

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to Email bulletin N° 98– 28 October 2009

We have a wide range of articles for you this week; all are linked to our website. To read an article use the underlined text links to take you straight to the article.

CLB is delighted that the success of our Mentoring and Befriending scheme has received national attention [see Spotlight feature]. In addition to the usual round up of news, there is an extensive feature on the second wave of Swine Flu to bring you up to speed on the latest from LBB and the Department of Health.

And finally, I'd like to draw your attention to a local partnership event, organised by CLB, looking at Commissioning and Procurement with our local authority.

Best Wishes,

Philippa

Philippa Leary, Membership, Information and Communications Officer

Next publishing date:

- Wednesday 11 November 2009
- Copy deadline: Thursday before publication

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Spotlight

CLB's mentoring scheme featured in Mentoring and Befriending Foundation's quarterly magazine

"At Community Links Bromley, Julie Hunt runs the Funding Information and Advice Service Mentoring Scheme, which finds mentors to help small local voluntary organisations to build their capacity and attract funding. She tells Dominic Wood about scheme's successes, how she boosted mentor numbers six-fold and why she believes it could be replicated nationally." [Download Rapport to read Julie's article.](#)

Autumn – season of mists, mellow fruitfulness and flu

Many thanks to James Cook, Emergency Planning Officer at LBB for this latest information from the Department of Health and Bromley Council regarding:

- [Planning for the anticipated second wave of Swine Flu](#)
- Steps you can take to keep [your services up and running](#) if staff and volunteers are affected
- In addition, an [IT planning tool](#), primarily aimed at those working in social care, to test your organisation's resilience.

Please cascade information to your members.

Swine Flu: Preparing for a second wave

Swine Flu cases are on the increase and the public sector is currently preparing for a second wave of the virus combined with seasonal flu over the winter.

An increased number of cases will put Local Government, NHS and many other public sector bodies under pressure, as has already been the case during the first wave.

However, local businesses and voluntary organisations will also be affected through potentially high levels of staff absence and supply chain disruption.

This short article aims to inform you about the simple steps you can take to prevent the spread of flu at home and in the work place, and highlights the need for taking early action to reduce the impact of staff absence on your organisation through Business Continuity Management.

Steps you can take to prevent the spread of flu

Flu is spread from person to person through the droplets that come out of your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze. This could happen in two ways:

- coughing or sneezing without covering your nose and mouth with a tissue and putting people at risk of breathing them in; or
- coughing or sneezing into your hands and then touching hard surfaces that others may touch such as door handles.

Preventing the spread of flu is simple – remember ‘Catch it, Bin it, Kill it’. When you cough or sneeze, follow good hygiene practices as outlined below:

- Always carry tissues;
- Use clean tissues to cover your mouth and nose when you cough and sneeze;
- Bin the tissues after one use; and
- Wash your hands regularly with soap and hot water or a sanitiser gel.

Remember if you have flu-like symptoms and are concerned that you may have Swine Flu or seasonal flu you should stay at home and check your condition with the National Pandemic Flu Service at www.pandemicflu.direct.gov.uk or by phoning 0800 1 513 513. You should contact your GP if you are pregnant, have a serious underlying illness, have a sick child under one year old, your condition suddenly gets worse or continues getting worse after seven days (or five days for a child). For information on the three antiviral collection points in Bromley [follow this link](#).

The symptoms of Swine Flu are similar to seasonal flu and it is important to note that the majority of cases continue to be mild. Some of the symptoms are the sudden onset of a fever, cough or a shortness of breath. Other symptoms can include headache, sore throat, tiredness, aching muscles, chills, sneezing, runny nose or loss of appetite. For more general information on Flu, please go to www.nhs.uk.

Disaster proofing your organisation

The variety of disruptive challenges facing business and voluntary organisations today is vast and covers a range of different types from fuel shortage, power failure to industrial action and supply chain failures. This year alone has seen severe winter weather, recession, industrial action as well as Swine Flu.

With the winter nearly upon us and the number of Swine Flu cases on the increase, is your organisation prepared to cope with potentially high levels of staff absence and possible disruption to contractors and suppliers?

