

Meeting Report – North Lanarkshire Network

Date: Thursday 7th May 2015

Venue: Bellshill & Mossend YMCA, 294 Main Street, Bellshill, ML4 1AB.



**Generations
Working
Together**

In Attendance: Jane O'Neill (Key Community Support); Mary-Anne McCafferty (CACE); Norrie Gallagher (Sporting Memories Network); Cheryl Ewing (GWT); Elaine Lindsay (Motherwell North Community Policing Team); Alastair Wilcox (Motherwell & Wishaw CAB); ; Claire Delahay (Glenboig Neighbourhood House); Jimmy Mallaghan (SAMH); Kamil Tomzik (VANL); Linda Anderson (Age Scotland).

Apologies: Billy Jeffery (Police Scotland); Robert Piper (Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre); Iain McDonald (Well-Informed); Liz Magunnigal (Befriend Motherwell); Kathleen Paterson (YMCA) Andrew Rafferty (North Lan Care & repair); Laura Campbell (YMCA); Kinga Kosakowska (CAB); John Sweetin (Alzheimer Scotland); Ann Eadie (Victim Support).

1. Welcome and Introduction.

Cheryl welcomed everyone to the meeting and prior to round-table introductions provided brief information on resources for Men's Shed, Quiz toolkit and other GWT resources.

2. Member Updates:

Linda – Age Scotland

Life Changes Funding is supporting Dementia Friendly communities, including a telephone helpline. Age Scotland fed information into the JIT report by Myra Duncan, and have secured funding to appoint two development officers for Scotland; there will also be a pocket of money for shed development. There will be a Walking Football Festival on the 7th of June, currently 15 teams have signed up to participate.

Eileen – Community Policing

The group were updated on Youth Disorder issues within the area, in partnership with NHS North Lanarkshire Health & Wellbeing time, football sessions have been set up bringing in 4 coaches over a 9 week period. Various partners are coming together to produce a course of action and map out what is on for young people. It has come to attention that disorder rates rise on Saturday evenings, as lack of activities, the group are looking to fund Saturday evening sports sessions. Referral system is also in place to work with parents of those involved with youth disorder.

Cheryl highlighted the report by CYCJ (Centre for Youth & Criminal Justice), some useful reports showing communities and young people's perspectives on crime can be found at the following :

http://www.cycj.org.uk/advanced-search/?keywords=&resource_type=27&theme=&published_date_from=&published_date_to=&content_type=resource&location=&event_date_from=&event_date_to=

CLD are trying to engage with schools working with the young people in question (ages 8-14), Eileen to send details of schools over to see if there is interest in Intergenerational approaches or 4hr GWT training sessions.

Jane – Key Community Support

Key Community work with people that have disabilities. Jane works with 13 people from the Bellshill area and seeking opportunities for these service users to engage with for a few hours per week to help reduce social isolation.

Kamil – VANL

Partnerships alongside VANL won a recognition award at GWT conference for the Community Radio project 'Listen Lanarkshire'.

VANL have held a Carers and Family day this month, bringing together the generations for some fun activities. Kamil signposted the group to <http://locatornl.org.uk/> where you can search for activities across North Lanarkshire.

Norrie – Sporting Memories Network

There is a group that meets at Orbiston Fridays 11:30 – 1:30, it has a dementia focus but is available to anyone with a sporting interest and is inclusive to all. Men have benefited from younger people volunteering at the sessions, documenting and gathering together information and stories. The group tends to be football focused but opens up to any sport, often boxing, golf etc. The group has 12 men present who are dedicated attendees.

Claire – Glenboig Neighbourhood House

The centre offers many community projects such as Mums and tots, Youth groups, Community Café, Citizens Advice sessions, Cllr Surgeries and older peoples groups.

The Men's group have been working on a local history project, researching the names on the local cenotaph. Visits have been made to the Mitchell Library to help with research and a book has now been produced bringing together all information researched.

There are many opportunities to volunteer with the local fruit & veg service, telephone check in, prescription service etc.

Jimmy – SAMH

The 'Experience Counts' 16+ programme is a 1 to 1 service pairing up a service user with a peer mentor that is on the recovery road. This has been having great success with the informal nature and understanding from peer mentor; improved Mental Health, increased confidence are some benefits through a 6 months programme, where goals are established to work towards.

Work is also been done in local Schools to raise awareness of MH, there is an adaptable programme in place for S1 pupils upwards.

There is the opportunity to volunteer with the 'Well-Informed' programme, signposting services and MH information to local communities through events.

Alastair – Motherwell and Wishaw CAB

The team have been out looking at the needs of the community in a forward thinking approach.

Looking at factors which impact on financial exclusion, the team put together a variety of services to assist in preventing issues. By using discreet projects on top of the traditional CAB projects, the team have been working to support the community as it faces modern life. One approach has been to visit hospitals (inc MH wards) to ensure that there is financial support awareness before discharge to alleviate concerns before back at home. There are also projects to support digital inclusion, helping to set up emails, prepare a CV or set up online shopping.

