



Centre  
For  
Equality &  
Diversity

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# Update



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## Brockmoor And Pensnett Community First

CfED is pleased to have accepted the invitation to take on the role of Panel Partner for the Brockmoor and Pensnett Ward Community First Panel. Community First is part of a new government funded programme that will run until March 2015. It aims to help communities in England 'come together through new and existing community groups, to identify their strengths and local priorities, plan for their future and become more resilient! A total of

£84,775 has been awarded to the Ward on a match funding basis.

As Panel Partner CfED has enabled the panel to meet on several occasions and has agreed the following priorities in conjunction with local communities, for projects that may be funded -

1. Crime and antisocial behaviour
2. Public health- mortality rates, obesity and coronary heart disease
3. Community engagement, involvement and cohesion
4. Preventing isolation amongst elderly persons.

So far a total of 8 projects have received approval and the chair of the Panel Cllr Judy Foster " In this first round, the quality of applications was high and the panel was delighted to recommend a diverse range of worthy projects from across the whole ward to the Foundation. We look forward to seeing groups receive and use the resources for the benefit of the whole community."

Within Dudley 8 other Wards have been allocated Community First funding.

- Belle Vale - £33,910
- Brierley Hill - £67,820
- St. Thomas's - £118,687
- St. James's - £84,820
- Netherton, Woodside & St Andrews - £84,775
- Quarry Bank & Dudley Wood - £33,910
- Cradley & Foxcote - £33,910
- Castle & Priory - £67,820

For more information on the Community First programme locally contact the respective panel or see information on the website of The Community Development Foundation - [www.cdf.org.uk](http://www.cdf.org.uk)



## The Lookout Project

The lookout Project has been working in the Pensnett area for 13 years, since 2010 the project has been operating from the former Council Estate Office on Commonsides, which has given the project greater presence in the area and the ability to increasingly touch the lives of local people. A unique element of the Lookout Project is that it is not restricted to work with just one age group or gender. The project therefore undertake activities with parents, grandparents children and of course young people who do not get exposure to positive role models and often have little hope for a better future.

With funding from the Brockmoor & Pensnett Community First Panel, the project was able to provide a community social action initiative for one week in August, primarily for young people. Activities during the week included a visit to a theme park, a community fun day at the Dell Stadium and giving a helping hand in supporting local residents, with a disability or are experiencing difficulties, in clearing their gardens.

Jenny Hartnell, project co-ordinator expressed the views that all the young people who took part in helping to clear up gardens, “felt a sense of social responsibility, towards those that were being supported”.



# An overview of racial violence and harassment in the first six months of 2012.

The Institute of Race Relations (IRR), which documents racist attacks, is now collating regular short briefings on emerging trends in racial violence throughout the UK. And the first six months of 2012 reveals a reality of routine abuse and harassment – from graffiti to vicious assault, from alcohol fueled vandalism to hate campaigns. At least one attack has proved fatal. Given that these incidents were recorded in the local or (much less frequently) national press, they show only a tiny fraction of the true scale of violence. (51,187 racist incidents were recorded by the police in 2010/11, the last year for which statistics are available.) Nonetheless, they do provide a snapshot of the reach and impact of popular racism.

Racist abuse is high on the public agenda at the moment. Or, to be more specific, racist abuse which is carried out by footballers or has footballers as the victims is high on the agenda. Rarefied though footballers' lives may be, what happens on the pitch is actually a good indicator of the way racism percolates the lives of people on a daily basis. Quickly and easily a culture of casual racism, largely unacknowledged, and supposedly consigned to the past, can turn into racist abuse and violence.

There are cases which show how the most petty, trivial frustrations can trigger brutal racial violence; where a prejudice just beneath the surface of day-to-day reality can quickly and unexpectedly manifest itself in abuse, threats and assault. Witness the man who threatened to burn a shop down in Crosby a few months ago, calling the Asian workers 'rats' and squirting cleaning fluid into one of their faces simply because he was refused a bottle of vodka on credit; the man who went on a spree of violence in a chip shop in Liverpool, racially abusing Asian staff members and attacking customers simply because he asked for tissues and felt he was given too few; the man in Birmingham who, infuriated at not being able to watch a certain film at a cinema, vented his anger by ripping off a woman's niqab.

Disturbingly, research also exposes a trend of racist attacks against children, families and parents with their children, some of which involve ongoing, organised campaigns of harassment, terrorising families in their own homes. In

Kidderminster, for example, a child's pet rabbit was mutilated and hung up in full view in a sadistic incident which made up only one part of a long-standing 'hate' campaign.

Taken together, these and other attacks give a glimpse of a reality of racial violence which occurs day-in-day-out, up and down the UK, from the most rural of villages to large cities.