Although the Swine Flu virus is mild, staff could be off sick for up to a week, possibly longer in some cases. Staff may also need time off to care for family with the illness or because of school closures. Could this impact your organisation's ability to deliver its services or products?

Taking steps in advance of any disruption will significantly increase your organisation's ability to continue delivering its services or products. Pandemic Flu is unpredictable, but Business Continuity Management (BCM) can assist in identifying your priority services or products and how these will be maintained when faced with a disruptive event.

For more information on BCM please visit www.bromley.gov.uk/prepared or www.londonprepared.gov.uk

Exercise Prometheus – test your organisation's resilience planning

Exercise Prometheus is a desktop exercise for social care providers. It is for local authorities, private and third sector providers, health organisations and other partners to test the resilience of their plans. It uses planning assumptions revised since the first wave of swine flu, to make realistic preparations for a second wave. You can download the DVD that is an integral part of the exercise from the DH website at www.dh.gov.uk/swineflu you can order a copy by contacting the HPA at exercises@hpa.org.uk

Reprinted from NAVCA LinX issue 126 15/10/09

Local news

Access All Areas: Bromley South - petition

Bromley South is the 49th busiest railway station in the country with an annual footfall of over six million passengers. Located in London Travel card Zone 5, it is a major interchange for thousands of commuters.

Access All Areas: Bromley South is a group of campaigners who want to see action taken to improve the facilities at Bromley South station ahead of the planned schedule and ensure the station is fully accessible by 2012. Many of the group have physical disabilities and feel that they are being unfairly disadvantaged by not having an accessible station close by. The group argues that issues of accessibility go beyond disability - all people in Bromley and visitors to The Glades Shopping Centre would benefit from better station facilities and easier access to the platforms.

To support the campaign, please sign the online petition at www.gopetition.com

If you would like more information or to get more involved with the campaign, please contact Jo Letts at: St Cecilia's, Sundridge Avenue, Bromley Kent BR1 2PZ Tel: 020 8460 8377 or email Jo.Letts@LCDisability.org

London Councils Grants: Future Commissioning Priorities

Public Consultation Event

London Councils' current commissioning programme reflects priorities agreed for the period 2007-2011. It is commencing the process of developing priorities for the prospective 2011-2015 programme, the early stages of which involve consultation on scoping options for potential services. The consultation period will run from early November 2009 through to the end of January 2010 and more details will be published shortly. A number of meetings and events are planned which will enable London Councils to engage with as wide a range of stakeholders as possible. As part of this exercise, it has arranged a series of public meetings. Bromley's event is as follows: Friday 20 November 2009 11.15am -1.15pm at Greenwich Town Hall.

To book your place, visit the [Grants pages of the London Councils website](#)

New Online TV features MindCare Team at Work

'MindCare', the local dementia care service run by Bromley Mind, has been featured in the new Social Care TV service launched by Care Services Minister Phil Hope on 21st October. The new nationwide online TV service was set up by the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), which identifies and spreads knowledge about good practice in social care.

MindCare was selected to demonstrate excellence in the provision of domiciliary care to help people with dementia live in their own homes for as long as possible. The 11-minute video features Care at Home staff on the job and discussing their practice in a team meeting. The service was awarded an 'Excellent' rating by the Care Quality Commission.

MindCare has operated in the Bromley area since 1986, providing specialist care in the home and in local Day Centres for people with dementia, and support and respite for their carers. In 2007, the charity launched MindCare Direct to extend the service to people who are not eligible for council funded support.

A new Dementia Care Centre is planned to open in the Chislehurst area early in the New Year.

View the video on the SCIE website at www.scie.org.uk. Further information is available on MindCare services on 020 8663 0499.

New Soft Play space - the Rainbow Room at Christ Church Orpington

Christ Church Orpington has recently developed a soft play area, "The Rainbow Room", which it is keen to offer to the wider community, particularly those with special needs. The Rainbow Room is a small soft play space, currently available by arrangement to suit your convenience, as a safe play area for children with additional needs and their families and friends. We provide two adult volunteers who are there to welcome and support you during your use of the room. The room can be viewed on our church website www.ccorpington.org

Do you work with female ex-offenders?

