

National Update – Argyll & Bute

Date: Friday 12th September 2014 **Venue:** Lochgilphead



In attendance: Cllr Anne Horn (Argyll & Bute Council), Liz Strang (Programme Manager Early Years), Liz Marion (Community Development Officer), Eleanor Sloan (Home-Start) & Alison Clyde (GWT)

Apologies: Gwen Harrison (Argyll Voluntary Action), Cllr Michael Breslin (Argyll & Bute Council), Eileen Kay (Argyll & Bute Council), Alison McGrory (Argyll & Bute Health Partnership), Tanya MacDougall (Family Mediation Argyll & Bute), Petra Pearce (Islay and Jura Council of Voluntary Service).

GWT national update:

- **GWT staff changes** - Marion Smith (Local Network Development Officer) has resigned from looking after the Argyll & Bute & Highland networks as her other post is now full-time. We are delighted that Marion is still supportive of GWT and is continuing in her role as volunteer coordinator for the Fort William and Lochaber network. GWT welcomes Cheryl Ewing (Local Network Development Officer) who started in July. Cheryl will be supporting 16 local networks across the central belt of Scotland including Argyll & Bute.
- **Education resource pack** - Slight delay in letters being sent to Director and Heads of Education re training (planned for end of Aug) due to Yvonne Coull our other Local Development Network Officer and Trainer being on long term sick. Alison hopes to send letters later in the year. Alison will keep everyone posted and is happy for schools to contact her directly to request the 4 hour training course.
- **Equality Internship (SCVO)** – GWT is shortly to recruit a Development & Communications Intern to work on developing a toolkit for the intergenerational quiz to go national. The intern will also develop recognition awards which will be presented at our national conference in March next year.
- **Date for your diary** - Our next national conference will take place on Wednesday 4th March in the Lighthouse, Mitchell Street, Glasgow. Alison is looking for projects and groups to showcase their intergenerational work at the conference. Please contact Alison if you have a project which you feel would be of interest to other groups and organisations from across Scotland. Alison hopes the programme will be confirmed December time.
- **Highlands & Islands Conference 2014** held in Eden Court, Inverness was a great success. GWT hope to repeat on 29th April 2015 again possibly at Eden Court, Inverness.
- **Copies of our Education Resource Pack and the publication known as ‘Intergenerational approaches to improving health and wellbeing’** can be found on the GWT website at www.generationsworkingtogether.org

Intergenerational Training – It may be possible to bring training the trainer’s course on intergenerational practice to Argyll and Bute in the Spring of 2015. In the meantime dates and details of future training courses across Scotland can be found at www.generationsworkingtogether.org

GWT’s training materials are currently being updated and Alison is looking for new activities from local projects that have adapted and created their own activities on stereotyping and icebreakers. GWT currently use materials developed by the Beth Johnson Foundation however would now like to

create a new selection of resources, which have been created throughout Scotland. These materials would then be offered to all our members however would be credited to the local project who created them.

Round the Table

- Eleanor mentioned that Home-Start was matching young families with an older person.
- Liz Marion reported on their 'Remember When (passing on memories of Dunoon)' project which accidentally became intergenerational – Alan Robertson (Youth Worker) involved 7 young people who filmed and interviewed 5 elderly people. The stories were collated and placed on a DVD. 200 copies of the DVD were sent to Castlehouse Museum – project funded by Awards for All
- Liz Strang mentioned that Stramash Nursery were involved in an intergenerational gardening project and in Oban there was an intergenerational project involving eight older people working with young parents from the Soroba housing estate. The latter project involved young men/single parents who could come together to learn basic joinery skills. It is hoped the project will help change perceptions.
- Although Eileen was unable to attend the meeting she requested more information on how to evaluate generations working together projects.
- Alison McGrory also unable to attend offered help in raising awareness via existing networks already happening in Argyll and Bute.
- Anne advised that Tarbert After School Club will be holding 'basic cookery classes' for parents and children on Friday afternoons. Anne hopes to meet up with people on Islay to initiate and learn of Intergenerational work on the island.

Actions:

- Cheryl to contact Alison McGrory to identify ways in which we can raise the profile of the GWT network across Argyll and Bute
- Invitations to be sent for next meeting to Audrey Baird/Laura McDonald (CLD, Helensburgh)

Funding Opportunities

YOUNG START funding <http://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/young-start>

Other funding opportunities can be found on the GWT website:

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/resources/intergenerational-funding/>

AOB

The Woodland Trust is offering 4,000 free tree packs for schools and community groups.

<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/in-your-community/>

Next meeting: Thursday 4th December 2014, 11:00am - 1:00pm at Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT

It was noted that a good place to hold meetings in Argyll & Bute was at The Three Villages in Arrochar - <http://www.threevillages.org.uk/>