes place across Scotland for the whole month of October and features creative activities with, by and for older people, as well as events for audiences and participants across the generations, and intergenerational projects. Alison would like to hear from anyone who has been involved in the festival. <http://www.luminatescotland.org/luminate-application>

Education resource pack - was launched at the Scottish Learning Festival in August and can be Downloaded from: <http://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/education-resource-pack/>

Funding info

Young Start Funding – Intergenerational strand available for up to £50,000 for two years
<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/youngstartfund>

Heritage Lottery Fund

Heritage Lottery Fund Scotland will fund intergenerational work and will consider applications from areas other than the priority areas mentioned on their website. Groups planning to apply for funding including start up funding should contact their Development Team first.

Thanks Marion for the tip and the link to the following successful project that was funded...

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/ourproject/Pages/LifeisforLivingston.aspx#.UZSRNKLvtgy>

Climate Challenge Fund – interested in funding intergenerational work

Other IG opportunities:

Go for Gold Challenge – physical activity challenge for older people in sheltered housing and care home <http://www.scottishcare.org/news/go-for-gold-challenge-newsletter/>

Julie Robertson, Self Management Programme Worker organising Tea Dances in the Annandale & Eskdale area. (someone suggested using the word 'strictly' in the title to encourage attendance)

j.robertson7@nhs.net

Walk in our shoes – act on our issues is an activity that community groups and different generations can do together to tackle barriers such as uneven pavements, public toilet closures, poor street lighting, unsafe road crossings and inaccessible shops.

<http://www.ageuk.org.uk/scotland/get-involved/campagn/end-isolation-campaign/walk-in-our-shoes-act-on-our-issues/>

Morag mentioned that there is a pack available to outline the area, which has stickers to highlight good and bad. For example say a bus shelter that does not have seating available.

Local project updates

- Alan Sideaway - Scottish Older People's Association (SOPA) Assembly takes place on 5th December 2013 in Edinburgh, sponsored by the Scottish Government. Morag Halliday mentioned work with SOPA covering four assembly's with very beneficial video linkage. An interpreter was present to provide a written display which was projected so everyone could get the information readily. Pod areas were arranged for interview feedback from attendees – Connor McCubbin was mentioned as being available to do interviewing for events if required. This was thought to be a better idea than the use of a VOX box.
- Brian Edgar is the new manager at Catstrand. A food group has been created there following a 'I could eat a horse' theatre production. Catstrand successfully secured new funding from the big lottery, funding to improve the lives of hard to reach people. A big part of the work planned will include IG work.

There was a discussion about food vans which led to the mention of a more sustainable source of food and 'Gorilla Gardening' was discussed. (Rosie Rutherford and Jill ?) were mentioned as having projects in Dumfries.

- Heather and Linda informed the meeting about the Community Café that is planned for the former Dumfries Academy Dinner Hall Development.
- Iain Howie (Stewartry CVS) - memory stick intergenerational project - in Iain's absence Morag informed the group about how useful the sticks were for older people. The amount and diverse range of information that can be stored on them i.e. books, photos, etc. Also for people with visual problems audio versions being available for talking newspapers. Liz mentioned the potential opportunity for isolated people and time banking in the form of preparing talking books. Lindsay McDowall is the contact for local Visibility Scotland group.

It was mentioned about the potential for seniors' memory sticks and linkage with schools for older people to have computer and internet access.

- Idris Dean mentioned their teams shift in supported employment. Regional secondary schools are being approached to see what gaps can be improved to raise the employability chances of 16-25 yr olds. It was thought that young people's chances could be greatly improved by intergenerational working.
- Morag mentioned existing Men's Sheds project where skills are being shared. Also in Eyemouth where kids were getting involved and being guaranteed jobs at the end of it.

The Rotary club are already linked in schools already and it was thought that through the Chamber of Commerce that work experience needs to be real and person centred.

Go for Gold 2013 Challenge week

In 2013 the Go for Gold team are planning to continue implementing the 5 physical activity challenges with partners across the care sector in Scotland, (the Games Challenge, the Dance wit me Challenge, the Walk with me Challenge, the Try-athlon challenge and Creating your own Challenge. They are also looking to enhance the Go for Gold 2013 programme through developing the themes of intergenerational activity and community engagement.

For more information contact: Bob Laventure – bob.laventure@ntworld.com or Edith Macintosh – edith.macintosh@careinspectorate.com

Date of next meeting: Thursday 6th February 2014, 1 – 3.30pm
Catstrand, High Street, New Galloway, Castle Douglas, DG7 3RN