Clean Break is a theatre and education company offering arts-based education and training for women ex-offenders and women at risk of offending due to drug or alcohol use. The programme enables them to develop confidence, and gain creative skills and qualifications. It has recently received funding from London Councils to deliver services for residents of all London boroughs.

Clean Break offers a women-only space with a highly skilled and experienced staff team, together with comprehensive support. More than 70 women each year study at the centre in North London.

The organisation is keen to establish links with Bromley service providers working in the area of Criminal Justice System and Probation Service to discuss referral methods. If you would like one of Clean Break's outreach workers to visit your programme to outline the services and talk to your client group, contact [Elly Shepherd at Clean Break](#)

Activities for the over 50s at Anerley Town Hall

Meeting on Mondays and Fridays between 2 and 5pm, these events offer a range of opportunities for people to change their life styles and meet new friends. Activities include chess, board games, snooker, table tennis and time to sit and chat. There is no membership fee, sessions cost £1.70 on Mondays, £1.50 on Fridays.

Compact Consultation has now closed for the “refreshed” Compact.

[You can find Stephen Blann's briefing here.](#) Community Links Bromley submitted a response based on comments received. CLB has also submitted a paper to Bromley Local Strategic Partnership on an action plan for the Bromley Compact. This includes setting up a Compact Steering Group. Watch this space for updates.

New Horizons

Consultation has just finished on 'New Horizons - towards a shared vision for mental health'. This is intended to set a vision for the development of mental health services until 2020. Bromley Mental Health Forum considered this at a recent meeting and [submitted a response.](#)

Kingswood Community shop

The Kingswood Estate will benefit after the Crystal Palace Community Development Trust secured £178,365 from the Big Lottery Fund, £100,000 from the Henry Smith Charity and £25,000 from Southwark Council to invest in an ambitious building project. The vision for the development of a Community Shop is a project that provides local people with access to a range of services that will enhance their social, financial and emotional well-being.

In 2006 following, a feasibility study Southwark Council approached the CPCDT to take the lead on the project, produce a delivery plan, a business model and find funding. To date £340,865 has been raised. Tenders are invited for building works in October 2009 and the shop will be operational in January 2010. For more information, call 020 8676 5666.

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Local events

Commissioning In Bromley – information event

Date: Monday 16 November

Time: 10.30am – 3pm

CLB are delighted to host jointly this exciting commissioning event for the third sector in Bromley.

This event will provide delegates with an opportunity to hear more about the strategic overview of commissioning within London Borough Bromley's Adult & Community Services. It will also help voluntary sector organisations learn about commissioning developments and the impact that Supporting Independence will have on commissioning.

The workshops after lunch will facilitate two-way dialogue on a number of topics such as monitoring, quality evaluation and tender processes ensuring that voluntary sector views are captured. Feedback from the workshops can be taken to the final Panel session, which will be chaired by Lorna Blackwood Interim Assistant Director, Commissioning & Partnerships, ACS, LBB.

Download the booking form to [read more about the programme of workshops and to book your place on the day](#).

Bromley Council on Ageing - AGM

Date: Thursday 12 November

Times: AGM 2pm, refreshments 2.30pm, presentation 2.45 pm

Venue: Community House, South Street, Bromley BR1 1RH

Annual General Meeting followed by a presentation on 'Supporting People in Bromley, looking at the Transformation of Social Care Agenda' given by Jean Penney,

Programme Manager, Supporting Independence Programme, Adult and Community Services, London Borough of Bromley.

Older Peoples Panel meeting

Date: Thursday 10 December 2009

Topic: 'Did we make a difference?'

Time: 10.30am until 12.30pm followed by buffet lunch

Venue: Community House, South Street, Bromley BR1 1RH

Bromley Mind's Christmas Concert

Date: Sunday 6 December

Venue: St George's Church, High Street, Beckenham BR3 1AX

Time: 2.15pm

Tickets: Adults £10, children under 16 £5

The London Concert Chorus leads this celebration prior to a series of concerts at the Royal Albert Hall, accompanied by Firefly, with a special guest appearance by Jonathan Cohen.

