

ContinYou South East News February 2009

I hope the information in this newsletter helpful. Do not hesitate to contact me to discuss how ContinYou can support work in your local authority.

Best wishes,

Sue

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Dates for your diary:

2nd March – ContinYou cluster manager networking event hosted by Kent – focus on “partnerships.” This event is free. Email sue.alton@continyou.org.uk to reserve your place

23-24th March ContinYou National Conference in Stratford on Avon– “Changing Lives Through Learning” www.continyou.org.uk/conference2009

Funding:

Children in Need:

Organisations working with disadvantaged young people under 18 years are able to apply for funding through the BBC’s Children in Need programme. There is no minimum or maximum amount and organizations can apply for up to 100% of project costs. Funding (capital and revenue grants) is available to organisations (including schools) that work with young people suffering from:

- Illness
- Distress
- Abuse or neglect
- Are disabled
- Have behavior or psychological difficulties
- Are living in areas of or situations of deprivation

To apply – complete the BBC Children In Need online grant application form. (No paper applications will be accepted.) Deadline is 15th April.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/>

New support package for children from deprived backgrounds:

The DCSF has announced a new package of support to help all children achieve their full potential and to narrow the gap in attainment and life chances between children from deprived backgrounds and those who are better off. The Government’s New opportunities White Paper builds on the Children’s Plan and provides information of new polices to offer more support to children and families. This includes:

- A package to help Headteachers to attract more of the best teachers into challenging schools
- An extension of the offer of free early learning and childcare places to 15% of the most disadvantaged 2 year olds in each LA
- Support to help young people from low income backgrounds to get into higher education
- The aim to have all childcare practitioners qualified to at least level 3
- An employment support programme for children leaving care

Visit the New Opportunities Site or read the DCSF Press Notice:

<http://www.surestart.gov.uk/events/newsevents/whatsnew/index.cfm?news=438>

Centre for Social Justice:

Are you tackling poverty at a local level? If so, you could apply for the Centre for Social Justice Award. This aims to recognise and reward effective poverty fighting groups from across the UK. In particular, the Award is looking for activities that tackle poverty and are people focused, tackling the causes as well as symptoms. No application form is required. Applicants need to describe in 500 words or less how their organization makes an exceptional contribution to tackling poverty and turning lives around. Previous winners have included:

- A charity that is helping teenagers at risk of social exclusion gain mechanic skills and related employment
- A supplementary school that works in Tower Hamlets and Yorkshire which helps children to overcome their disadvantaged background.

Closing date for entries: 17th March 2009.

<http://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/default.asp?pageRef=296>

Government Announces Funding for Seaside Resorts!

Four seaside towns are to receive £12 million pounds of funding through the Sea Change Programme. Southport, Great Yarmouth, Bridlington and Hastings are to receive grants from the scheme, which aims to regenerate deprived sea side towns. Local Authorities can apply for grants between £200,000 and £1,000,000 to fund innovative and inspirational cultural projects. These can include:

- Cultural projects which will contribute to local place-making
- Arts projects which provide new opportunities for local communities and visitors
- Improving the quality and the experience of the historic environment
- Natural and build environment and public space projects

Feasibility grants are also available for projects at an earlier stage of development, with a view to developing a full application at a later stage.

Deadline 30th April

<http://www.cabe.org.uk/default.aspx?contentitemid=2442>

RSB Innovate Programme

The RSB has provided £100,000 a year to fund projects to test new approaches to financial inclusion and capability. The funding is aimed at supporting the most vulnerable people including those with learning difficulties and those between the ages of 16 and 25 who are vulnerable to homelessness. The funding supports

improvements to the infrastructure and co-ordination of existing financial inclusion services so that frontline staff are better equipped to provide advice and tenants are more aware of how to access support and help.

<http://www.transact.org.uk/page.asp?section=000100010002>

DCSF: The Play Strategy: This consultation finds there is a demand for more and improved play spaces and involving children and their families in their development. The vision outlined in the strategy includes:

- Free supervised and unsupervised play areas in every area
- Local areas to be safe, interesting places to play
- Safe and accessible routes to play spaces.

As a result, £235million of ring fenced funding will be available. Play England is to support local authorities in planning and delivering quality accessible play spaces. A toolkit will be available from DCSF in April to help LAs to provide information on play spaces.

New training programme to help you to support transition!

ContinYou's Smooth Moves programme is designed to support local authority facilitators and designated school staff, Headteachers, support staff, childcare staff and children's centre staff to build on existing support for parents/carers and children in preparation for transition. It consists of five sessions for practitioners to deliver to parents/carers. These cover: change; expectations and boundaries; staying connected – communication and bullying; transition and growing up – optional sessions for parents of teenagers; transition preparation.

ContinYou offers a one day training course for practitioners to enable you to run the Smooth Moves programme for parents/carers of children experiencing transition at all three stages. Even if you do not want to deliver the programme, the one day training provides useful tips and ideas to work with parents around transition issues. All materials are provided on a DVD at the training. To find out more email: paula.woodall@continyou.org.uk or visit the ContinYou website.

Free resources!

Art@heart – Arts activities for out of school hours learning

Volunteering 4 Active Communities (V4AC) – A guide to running the innovative V4AC pilot programme, which allows volunteers to be recognized and accredited for the work they do within their communities.

Visit www.continyou.org.uk/wales to download these free resources!

New documents/reports you may wish to refer to:

DCSF: Activity Agreements pilots evaluation. This is an evaluation of pilot projects aimed at encouraging NEET 16 and 17 year olds into education, employment and training.

Evaluation of the extended pre-school provision for vulnerable two year olds.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/255044/0075576.pdf>

This report considers the impact on provision and parents resulting from the pilot project to extend preschool provision to vulnerable 2 year olds.

DCSF: A Review of How Fathers Can Be Better Supported through DCSF policy. This considers the key findings of research into how DCSF can better support fathers and offers recommendations including the production of “Every Father Matters” and the need for family services to engage with fathers through outreach services.

DCSF: Effective pre-school and primary education 3-11 project (EPPE 3-11) Final report from the primary face

The report considers influences on child development and why some children are confident to move schools at 11 and others are not. Key findings highlight

- The impact of pre-school attendance
- The home learning environment and the impact of the mother’s education on a child
- The impact of an effective school on achievement in English and Mathematics

One of the key recommendations is the importance of supporting parents in their role as both carer and educator.

ContinYou website: Self evaluation. The ContinYou website has a free document which can be downloaded to help you evaluate extended services and to integrate this information into the SEF, through answering simple questions.