

# Update



## Build a Bridge - Holocaust Memorial Day 2013.

From Dudley to Aberdeen, Belfast to Brighton, Holocaust Memorial Day - 27 January - is marked by thousands of people who come together in schools, workplaces and public spaces. By pausing together to reflect on the appalling events of the past, those who mark Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) commit to creating a better future.



From candle lightings and peace walks, to tree planting and poetry writing, HMD activities involve all members of the community. Through online engagement messages reach our collective consciousness.

Whether activities are big or small, public or private, online or in-person they all play a vital role in the UK marking Holocaust Memorial Day. On 27 January, you can find out how you can play your part in learning lessons from the past to create a safer, better future for all.

*To find out more about HMD and how you can become involved visit - [www.hmd.org.uk](http://www.hmd.org.uk)*

## St James' Ward - Building Bridge

With funding from the St James' Ward Community 1st panel, the first phase of CfED's Build a Bridge project got off to a brilliant start.

Two of the three activities to date have been geared towards older people. Milking Bank school held a special assembly dedicated to older people and the Dudley Christian Fellowship was the venue for a tea and cake event on 29th October 2012. Over 100 people also attended the community harvest celebration event held at the Russells Hall Neighbourhood Centre also in October.

This multi-stand project seeks to address issues such as discrimination, social interaction between different groups of people, intergenerational gap and the relationship between migrants and host communities.



# Volunteering for CfED by Kevin Collins

Becoming a volunteer for CfED has been a truly enriching experience. It helped me to follow my dreams and aspirations. I have always wanted to lead a project addressing alcohol awareness with young people. Through volunteering with the community organisers programme based at CfED this dream became a reality. I was supported to organise an event called **Young People Speak Out: Alcohol What's the Attraction?**



This event was a debate about the underlying issues of alcohol misuse amongst young people. It was touching to hear the views of young people and further understand their perceptions and ideas for change. I was given the platform to lead, influence and contribute to changes in the local community

I became involved with CfED through working with the community organiser for the Brierley Hill area. As we talked over several weeks we began to discuss about the issue of alcohol abuse in the area, and talked about setting up a campaign. I had never done anything like this before but I was supported to turn my dreams into reality.

The first step we took was to listen to other people, and organise a group meeting around this issue. The more I became involved the more I began to realise that this vision could be achieved. I received great support in accessing funding, developing marketing materials and building networks. The event was a tremendous success, and I helped to inspire a group of young people to also volunteer and organise projects for the future.

Brierley Hill area. abuse in the area,

*'I helped inspire a group of young people'*

## Migrants Alive Event

"Just wanted to congratulate you all at CfED for an excellent event last night", is just one of the several comments received from the public who attended our event on 18th December.

A total of 112 people attended the event which featured the launch of 'Our Story' a 30 mins film which tells the story of migrants living in the Borough and a very powerful speech full of strong messages by Matthew Rhodes from British Future - a new non-partisan think-tank.

All participants had the chance to laugh, smile, dance to the Hakuna Matata and listened to words and music by Banner Theatre.

Overall it was a great evening and thanks to everyone who attended as well as were involved in its planning. Please see our facebook page for images from the event.



# A Question Of Money?

Older people from Dudley's ethnic minority community were putting their financial affairs in order when they attended a seminar called 'A Question of Money.' The seminar was a response to a recent report by the Runnymede Trust. They found that older people from ethnic minority communities were worried about their financial future as they approached retirement because of significant barriers they faced in accessing financial services due to the present economic climate.

The seminar, supported by The Nationwide Foundation, took place on Wednesday 10 October 2012 at the Dudley College Brierley Hill Conference Centre. It provided delegates with an opportunity to discuss issues related to benefits, utilities, scams and other financial related matters that were important to them.

Speakers and advisers from Dudley MBC, Citizens Advice Bureau, Trading Standards and Pennysmart were present to give advice guidance on a range of financial issues.

Delegates found the event hugely beneficial as they were able to put their concerns to experts in the financial field and obtain relevant and timely advice from them.

Information collated from the seminar will be made into a report which will be presented to key decision makers.



*Supporting communities nationwide*



## New funding tool for charities

As part of its wider partnership programme, the Charity Commission for England and Wales has developed its website to allow charities to access information about the support provided by over 40 umbrella and infrastructure bodies.

The commission hopes the new website pages will help charities identify the 'best fit' umbrella body for their needs, and will encourage more charities to make use of the support available within the sector.

Each organisation's entry also sets out how it is working with the Commission - for instance by developing standard governing documents for their members, or co-coordinating applications for charity registration.

The pages also list organisations that help build capacity in the sector, including professional advice groups such as the Institute for Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA) and support bodies such as the Ethical Property Founda-

tion which helps charities and community groups make the best use of property for the society and the environment.

The Commission's partnership programme is designed to improve charities' access to tailored advice and promote trustee's compliance with their legal duties and responsibilities.

The Charity Commission's Chief Executive Sam Younger, said:

"These new pages demonstrate the wide range of existing support and help to charities. I would encourage all trustees whose charities are not already members of an umbrella body to review the list and consider joining one of our partner umbrella bodies. Being a member of a wider network grants charities access to both formal professional advice and to valuable peer support. I hope charities find the new information useful".

# Money Management Project

## Volunteers needed in the Borough of Dudley

Over 50s - Volunteers needed as Peer Mentors for our pilot project to mentor individuals or small groups with issues in Money Management i.e. How to budget finances, savings, avoid debts. An opportunity to give local people skills and confidence to manage their money better and help take control of their finances

### What we provide for you:

- ❖ A fully funded qualification 2.
- ❖ Money Management Tool Kit
- ❖ Travel Expenses & Monthly allowance
- ❖ On going supervision

Peer Mentor Training to take place from mid - January 2013

Interested: Please call the CfED on 01384 456166 or email your C.V. to: [admin@cfed.org.uk](mailto:admin@cfed.org.uk)



## Help Dudley College Achieve Its Vision.

Dudley College is looking to the future, and what could be more forward-thinking than the superb new college buildings right in the town centre? Already they are attracting increasing numbers of students, including a very high proportion from local Asian and Black communities.



At this exciting time the college is keen to make sure its board of governors reflects the mix of students. They would especially welcome applications from people who represent the African Caribbean community, or anyone who feels their ethnicity and experience would help them make a positive contribution.

By volunteering as a governor you will be involved in key decision-making that can have a real impact on the many varied communities within the Dudley borough, particularly through helping young people realise their potential whatever their cultural background.

To find out more please get in touch with Janet Boardman by phone on 01384 363 204 (Monday to Thursday) or email [janet.boardman@dudleycol.ac.uk](mailto:janet.boardman@dudleycol.ac.uk). There is also a lot of helpful information in the governance section of the college's website at [www.dudleycol.ac.uk](http://www.dudleycol.ac.uk)

### How to contact us

We welcome any articles, news, events, views and opinions that you would like to share with the wider community and see included in our newsletter. Please send them to the information officer

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