Contact Pauline Froud at Bromley Mind on 020 8249 5910 or visit [the website](#),

Pick them up from the Church Office Monday to Friday 10am to 3.30 pm.

Come along, join in the singing and start your Christmas Festivities in style!

Alzheimer's Society – Dinner Dance

Date: Saturday 7 November

Venue: The Warren, Metropolitan Police (Hayes) Sports Club, Croydon Road, Hayes

Time: 7pm for 7.30pm

Cost: £40

Music supplied by Savannah. Tickets include a three-course dinner, followed by coffee/mints and the traditional raffle.

For tickets call 020 8460 9245 or email bromley@alzheimers.org.uk

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Local training

Bromley Neighbourhood Watch Association - training sessions

Reminder for Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators, that the Training and Information Sessions have started. The first session on October 7th was well attended and a great success. It will be repeated on Wednesday October 28th, then on December 16th, January 6th and 27th, and February 3rd. Places are available, so if you have not signed up yet, do [please let Geoff](#) know.

Deaf Access – certified course starts end October

Courses offered for anyone who is serious about good customer service, diversity and equality. The Certificate in Developing Awareness and Communication with Deaf and Deaf Blind people is a two-day, two-part course. It starts on Saturday 31 October and concludes on Saturday 14 November.

Time: 10am – 4pm

Cost: £60 per unit or £110 if booking both at the same time

To enrol contact Deaf Access - telephone 020 8315 2550, sms 077 3244 9349, Minicom 020 8315 2552, email information@deaf-access.co.uk

Dyslexia Workshop

Date: Saturday 14 November

Venue: Cherry Orchard Primary School, Rectory Fields Crescent, Charlton SE7 7DG

Cost: Free

Time: 9.30 – 1pm

A workshop for families, teachers and teaching assistants to learn fun ways of helping children at home and at school. Plus information and support for dyslexic adults. There will be a craft table and activity session for the children. Refreshments available.

Enterprise Expo

Date: Saturday 21 November 2009

Time: 9.30am - 3pm

Venue: [Bromley Parish Church, Bromley, BR2 0EG](#)

As part of [Global Entrepreneurship Week \(GEW\)](#), Bromley Council is teaming up with Business Focus and other partners to give you the advice and support you need to kick start your business. Voluntary and Community Sector groups welcome.

The day will include:

- An exhibition of business support agencies
- Seminars on key topics such as 'Business and financial planning' and 'Marketing'
- Workshop on Franchising presented by the British Franchise Association.

Enterprise Expo is free to attend, includes light refreshments, but to be sure of a place on the seminar of your choice, booking is advisable.

For more information contact: Miriam Dennis in the Local Economy Department, LBB

Phone: 020 8313 4825, e-mail: business@bromley.gov.uk

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National/regional news

Review of Trustee Standards

Since their launch in 2006, the [National Occupational Standards for Trustees](#) have been very well received – with over 5,000 pocket guides sold and countless more copies downloaded electronically. As part of a monitoring process, Skills – Third Sector must now check that the standards are still 'fit for purpose' and reflect good practice in trusteeship across the UK. Please share your thoughts and complete the survey on [Skills – Third Sector's website](#)

World Class Commissioning

World class commissioning is the process by which all Primary Care Trusts are supposed to buy the services that their populations need. The Government issues regular guidance to PCTs on how to do this. [Read the latest update](#) in PDF format.

Consultation on changes to ContactPoint – the information sharing database for children's services

ContactPoint is the information-sharing database for children's services. The Department for Children, Schools and Families has issued a consultation on proposed amendments to the framework of legislation and operation at the core of ContactPoint.