Written by Jon Burnett - Courtesy of Institute of Race Relations. [www.irr.org.uk](http://www.irr.org.uk)



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# Community Ambassador Workshop

The “Being a Community Ambassador” workshop held on Monday 16th July from 10am to 1pm at the Brambles was another successful day. Members from the migrants communities and the Tenants and Residence Associations (TRAs) explored ways of getting involved and make difference in their respective neighborhood.

The Workshop was organized by the 5 Estatesplus Project in conjunction with the Dudley Council's Participation and Development Team with the focus on encouraging community engagement.

Workshop leaders Patrick Clark from the Tenants Participation Advisory (TPAS) facilitated group learning by encouraging participants to discuss questions and explored possible solutions to addressing community issues by working together.

This workshop was attended by 17 people and provided an opportunity for participants to learn different skills to engage in community activities. Overall this was a workshop for community groups to explore how they felt about their local community and how they could improve it.

Papi Ilunga said: “The most significant aspect of this workshop relates to member from migrant groups as well as Tenants and Residence Associations’ awareness of their place within the community and an understanding that each and every person is an important part of the whole community.

Mary from the  
Zimbabwe Association  
said:

*“This workshop has been an awesome experience not only to have provided the chance to build relationships within the community, but also to support work opportunities with other groups”.*



If you would like to get involve in the 5 Estatesplus Project or need more information please call us on 01384 456166, send your email to [Thierry.barholere@cfed.org.uk](mailto:Thierry.barholere@cfed.org.uk) for future activities. You can also view our activities at [www.cfed.org](http://www.cfed.org) g.uk.

# A Day Out In The Countryside

Funding from the West Midlands Police Property Act Fund enabled a group of 29 service users and 2 volunteers from the New Testament Welfare Association to spend a day out visiting Stratford on Avon and Evesham on Thursday 23rd August. The day arranged in partnership with CfED is part of an initiative to stimulate BME communities participation in the built and natural environment.

Shirnette Humphry, co-ordinator for the NTWA said that service users age between 62 and 83 enjoyed the day, walking along the river bank and taking in the sights and attractions.



## Old People's Day 2012

UK Older People's Day is on 1st October 2012, events & activities will be held on or around 1 October. This will include socialising, helping and volunteering with people. This year's theme is about sharing skills with other older people and different generations.

Everyday, older people across our region are making the most of their time and energy by organising community activities, volunteering at hospitals, schools and meals on wheels projects, helping out family and friends, and generally contributing to society and the economy.

You can find out more about Older People's Day on the website: [www.dwp.gov.uk/olderpeoplesday](http://www.dwp.gov.uk/olderpeoplesday) and if you

are organising an event you can register them on the DWP'S website to let others know.



**Do  
something  
different – join  
the 'Big Skills  
Share'**



# Want to support us at CfED? We'd love to hear from you

## Can you volunteer your time?

- Serve as a trustee
- Be our ambassador
- Share your skills
- Meet new people etc

## Can you help us with our Infrastructure?

- Bid writing
- Project development
- Business development etc

Any donation, however small, is really of value...

If you are able to support us, give us a call on 01384 456166

## Out of Many One People

The Jamaican national flag was flown high from the roof of Dudley Council House on Monday 6th August in honour of the country's 50th year of independence.

A commemorative event was organised by ACCN and the Council saw a gathering of over 200 people on Coronation Gardens, where the Jamaican national anthem was played and the flag raised.

Later in a reception in the Council House the Mayor of Dudley, Cllr Melvyn Mottram was presented with a silver salver on behalf of the Jamaican community. This was presented by local resident Nikesha Simpson



Image used by permission courtesy of Dudley Council

## Visiting India

India is a perfect holiday destination and attracts tourists from all around the world to spend their holidays in India.

Mr Bedi visited India in May 2012 for 6 weeks, where he stayed with family and friends. His time was spent in visiting many Sikh shrines as well as Hindu temples. He enjoyed his stay very much and will consider going back again soon.



## Community BBQ Fun in the sun

Hundreds of people descended onto a Dudley park on Saturday 28 July for a fun filled family day and barbeque. More than 600 adults and children descended onto Grange Park, near the town centre, for the event, which was focused on enabling families to spend time together which has become a rare thing in these days.

Amongst the attractions were face painting, puppet shows, a Wii competition, stencil art, a steel band, bouncy castles and mini sports in celebration of the Games in London.

Other events included a community football event which had been co-ordinated in association with the African Caribbean Community Network. This was in commemoration of the late Vincent Patterson who passed away a couple of years ago and was a very active community member within the Dudley Borough.

The BBQ event was the fifth one hosted by the Church of God of Prophecy, King Street, Dudley and this year was supported by Churches Together in Dudley and other community groups. All costs for the event were

met through fundraising activities which meant that all activities including the BBQ were free of charge to the community.

