

NEWS for MEMBERS



Facilitation, training and support for community groups and organisations

Summer Edition

We would like to welcome our new members:

- Ardglass Friendship Club
- Stewartstown Community Group
- Lincoln Courts Youth & Community Centre
- Lisburn Bands Forum
- Young Arts Co-operative
- Dunlewey Substance Advice Centre
- Allergy NI
- NI Retired Prison Officers North West Branch
- NI Retired Prison Officers Fellowship

New logo

As you will see Community Change has made slight changes to our logo. Whilst we have kept the actual logo we have changed the colour to red and the positioning of the wording. We felt as our Brochure and Strategic Plan is silver and red we thought we needed consistency throughout our publications thus the change. We hope you like it!

New Community Change Strategic Plan

Whilst we provide facilitation and support to groups and organisations regarding Strategic Planning we are just about to enter that process ourselves. Our Board and Staff have set aside two full days in August to begin the work on our 2011-2014 plan.

However as a membership organisation we would like to have input from our members. Over the summer time we will be creating a short questionnaire and sending it out late August to get feedback from you regarding needs/focus for the future.

I would ask that you do feed opinions/thoughts back to us. We will also post questions on our web-site for those of you who prefer to reply in that way.

Keep an eye out for that please– we do want to hear from you!

New Members Forum

Community Change is committed to serving our members and want to get more direct feedback from you. For that reason, we would like to establish a Members Forum that would meet 3-4 times a year. The purpose would be to establish a two-way flow of information to and from members to ensure we keep grounded with members needs to guide our work, development and policy responses. We would hope to have representation from across NI and sectors and would plan to hold meetings throughout the province and pay travel expenses for volunteers.

If you feel you would like to be involved in this forum contact Cara on 028 9023 2587 or e-mail cara.mccann@communitychange-ni.org

Just a reminder that Community Change are now on Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/CommunityChange/107636952600451>

Why not become a fan. We currently have 703 friends which we are delighted with in such a short period of time.



Change is happening all around us

You don't need us to tell you that we are in a time of change. Everywhere you look you hear about change in all aspects and sections of life. Managing change is something within the community and voluntary sector in NI is well used to and has accommodated on an ongoing basis.



Managing change is not easy for many groups as hard, difficult discussions need to take place and ensure that decisions made are the right ones for the organisation/group. However managing and implementing change is something that Community Change can assist groups and organisations with.

Whether this time of change incorporates entering new ways of working, building new partnerships, strategic planning or financial sustainability, Community Change can support you. One important and beneficial aspect of facilitating change is to have an independent facilitator, with no emotional attachment to the discussion to create and facilitate the process of getting to the point where those discussions can be made.

Community Change has a wide raft of experience in independent change management and implementation facilitation and training which assist build skills and develop the capacity of voluntary committees and boards in the following areas:

- Change Management
- Implementing Change
- Reviewing and changing practice
- Action planning for Change

Some comments from group/organisation participants who Community Change has provided independent change management and implementation facilitation for recently:

“Excellent training/facilitation which focused on what we needed to look at.”

“Many thanks for your expert facilitation.”

“Great session would recommend.”

“It was very well structured and a lot of work done in such a short time.”

“Enjoyed it though was difficult to address—but needed.”

Funding News

Lloyds TSB Foundation (NI)

Funding round is currently open. They fund a range of different types of work within community work and education and have a clear and simple application process. Current funding round closes 9th July 2010 so timing may be good for activities/programmes in the Autumn time. Currently most applications for up to £5,000 although recent changes mean you can apply for more and it will be considered. For more information visit www.lloydtsbfoundationni.org or ring 028 9032 3000.



BBC Children in Need provides grants to local projects that work with disadvantaged children and young people to make a real difference to the quality of their lives. In the last year over £3m has been distributed in Northern Ireland and some 300 projects are currently in receipt of a grant in rural and urban communities throughout the country.

We very much want to hear from groups who are helping children and young people to overcome disadvantage such as:

- living in poverty or situations of deprivation
- disability
- behavioural or psychological difficulties illness, distress, abuse or neglect.

It is important that you are specific about the nature of the disadvantage in a request for funding, and clear about the difference your project will make. You can make an application at any time throughout the year to fit with your project plans. We operate 4 grant rounds with closing dates of:

15 July -notification by end of October
15 October -notification by end of January
15 January -notification by end of April
15 April -notification by end of July.

All our applications are done on line at www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey where you will find details of how to apply. You can also contact the local staff team at **028 9033 8221**



Community Building/Venues can apply to the Big Lottery Fund for a grant to support organisations "To create energy efficient community venues across NI." Two possible grants available depending on work being requested grants are from £200-£10,000 and £15,000-£50,000. For more information e-mail enquiries.ni@biglotteryfund.org.uk or telephone 028 9055 1455.

'Did you know?'

- The Commission for Older People Bill has passed the second stage of the legislative process after strong debate at the Assembly. This means that the Bill will now be referred to the Committee Stage;
- Citizens Advice has launched a series of 'Dealing with Debt Self Help Factsheets'. These factsheets have simple to read information on a range of topics which include bankruptcy, rent arrears and enforcing a debt as well as useful resources such as budget sheets and sample letters. You can download the factsheets at www.citizensadvice.co.uk/en/Publications/Money-Advice/Self-Help-Material/
- UnLtd Over 50's programme is funded by The Atlantic Philanthropies and will run from April 2010 until March 2013. The programme is aimed at people who are over 50 who have the ideas and commitment to change their community or wider society. The Over 50's programme aims to find, fund and provide practical, personal, leadership and project development support to individuals with entrepreneurial solutions to the issues faced in an ageing society in NI. For more information contact Lesley Johnston on 028 9024 40007;
- Community Change offer facilitation, training and support to community groups and organisations throughout NI and on a wide range of topics. If you would like to know what we could do for your group/organisation contact our Director Margaret on 028 9023 2587;
- Following Community Network Craigavon successful level two certificate in Community Development they are now running a NOCN Level 3 certificate in Community Development. This is an accredited course that equips those working on a paid or unpaid basis in a Community Development work setting with the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to deliver. For more details contact CNC on 028 3839 2777;
- Can you spare a few hours a week? If you can then why not volunteer with the British Red Cross, they would be delighted to welcome you onto their friendly team of volunteers, full training is provided and all expenses are fully reimbursed including mileage at 40p per mile. For more information contact Anna Williams on 028 9073 5371 or 07525 902924;
- Community Change has a training room available which seats up to 12 people comfortably. It is a competitive rate with free on-site parking. If you would like to book you can contact us on 028 9023 2587;
- The Review of Public Administration was dramatically put on hold after the NI Executive failed to agree a way forward on the reduction of local councils from 26 to 11.