The deadline for responses is 29th December 2009. You can read the consultation at www.dcsf.gov.uk

Read the Audit Commission's report on the Supporting People programme

The Audit Commission, which monitors how well local public bodies spend their money, has published a report on Supporting People. Supporting People funds housing-related support services for a wide range of vulnerable people including older people, people with mental health problems, young people, people with learning difficulties, women suffering domestic violence and offenders. The Audit Commission report looks at the overall impact and successes of the Supporting People programme. Go to www.audit-commission.gov.uk

Stephen Bubb seeks assurances on anti-terrorism 'spying' claims

Edited from an article by Paul Jump, Third Sector Online, 19 October 2009

Stephen Bubb, Head the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations has written to third sector minister Angela Smith about concerns that some community groups' funding has been made dependent on providing intrusive information about Muslim beneficiaries for a Government anti-terrorism programme. This follows reports in The Guardian that the [Prevent programme](#), aimed at preventing Muslims from being lured into violent extremism, is being used to gather personal information, such as sexual and political activity, about people who are not suspected of involvement in terrorism.

Bubb's letter says "If true, such funding conditions do not just undermine the independence of sector organisations but may fatally destroy the trust that the local community and our clients have in our work, thus harming our ability to strengthen community cohesion". It calls on the [Office of the Third Sector](#) to review the allegations. Bubb has also written to Sir Bert Massie, the Commissioner for the Compact, asking him to look into whether the alleged link between funding and information breached the Compact Principle of sector independence from government.

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National/regional events

Keib Thomas Community Development Seminar

Date: Thursday 4 November, 6-8pm

Venue: London South Bank University

Keib Thomas (1946-2007) was an inspirational Community Development activist. This seminar aims to contribute to continuing the work he was so passionate about and is the second of an annual series organised by Community Action Southwark in partnership with CDNL and LSBU (London South Bank University). Download the flyer [here](#) for LSBU's directions (at Elephant and Castle) and for booking arrangements.

Calling All Consortia

Date: Wednesday 25 November 2009

Venue: Coin Street Neighbourhood Centre, 108 Stamford Street, London SE1 9NH

This partnership event between LVSC and Capacitybuilders provides a briefing, networking and information-sharing event for Capacitybuilders-funded projects. The theme for this year's event is the value of infrastructure.

It is aimed at:

- ChangeUp consortia leads and coordinators
- Improving Reach projects
- Organisations funded by the Modernisation Fund or any other Capacitybuilders' grant

The event will enable you to meet and network with Capacitybuilders, other consortia members and modernisation projects. It will give you the opportunity to hear from some of the National Support Services and find out what they can do to support your work.

[Register your interest](#) in this event.

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National/Regional training

Property in the recession and planning for the future - put your questions to the Ethical Property Panel!

Date: Tuesday 17 November 2009

Time: 9.30am-2pm

Venue: Holloway Resource Centre, 356 Holloway Road, London, N7 6PA

The ongoing financial uncertainty presents major challenges for the voluntary sector, but also opportunities when it comes to premises issues. This hands-on, scenario-based seminar brings together a wealth of charity property expertise into one room: come along and grill our Ethical Property Panel on how to secure that rent holiday on an underutilised building or negotiate a better deal on your current premises. Full details [on our website](#).

Co-location - sharing premises and pooling resources

Date: Wednesday 25 November 2009

Time: 9.30am -2pm

Venue: Ethical Property Foundation, Development House, 56-64 Leonard Street, London, EC2A 4LT

Colocation is an excellent way to pool resources and save money on your premises. Are you already considering coming together with other organisations to lease or purchase a property to occupy? Or are you a voluntary sector support organisation looking to create a resource centre/hub or managed workspace? This seminar brings you the real need-to-know information, from experts in the field, to ensure your co-location project is a success. Full details [on our website](#).

Media Workshops from Best Practice Training

Best Practice Training offers training in a variety of media-based skills. There are still places available on the following courses.

