

Dundee Network Meeting

Date: Thursday 9th June 2016



In attendance: Alison Clyde (GWT), Robin Falconer (DCC & GWT Coordinator), Jim Mitchell (Police Scotland), Pam Cook (Harris Academy), Jim Bradley (Scottish Pensioners Forum), Alison Goodfellow & Danielle Kidd (MAXwelltown Centre), Michelle Young (DCC), Shona Street (Dundee Voluntary Action), Olive Smiles & Tracie MacMillan (DCC), Darryl Guthrie (Dundee Voluntary Gateway), Fiona Batchelor (101 Project), Fiona Bissett (Sheltered Housing Service)

Apologies: Cllr Fraser MacPherson, Cllr Jimmy Black, Lord Provost Bob Duncan, Alison Curran (Our Lady's RC Primary) & Mhairi Maxwell (Voluntary Action), Laura McDermitt, Nadia Sutherland & Maureen Mitchell (Alzheimer Scotland), Barbara MacPhee & Josephine Mill (RVS) & Sandra Stewart (DVA & GWT Coordinator)

GWT national update:

- **Glasgow and Inverness conference** presentations now available to download on the GWT website
- Our new **Protected Characteristics Network** will hold three Intergenerational Learning Events across Scotland inviting organisations to come together to learn more about intergenerational work and provide vital information to help GWT support more groups which fall under the banner of protected characteristics including age, disability, race and sexual orientation (LGBT).
 - Monday 27th June, 9.30am – 12noon, Brunswick House, Glasgow
 - Tuesday 13th September, 11.30 – 2pm, The Spectrum Centre, Inverness
 - 28th November 2016, Aberdeen (time & venue TBC)
- **Accelerating Ideas Project - Big Lottery (6 months development funding secured)**
Work is progressing with our partners in Northern Ireland and we plan to submit our stage 2 application to BIG by Monday 13th June, the application will be submitted to the BIG Lottery Board in July or September. GWT has successfully recruited two schools in both Glasgow and Perth & Kinross to take part in the Age Friendly School part of the project. There will be opportunities within this project later on for Dundee.
- **Intergenerational training Course for Practitioners and Trainers** - our current programme of training courses has now finished – new courses will be planned later in the year for the Autumn. If you would like to host or attend a course please get in touch with Cheryl/Alison.
- **International Certificate of Intergenerational Learning (ICIL)(50 hours online course) –**
Access now granted for GWT staff to review the online materials over the next few months. Six tutors recruited to undertake the pilot. More information to follow after the summer.
- **BBC Do Something Great & Intergenerational Volunteering**
BBC launches volunteering initiative encouraging people to Do Something Great. This year the BBC will be encouraging audiences to Do Something Great and discover their 'inner volunteer'.
For more information on Intergenerational Volunteering please visit
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/3vPtzxD0PthCS4yYSb9sDxg/intergenerational-volunteering>

Generations Working Together is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC045851

- Hairy Bikers Si and Dave will take on one of their biggest challenges – bringing together pensioners and troubled teens, in **Old School with the Hairy Bikers** for BBC Two, to see if 12 unlikely couples spending time together as equals can transform their difficult lives. This is aired on **BBC2 on Tuesdays at 9pm**.

Funding

1. **The R S Macdonald Charitable Trust** charitable objects enable them to make awards in four general themes: Neurological conditions, Sight loss and visual impairment, Child welfare & Animal welfare
For further details on the Trust's funding themes, and how to apply, please visit www.rsmacdonald.com
2. **The Challenge Funding** – digital inclusion funding should open soon
 - a. <http://digital.scvo.org.uk/resources/challenge-fund/>
3. **O2 Think Big fund** - Are you 13-25? Need money, support or training to help improve your community? We help young people launch ideas and programmes that use technology to benefit the places where they live. You provide the big idea, we provide £300 and the support to make it happen. <http://www.o2thinkbig.co.uk/>
4. **Young Start Funding** - <https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/youngstartfund>

Session 1 – Discussions around what a flourishing intergenerational project looks like and what a flourishing intergenerational community would look like took place in groups – some of the buzz words mentioned included: sharing & passing skills, mutually beneficial, respect between generations, fun, being heard, stereotypes & perceptions changed, happens naturally & self sustainable

Session 2 - Themed discussion

Health & Wellbeing

Key issues

Key issues from this discussion focused primarily on those that affected life quality. Issues including social isolation, mobility and fear of safety in community were mentioned. Finance is often a barrier to participation in activities. Accessibility of activities in terms of physical access had been mentioned such as access for wheelchairs, pushchairs and people with walking sticks. A growing generational gap was discussed as the older population continues to increase. Issues were also raised in terms of standards of housing and the cost of healthy cooking.

Opportunities

Opportunities for developing cross-generational interests such as music, local history and hobbies was mentioned. Research and informing people of what is already available in an area was highlighted and approaches such as door-knocking worked well. There are opportunities through green spaces and growing food through allotments.

Actions

Showcase successful projects and share good practice
Recognise wider achievements in school/non-academic
Action groups and lobbying where necessary
Include intergenerational work within Local Community Plan
Utilise sheltered house lounges

Education, Learning & Skills

Key issues

Accessibility in terms of funding, childcare and opportunities was highlighted as an issue. Gaps in ICT/social media skills (for seniors) and also engaging people with a previous negative experience of education. Promoting social skills and cultural understanding was identified as important as well as support with literacy, wellbeing and disability.

Opportunities

In terms of IT skills, digital champions already exist who have provided digital skills workshops. We could potentially look to adult learning teams to explore whether they can support something to be developed.

Actions

Encourage people with digital champion skills to widen who they are offering support to.
Find out if young people can be digital champions

Volunteering, Work & Employment

Key issues

Key issues focused on accessibility of localised volunteering opportunities for all ages and awareness-raising of benefits of volunteering. Recognising the skills developed through volunteering was also deemed important.

Opportunities

There are people interested in volunteering but just don't know how to start and need support with this. There are opportunities for training / awareness of intergenerational working for people to develop knowledge and skills.

Actions

Raise awareness of benefits of intergenerational volunteering for all age groups that organisations are working with. Organise taster events/sessions in local communities so people can try volunteering.

AOB

- **Dundee Community Plan Consultation** – Olive encouraged everyone to participate and feed into community plan consultation which will take place shortly with the aim of successfully embedding intergenerational (IG) work in as many different sections of the plan as possible. The council will be required to place resources behind the new plan so together we have a real opportunity to raise the profile of IG work providing opportunities for more intergenerational collaboration and projects to take place across Dundee.
- **Craigie High** actively taking part in intergenerational work
- **Douglas Community Centre** – section of grass to be developed possibly a new intergenerational project

Date of next meeting - Thursday 29th September 2016, 1.30 – 4pm – Volunteer Centre, Technology Park, Lunar Road, Dundee (further details will be confirmed nearer the time)