Jeanne – Princes Trust

The 'Excel' programme runs in all schools within NL with pupils in risk of disengaging. The 'Get in to ' is a ready for work programme for those lacking qualifications or the right skills for a specific sector. A new pilot programme is being run in NL, Edinburgh and Dunbartonshire 'Future Starts' This will merge together the two existing programmes allowing for vocational placements for those still within school.

The 18th of May will see the launch of the centre, the largest Youth Employability and Enterprise centre within Scotland. There will be a digital inclusion focus, with a fully kitted out digital suite; there is also a training kitchen within the centre. One aim of the centre is to be able to bring in community partners and organisations to deliver sessions and give information to the young people, this will be a hub for the whole of the Clyde Valley not just for Glasgow centre.

Mary-Anne – CACE

CACE offer day care facilities for older people including dementia services, sports, reminiscence and Men's shed groups. There is also the OPAL group which is targeted at those not quite needing the full services of day care, but may be experience social isolation. It came to the attention of CACE that some service users were still feeling lonely in the afternoon/evenings, linking with YMCA Cumbernauld, who identified a group of young girls which were bored at the same timings, they have partnered together. Y-mates meets as social group of women and girls, helping to overcome age stereotypes through comparing generations and starting to create a community cookbook.

3. Generations Working Together – National Update

Alison is really delighted and relieved to announce that GWT received another year of funding from the Scottish Government enabling us to continue with our work however there has also been some changes. The Steering Group have decided to apply for charitable status and become our own charity and has sadly made our Administrator, Betty Matheson redundant at the end of March 2015 due to funding reductions. Betty was very sad to leave however is doing really well. Betty would like to thank everyone for the kind comments she received.

The Scottish Mentoring Network have been a brilliant host for GWT and will continue to support us until we are able to go it alone completely, hopefully by the end of March 2016. Alison shall be taking on a more strategic role over the next few months and will be drafting up the constitution and application to become a SCIO, setting up a business plan, and identifying future funders for other pieces of work.

GWT is recruiting a freelance Local Network Development Officer to support roughly 11 networks across the Highlands & Islands for up to 14 hours per week. Further details and a job description can be found at:

<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/gwt-vacancy-04-05-2015>

The GWT Conference held last month in Glasgow saw 141 delegates participate. Presentations from speakers, facilitators and films are now viewable from the GWT website. At the end of the day GWT announced the winner of our first Recognition Awards. We were delighted to receive 47 applications, an excellent response for our first year. Will be repeated later this year and again presented at next year's conference.

Congratulations to the following winners:

- New Intergenerational Project Award (Less than 12 months) – “Big” Club Nairn, Beginners Internet Group
- Established Intergenerational Project Award (Greater than 1 Year) – Intergenerational Quiz, East Renfrewshire & Renfrewshire Council
- The Yvonne Coull Local Network Coordinators Award – Susan McDonald, Renfrewshire Network
- Young Person who has contributed to Intergenerational Work Award – Julia Thain, Connect Project, Orkney Befriending

- Older Person who has contributed to Intergenerational Work Award – William Richardson, Old School Graffiti Project & It's the people that make the place
- Intergenerational Volunteer Award – Avril Anderson, Volunteer Coordinator

GWT have also held a Highlands & Islands Conference on 29th April in Inverness with 75 delegates. Feedback has been extremely positive with some great projects taking place across the north of Scotland. Presentations and pictures will be uploaded to the website shortly.

GWT external evaluation – copies distributed and available for download from the GWT website

National Intergenerational Quiz Toolkit – Copies distributed and also available online
GWT will provide support via the toolkit to local areas encouraging practitioners to hold their own regional quiz. GWT will in the next few months be applying for funding for a P/T coordinator to roll out the programme and hold the first national quiz late 2016.

Men's Sheds Report – Joint Improvement Team

A new report on Men's Sheds has recently been published by the Joint Improvement Team which can be accessed on the Joint Health Improvement Team's (JIT) website.
<http://www.jitscotland.org.uk/resource/report-mens-sheds-scotland/>

The document reports on a piece of investigative research undertaken to find out why the community based initiative Men's Sheds has spread across Scotland and whether there is any learning to be drawn from this which might be shared and applied to other community based initiatives.

AOB

- Paths for All recently announced that they had secured £300,000 from the Life Changes Trust to develop a dementia friendly walking community
- Help to adapt scheme
<http://generationsworkingtogether.org/news/help-to-adapt-scheme-05-05-2015>
- Befriending Networks Health and Loneliness Roadshow – 21st of September 2015 Airdrie
<http://www.befriending.co.uk/health-loneliness-roadshows.php>

Next meeting: TBC