- Media Relations - TV, radio & print - Friday, 30 October
- Public Speaking & PowerPoint Presentations - Wednesday, 18 November
- Facilitation Skills - Wednesday, 18 November
- Writing Press Releases - Thursday, 19 November
- Perfect Podcasts - Friday, 20 November
- Creative & Professional Writing Skills - Thursday, 26 November

Venue: The Resource Centre, 356 Holloway Road, London N7 6PA

Times: 10am to 4.30pm

Cost: £110 if you pay when you book which includes lunch

How to book: online at www.bestpracticetraining.org.uk, by telephone on 01584 890970, by email to bookings@bestpracticetraining.org.uk

NCVO Fundraising Training - fundamentals of successful fundraising

Date: Thursday 26 November

Cost: NCVO Members £151, Non members £217

Venue: London

With a potential sharp fall in income predicted, how could you make sure your organisation stays ahead of the game and your fundraising income remains stable? This event will help you ensure you have the correct systems in place to make the most of the fundraising opportunities available to you. Visit <http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/fundraising09> or call Matt on 020 7520 3160.

DSC annual Campaigning Conference

Date: Monday 16 November 2009

Venue: Central London

This is an essential conference offering inspirational speakers and practical workshops for those who need to plan, promote and achieve a successful campaign in our sector. In addition to the workshops, there is a chance to network with industry peers throughout the day. Do not miss your opportunity to learn some of the latest campaigning techniques from some of the sector leaders. [Book today](#)

LVSC Short course Programme October/November

To view course details and book your place online, click on the course title:

29-30 October 2009 - [Effective report writing](#)

2-3 November 2009 - [Supervising staff - essentials](#)

4-5 November 2009 - [Training the non-trainer](#)

6 November 2009 - [Effective time management](#)

9 November 2009 - [Health and safety reps in the voluntary sector](#)

10 November 2009 - [Policy works - a tool for influencing](#)

11 November 2009 - [New to fundraising](#)

12-13 November 2009 - [Facilitating groups effectively](#)

16-17 November 2009 - [Managing for the first time](#)

- 18-19 November 2009 - [Project management](#)
- 20 November 2009 - [Evaluating the effectiveness of the project](#)
- 23 November 2009 - [Introduction to involving volunteers](#)
- 24 November 2009 - [Managing volunteers](#)
- 25 November 2009 - [Effective minute taking](#)
- 26-27 November 2009 - [Promoting equality in voluntary sector organisations](#)
- 30 November 2009 - [Dealing with violent and aggressive behaviour](#)

Book early to avoid disappointment. Prices range from £95 per day for organisations with less than 15 staff to £125 per day for management courses. [View pricing structure.](#)

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Local Jobs

Academy Co-ordinator (Lewisham)

Full-time - 18-month contract

Salary £25,346 - £26,754

Closing Date for Applications – Friday 30th October

Creating new routes into employment and skills, the Academy project uses volunteering to build pre-employment skills through the provision of work placements. We have been successful in securing the funds to develop further the Academy project in Lewisham and are seeking a co-ordinator to take the project forward.

This exciting role requires effective liaison with residents and communities as well as with staff and a range of external agencies so good communication skills are essential. The main elements of the job will be the development of work placements and the recruitment and support of the residents and NEET young people taking part in the project. There will also be a requirement to complete project-monitoring returns and to identify and secure funding to continue the project beyond the eighteen months funding currently in place.

You will be IAG level 3 qualified (or willing to work towards this) and must be enthusiastic and self-motivated with proven experience of developing and delivering projects in a community development and/or employment and training setting. The post will involve attendance at evening and occasional weekend meetings/events.

The post is based in Sydenham, SE26 and is a partnership between Hexagon and Broomleigh Housing Associations.

Confirmation of appointment will be subject to the successful candidate obtaining an acceptable Standard Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau.

More information at www.hexagon.org.uk or email recruitment@hexagon.org.uk or phone 020 8768 7941. If you would like an informal chat about the post before applying, call Jon Fisher Community Investment Manager, Hexagon Housing Association on 020 8768 7913.

Greater London Volunteering - Communications Administrator

£25,446 per annum pro rata (NJC Scale 6 point 26)

3 days per week (21 hours) Monday – Wednesday

GLV is the regional umbrella body for volunteering development agencies and volunteer centres, or their equivalent, throughout London.

We are seeking additional administrative support to maintain and develop our day-to-day operation.

