

National Update – Western Isles (Isle of Harris, Lewis & Harris)

Date: Thursday 2nd October 2014 **Venue:** Stornoway

In attendance: Samantha Allan (NHS Western Isles), Joan Morrison (Volunteer Centre North Lewis), Angela Campbell, Marina MacFarlane & Annabel MacLean (WIRCC), Rachel Bibby (Bridge Centre), Graeme Millar (CLD), Tina Burgess (NHS Western Isles), Maggie Smith (Cabraich Community Arts) & Alison Clyde (GWT)

Apologies: Marion MacInnes (Alzheimer Scotland), Mina Sheppard (Bahai Youth & Children Group), Kirsty MacDonald (Western Isles Volunteer Centre), Donald McKee (Stornoway Older people's Welfare Association) & Dr Gail Cunningham (GAIN)

GWT national update:

- **GWT staff changes** - GWT welcomes Cheryl Ewing (Local Network Development Officer) who started in July. Cheryl is taking over the coordination from Alison of 8 local networks across the central belt including Glasgow, Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, South & North Lanarkshire, East & West Dunbartonshire allowing Alison to support the Highland networks.
- **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 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. 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 the Highlands & Islands.
- **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** – after discussion it was agreed that Alison would plan another training course on her return visit in the Spring.

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

- Rachel reported that 'The Bridge' were involved in a new project called 'The Outer Hebrides - Our Home, Our Heritage' which aims to enable young people to learn about and promote the history, memories and cultural traditions of their home - the Outer Hebrides of Scotland.
- Joan, North Lewis – lots of intergenerational work taking place naturally and lots of work having the prime focus on intergenerational work – Taigh Dhonnaidh (Duncan's House) – music centre with classes every night of the week – singing is a good focal point for IG work Joan is busy planning 'make a difference day'
- Tina mentioned they were applying to the health board for funding to run three projects
- Maggie worked with over 60's however at present there was no intergenerational focus.
- Graeme would like to look at the possibilities of organising a digital learning IG project and possibly look at an intergenerational Gaelic learning project where generations share the changes in Gaelic language.

Actions:

- Alison to invite representatives from care homes/sheltered housing complexes and schools to the next meeting.

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: Due to our conferences being held in March & April the next meeting will take place in May, date and venue TBC.

We are very happy however to invite our members to keep the date free for the Inverness conference which will be held on:

Wednesday 29th April, 10.30am – 3pm, Eden Court, Inverness – further details will follow Jan 2015