Coreen Hutchinson, one of the event organisers said: "It was a fantastic day which allowed families to enjoy themselves without having to spend a fortune to have a good day out. Events like this allow the church to give something back to their community."



The Dudley well being information event was held on the 4th of July 2012 at Wellington road community centre, from 1pm-4pm. As part of Dudley's contribution to ethnic minority cancer awareness week. The event was attended by over 70 people from the migrant communities.

Prior to the event an information session about cancer was held with the facilitation of Dudley public health NHS (Cancer team). 6 individuals from the migrant groups attended this session in order to gain information about the various of cancers & the symptoms of cancer and also the support available.

On the day of the event the 6 individuals were able to convey the message about cancer to people who visited the event, within a cultural context. Different organisations held information stalls and displayed the message of cancer and provided support within a professional context. Organisations included: Dudley Public Health, Cancer Support, Health & Fitness, Dudley Link, Health Exchange etc. A DVD on cancer was also showcased at the event, this film was shown in English as well as Hindi.



# FIGHTING THE RECESSION

## *A case study of Paul Campbell*

The recession has had an unwelcome impact on many third sector organizations. Challenges have not deterred.

One such charity is 'Inspired Communities', a karate club set up in Woodside, Dudley in November 2010 that provides lessons to children and young people in order to develop their physical and psychological skills. At the forefront of this organization is instructor Paul Campbell. With over 38 years of karate experience, Paul has taught both locally and abroad.

In this interview, Paul explains how he turned a derelict building into a comfortable practice venue (complete with a traditional bar and lounge area) with limited resources and how "resilience, attitude and determination" are keys in overcoming any hurdle.

**How are you responding to the challenges of the recession?** "Luckily I made the decision just before the recession hit to centralize my karate operation. We acquired a building in Canal Street on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2010. It was a shambles but after revamping the place we now teach kids here. We have a karate room and a bar where parents can socialize and watch TV. The idea is to build a fully fledged leisure complex in the next 12 months for the community to become part of."

**What are biggest challenges for you as an organization?** "I think the biggest challenge for most organizations are financial; families have to prioritize their expendable incomes and priority is given to food and bills. The first aspect of family life which takes the hit, although it is important for family enjoyment and social experiences, is leisure, meaning that they are less likely to spend money on organizations like ours. I am experiencing a reduction in students frequency of training due to financial constraints. Students that used to train three or four times a week now only train once or twice a week."

**How do you plan to overcome problems brought about by the recession?** "Resilience, attitude and determination, faith in God and oneself are things that every human should have as a characteristic. My family continue to be very supportive, particularly my brother and my father who I know are proud of what is being achieved."

**Has the recession helped you rethink ways in which the organisation is run?** "Most certainly. Since the recession I plan more and I think things through more, particularly the things I used to do spontaneously before the recession hit because you can't pull money back that you've lost. So it's made me think in more depth before I do anything."

**What are the organisation's top priorities?** "My top priority is to make sure that I keep my members happy but also to develop – never ending improvements are the words that come quickly to mind."



**Interview conducted  
by Hemisha Morarji intern at CfED**



# Update

**Are you 55 and over?... Then read on because we have some important information for you.**

**Are you 55 and over?... Then read on because we have some important information for you.**

If you are feeling overwhelmed and confused by your benefit entitlements, pensions, the cost of care and other financial related matters, then don't despair because help is at hand. We are holding a conference designed with you in mind. You will have an opportunity to hear from the experts about these matters and share your own concerns and experiences. There will also be advisers on hand to provide any one to one confidential advice which you may require.

This is a free event for people aged 55 plus and will take place on Wednesday 10th October 2012 from 10am to 3pm at Brierley Hill Campus, Dudley College, Dudley Road, Brierley Hill, DY5 1QL. Refreshments and lunch will be provided along with a raffle on the day. Transport can also be arranged for you to attend the seminar.

This is not to be missed. To book your place please call Coreen Hutchinson, Centre for Equality & Diversity on 01384 456166.



## Welcome to our new members



Apni Zaroorat Community Network - an organisation based in Stourbridge established by women, to enhance the quality of life of women, children and young adults within the Asian community.



Dudley District CAB- offer advice and information on a range of issues, including housing rights, welfare rights and benefits, money and debt, consumer rights and employment rights

Website: [www.dudleycabx.org](http://www.dudleycabx.org)

# Create a legacy... become a mentor!



The Centre for Equality and Diversity are pleased to announce the launch of the Service through Partnership (StP) Peer Mentoring Programme for third sector organisations from across the West Midlands.

The programme is designed to support voluntary community groups to be as effective and efficient as possible in delivering services to their clients and beneficiaries. The StP peer mentoring programme aims to support third sector organisations by matching senior level staff or board members with a suitable mentor who can help them develop the right skills to deliver public services, promote social enterprise and strengthen communities.