You will need to be an excellent communicator with sound office management experience, great IT, organisational skills, and a professional and approachable outlook. Key areas of responsibility for this post include the production and circulation of ebulletins, marketing and external communications, website maintenance and event and meeting planning and implementation.

For full details or to download an application pack, please visit www.glv.org.uk, email info@glv.org.uk or call 020 7953 7317.

Closing date for applications: 9 November 2009, Interviews to be held: 19 November 2009.

Carers Bromley - Young Carers Development Worker (Health) F/T

Carers Bromley supports people of all ages who, unpaid, care for an ill or disabled family member or friend living in the London Borough of Bromley.

The Young Carers Service is looking for a friendly, approachable, non-judgemental and professional person who is willing to listen and support vulnerable young people between the ages of 4 – 18 years.

Young Carers Development Worker (Health) F/T

35 hours per week, £21,102 inc OLW

NJC Scale 22 – 25

Plus car allowance, pension and childcare vouchers

The post holder will provide support to young carers during one to one meetings and on the telephone. You will help to undertake activities, health information sessions and support the work of the Young Carers Services Manager. You will have a particular interest in the health of young carers.

Experience in the health/social care sector an advantage but training will be given. You will need to have access to transport plus a clean driving licence. An enhanced disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau will be required.

Telephone: 01689 898289 or email: help@carersbromley.org.uk

Closing date: Monday 2nd November 2009, at Noon.

Carers Bromley, Caritas House, Tregony Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 9XA

Reg. Charity No. 1067889. Comp. Ltd by Guarantee. 3479082.

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Funding news

MissionFish - eBay for Charity

eBay for Charity helps charities of all sizes to raise funds on the UK's biggest online marketplace, ebay.co.uk

eBay for Charity gives 17 million active eBay users an easy way to support their favourite charities by making donations when they buy and sell. Buyers can shop knowing they are supporting a good cause. Sellers can donate a percentage from any sale to a charity of their choice and add Gift Aid to their donations. Charities can also sell their own items directly on eBay.co.uk to raise unrestricted funds.

As eBay's partner for the eBay for Charity programme, MissionFish vets charities, processes donations, collects Gift Aid and advises charities on how to make the most of the eBay marketplace. Since the programme began in 2006, over 3,500 charities have registered to benefit and over £12m has been raised for UK charities.

For more information visit: <http://www.missionfish.org.uk>

Freerunner - free Wi-Fi access for community spaces and charities

Freerunner is offering to install free Wi-Fi wireless internet access in 50 public places for at least three years. The company will also install the Freerunner service free in 500 charity buildings, if they have broadband access.

The fund is paid for by the commercial side of the business, a number of corporate sponsors and advertising they place at the start of your internet session.

For more information, visit www.freerunr.com/about/ and download an application form from www.freerunr.com Email: connectmenow@freerunr.com Tel: (0800) 860 0815.

Comic Relief - UK Grants

Comic Relief usually makes grants for between one and three years.

They can pay for all or some of your project costs, but they encourage you to get some of your funding from other sources if you can. There is no minimum or maximum grant in most of their programmes, but where there are limits, these are clearly stated in the programme guidelines.

Their grants on average vary between £25,000 and £40,000 per year, and rarely exceed this upper limit. Before you apply for funding, please read all the essential information at www.comicrelief.com

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Volunteer News

South London Good Practice In Volunteer Management Programme

We are delighted to report that the Volunteer Centre Merton has successfully bid to City Bridge Trust for a Good Practice in Volunteer Management Programme.

An adviser will be appointed to cover the boroughs of Bromley and Croydon in the early part of 2010. They will be working with organisations dependent on the tasks carried out by volunteers, to deliver a programme of volunteer management training and one to one support. One particular aspect of their work will be to encourage and support organisations undertaking the 'Investing in Volunteers' quality award.

The Volunteer Centre Bromley is really looking forward to the commencement of this Project, particularly as it will complement the Greater London Volunteering Good Practice Project, which is about to launch its Volunteering Charter.

If you have any queries on managing volunteers please contact Diane Diamond on 020 8315 1930.

The costs, barriers and benefits of involving volunteers from under-represented groups

In a report published by the Commission on the Future of Volunteering in January 2008, one of the recommendations was to assist the involvement of groups who face barriers to volunteering. The under-represented groups mentioned in the report were people with disabilities, single parents and refugees and asylum seekers.

In response to this recommendation, the Commission for the Compact subsequently commissioned CSV Consulting (Community Service Volunteers) working with the Applied Policy and Practice Research Unit (APPRU) at Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) to investigate the costs, barriers and benefits of involving volunteers from under-represented groups.

The two stages of the research and their outputs are designed to achieve the outcome of a robust quantitative assessment for the Commission of the ancillary costs of volunteering by under-represented groups, which will be useful for commissioners and volunteering project managers. In addition to the design of a costing tool, the research aims to arrive at an overall better understanding of the barriers, benefits and costs of engaging volunteering from under-represented groups.

Download [the interim report](#) from the Commission for the Compact website.

DCSF produces Vetting and Barring FAQ for parent volunteers

The Department for Children, Schools and Families has a new frequently asked questions on '[Parent volunteers and the new Vetting and Barring scheme](#)' in Word format (46KB).

Source: VolResource Newsletter 404.

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Legal News

Government Employment Law - information updated

From Community Matters e-bulletin: The Department for Business Innovation and Skills has improved, updated and placed all its online employment content on the [Business Link advice site](#),

Terms and Conditions of Employment – flexible working

The Equality and Human Rights Commission has issued guidance entitled "Working Better: A managers' guide to flexible working" (October 2009)

It discusses:

- how businesses can benefit from flexible working
- key principles
- how to create a flexible workplace
- the key management skills required in a flexible workplace
- the impact on employers

[View guidance in PDF format](#)

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Best practice, resources and offers

Matching media professionals to charities

A new website aims to match media professionals who are willing to help charities produce creative projects with appropriate organisations, www.frogspawncreatives.com. Services may be provided either for no charge or at preferential rates.

Employment Practice Network– join 370 members in this online group

If you have a question to ask of a fellow HR professional or want to stay up-to-date on latest news and developments, please email [Emma Allford](#) at NCVO.

New crime map launched

An interactive map offering detailed crime statistics on every street in England and Wales was launch on 20th October. However, after an initial shaky start with users in London, Yorkshire, Humberside and Manchester unable to access the detailed online map, the [resource appears to be working](#)

[Navcaboodle](#) – online discussion group

navcaboodle is an online space for NAVCA members and the wider third sector to share resources, experiences and network. There are specialist discussion groups that you can join to discuss any issue you want to raise including:

- SKiLD
- Commissioning and Procurement
- Representation, voice and empowerment
- Green issues
- ICT
- Children and Young people

You need to become a member of the site to join the groups, registration is free and simple. [Visit the navcaboodle site to find out more](#)

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Financial Management

[See website](#)

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Membership

Join Community Links Bromley

Benefits of becoming a member of Community Links Bromley are many. Here are a few:

- Membership is free
- Specialist advice and support services
- Inclusion in the Directory of Local Voluntary Organisations
- Community library with over 500 titles

- Specialist funding information service
- Networking events
- Forum events
- Benefit from CLB's strong relationship with statutory authorities
- Opportunity to elect CLB trustees and attend the AGM
- Free or discounted prices on members' events
- Advertising job adverts and events on our website and e-bulletin free
- Volunteering brokerage and representation.

Membership of Community Links Bromley (CLB) is open to charities, voluntary organisations and community groups operating for the benefit of Bromley people and those groups whose aims are compatible with those of CLB. To become a member your organisation needs to fulfil these criteria.

Please note that CLB is a company limited by guarantee. Therefore all members are liable for the sum of £1 if CLB should be wound up.

To apply or to check the full criteria, download the [membership form and criteria](#). Or contact Sue Lee on 0208 315 1902.

If you aren't sure whether or not your organisation is a member, follow this link to the full [membership list of Community Links Bromley](#).

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About the email bulletin

Contact Details

The editor is Philippa Leary, Membership, Information & Communications Officer, Community Links Bromley. Our website is at www.communitylinksbromley.org.uk

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