A poster with a teal border. At the top, it says 'Do YOU have what it takes to be a Mentor?' in large, bold, teal letters. Below this is a photo of a man and a woman shaking hands at a desk. Under the photo, it says: 'The Service Through Partnership (StP) Programme is currently seeking volunteer mentors from across the Black Country to help third sector organisations expand, modernise and enhance their service delivery. If you would like to support the growth and development of the third sector by sharing best work practices, your skills and experience please call Trishna Burke on 01384 456166 or email mentoring@bmesupport.org.uk for further information'. Below that, it says 'Full Training and Expenses will be provided'. At the bottom, it says 'EACH 1 TEACH 1 \*MOTIVATE \*SHARE\* GUIDE \*INSPIRE'. At the very bottom, in small text, it says 'CIED is the accountable body for the StP project Registered Charity Number: 1114821 Company no: 5745005'. Along the bottom edge are logos for Lottery Funded, Centre for Equality &amp; Diversity, SYCC, rafto, and ethnic minority council.

We are looking for volunteer mentors with senior level experience to support, empower and raise mentees aspirations and confidence in a one-one mentoring relationship.

## Why Become a Mentor? What are the Benefits

Mentoring can be a truly rewarding experience and gives you the extraordinary opportunity to facilitate an individual's personal and professional growth by sharing knowledge you learned through years of experience. It also enhances your own skills. The experience you gain by mentoring someone can facilitate your own professional growth, making you more of an asset to your organisation.

Not only will you gain the satisfaction of helping to develop future management talent, the knowledge you foster in your mentee can inspire new ideas for generations to come. Furthermore, through mentoring, you can help carry on your organisation's legacy by passing on its values and mission to your mentee.

If you would like to join the StP Programme and make a real difference by supporting people to achieve their goals and aspirations please contact the StP Mentoring Coordinator on 01384 456166 or email mentoring@bmesupport.org.uk for more information. Full training and out of pocket expenses are provided. .

**Supporting people to achieve their goals**

# Francis Maude MP Visits Dudley Community Leaders.

Government Minister, Francis Maude MP, visited Dudley on Friday 13th July and met community leaders in order to hear how they are helping to make a difference to their neighbourhoods.

The Minister for the Cabinet Office spoke with Community First panel members and toured the Chapel Street Housing Estate in Brierley Hill.

He also met the borough's four Community Organisers, Matthew Johnson, Terri Overland, Abraham Bah and Mel Kingsbury who are working with residents to make them take action and tackle issues which are important to them in their neighbourhoods.

The Minister's visit coordinated by Community Organiser, Matthew who commented after 'that it was well worth while and the Minister expressed a real interest in our work. This was the first opportunity the Minister had in seeing Community Organisers implementing the root solution listening matters. He was really impressed'



Francis Maude MP meets Panel Member Sandra Shepherd and Community Organiser Terri Overland.

'Matthew also said that the MP visit of Francis Maude was highly productive. It allowed for a meeting of ideas, which developed into a plan for collaborative working. The minister was taken into the community and heard the ideas and concerns of the local people. The visit allowed the voices of people of Dudley to be heard'.

## Migrant Community Mourns Drowning death of Augusto Zacarias

The tragic drowning death of the 15 year old boy Augusto Zacarias on Wednesday 25th July 2012 was unpredictable. The incident happened at the quarry commonly known as the "Blue Lagoon" in Lower Gornal.

Pastor Charles Matondo a community leader said: "Augusto's tragic death is shocking and heartbreaking loss...we pray that the Lord God comfort them through out these very sad moments".

Families and friends attended his funeral services at the Dudley Christian Fellowship on Friday 17th August 2012. Breaking in tears the father of the victim

thanked the Centre for Equality and Diversity for the support that was expressed. He added: "We will never have another son like Augusto and we will always remember him". He also thanked friends, family and the local authority for every support that was made available to them during the tragic moment.

This is warning for parents and youngster that the Quarry or as they call it "Blue Lagoon" is not a safe place and it is very dangerous. One person who had visited the quarry said: "This incident was unpredictable; the security measures at the "Blue Lagoon" should be reviewed to ensure youngster's access to this

dangerous area is totally restricted especially during schools holiday.





# “I’VE”

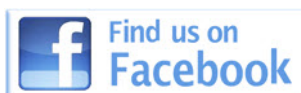
*by Louise*

“I’ve lived in a house  
I’ve lived in a hostel  
I’ve lived in a maisonette  
I’ve lived in a flat  
Now I live again in a house  
With the best front lawn ever  
I found love  
I found friends  
I found neighbour  
I found fun  
What a wonderful feeling to be  
In a close knit community ”.

Poem by Louise, taken from Poems of Reflection by Migrants in Dudley

## 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 in to the Information Officer.*



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