

Social Enterprise e-bulletin

Issue 36 AUGUST 2009

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<http://www.wssen.org.uk>

This bulletin is brought to you by the West Sussex Social Enterprise Steering Group and is sponsored by West Sussex County Council. The Steering Group includes organisations interested in social enterprise: Business Link; Action in Rural Sussex; ICIS; Voluntary Organisations Liaison Group; Brighton University; Councils for Voluntary Service in the county and West Sussex County Council.

If you know of information, services or events that would be helpful to emerging or existing social enterprises in West Sussex, or organisations considering developing a social business activity, please let ICIS know (details on page 4) and we will promote them to the sector.

Contact your local Social Enterprise Advisors for support:

Mark McTaggart (Action in rural Sussex – AirS)

Phone: 01273 405448 or email: mark.mctaggart@ruralsussex.org.uk

Mark Habibi (West Sussex Voluntary Organisations Liaison Group - VOLG)

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Social enterprise developments and opportunities

Quality Mark qualifies as Hallmark of an effective charity

The Charity Commission has endorsed the PQASSO Quality Mark, a kite-mark for the third sector. The levels 2 & 3 PQASSO Quality Mark are rated as meeting the Commission's Charity Quality Standards, showing that the charity meets the standard for the Hallmarks of an Effective Charity. More details at www.pqassoqualitymark.org.uk

Could you be a Female Social Enterprise Advocate for SEEDA?

The South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) is expanding its portfolio of Women's Enterprise Advocates and is looking to recruit a successful women entrepreneur working in a Social Enterprise. SEEDA aims to increase representation of women's business issues in the media and encourage more women to step into business-ownership. Advocates can expect to raise their profile and receive personal invitations to speak at women's networks, schools and events. Advocates will gain the opportunity to influence women's enterprise policy at local, regional and national level, while offering support, encouragement, promotion and advice to women entrepreneurs. If you run a Social Enterprise in the South East and are interested in putting yourself forward, contact Joanna Ashmead: 01372 363386 or email:

Joanna@prowse.co.uk.

Shell LiveWIRE Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2009

Award recognising the brightest new business talent by offering young entrepreneurs aged 16-30 in their first 18 months of trading a £10,000 cash prize for their business, publicity and media coverage, external recognition and credibility for their business and a profile through the Shell LiveWIRE website. Deadline for entries: 11th September. To find out more visit: www.shell-livewire.org/news/award2009

Social Change Awards

Nominations are open for the Directory of Social Change's annual awards which recognises individuals, community groups, companies, public bodies and charities. Deadline for nominations is **25th September**. For more details visit www.socialchangeawards.org.uk

2010 IMPACT Awards

Awards open to registered charities working in a health-related field that are at least three years old and have a total annual income of £10,000 and £1 million. The awards recognise and reward charities that are doing excellent work to improve people's health. For more information visit: www.kingsfund.org.uk

3SC and Future Jobs Fund

3SC, the newly formed consortia management company for the third sector, have been successful in their bid for places from the Future Jobs Fund. During the next 12 months they will be providing 3000 opportunities for people aged 18-25 and the long-term unemployed to gain experience of jobs of general community benefit lasting for six months or more, a minimum of 25 hours per week and paying at least the minimum wage. For more details contact Ceri Jones, Senior Policy Officer: ceri.jones@socialenterprise.org.uk

Engaging minorities in co-operative enterprise

Co-operative Diversity Action has been set up by Co-operativesUK to help engage people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities in co-operative enterprise. A website will enable co-operative enterprises and support organisations to access and share resources: www.diversityaction.coop

SocialEarth

A socially-minded international weblog focusing on businesses that are doing good through their work. They seek out, promote and support social entrepreneurs who create 'mindful businesses where profitability is a necessary objective and solving a "social ill" is an imperative'. It features 'how-to' guides on funding, PR and social media and strategy. www.socialearth.org

Social Enterprise Adult Education (SEAL) – Board Members wanted

Are you interested in adult learning? Do you have leadership skills? Do you want to give something back to the community? SEAL are looking for directors to be part of its non-executive board. The role is unremunerated but reasonable expenses will be covered; support and training available. Directors will need to devote 6 hours/ month. For details contact Ros Parker: ros.parker@westsussex.gov.uk

Events and training opportunities

Business Link Social Enterprise Start Up Workshops August 2009 – March 2010

Workshops held across the region up to the year end. For more details visit: www.wssen.org.uk

Influence and Engagement Workshop –Community Lunch

7th September, 12pm-2pm, Selsey

Do you feel you have any influence and are engaged with the work of the statutory sector? This community lunch will evaluate the working relationships between voluntary/community and the statutory sectors in West Sussex through a workshop and group feedback. To book a place contact Carol Grove on 01243 528615 or email: admin@chichester-cvs.org.uk

Business 2 Business Exhibition

8th September, 10am-3pm, Charmandean Centre, Worthing

Brings together specialists from the Worthing district, this exhibition will provide an opportunity for visitors to investigate solutions to problems they have in their business and discover new products and services. There will be stands and specialist business workshops covering aspects

of running a business and dealing with potential pitfalls. For more details contact Helen Watt at Sussex Newspapers: 01243 534126 or email: helen.watt@chiobserver.co.uk

Advice and Support for the Third Sector Event

8th September, 10am-3pm, Guildford

Enabling Voluntary and Community Organisations (VCOs) and Social Enterprises to become more aware of the range of advice and development services provided by the key support and capacity building providers. Delegates will have the opportunity to hear from advisors from key support and advisory organisations and attend workshops on emerging themes, threats and opportunities. Closing date for bookings: 4th September. To book a place contact RAISE on: 01483 885264 or email: john@raise-networks.org.uk

Fundraising Health Check

16th September, 9:30am-4:30pm, Lewes Town Hall

Practical workshop to help people with responsibility for fundraising in their organisations and projects carry out a practical review of their fundraising activities, from strategy to the nitty gritty of applications and how to make the best approaches to a wide range of funders. Costs: £35-£55 (depending on status). Closing date for bookings: 2nd September. To book a place contact Julia Fowler on: 01273 483832. For a booking form visit:

www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training

How to Innovate in the NHS event

23rd September, 10am-4pm, London

Event for healthcare professionals who have ideas on service improvement and turn it into a viable social venture. Delegates will be given insights into how to bring the skills of the entrepreneur into the NHS, plus practical advice and tools. Cost From £260-350. For more details contact Charlotte Goldsmith at SODA: 07900 247500 or email: events@sodainnovation.com . Visit: www.sodainnovation.com

Business Support and Resources

Business and the Third Sector: Innovation in tough times

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action has welcomed a new report which was published by an independent task force commissioned by Office of the Third Sector and which is part of the Real Help for Communities plan. The report looks at how the third sector, public and private sectors can support each other through the recession.

Read the report at: www.navca.org.uk/news/businessandthirdsector

LSP and LAA resources

Following on from the Audit Commission's national study 'Working Better Together?', the Improvement Network has published two new products to help local public, private and third sector partners work better together: the 'LSP Improvement Tool' and the 'Delivery Chain Toolkit' which is designed to increase local partners' understanding of each others' roles and improve delivery of their local area agreements through delivery chain analysis workshops. Visit: www.bit.ly/impnet or www.navca.org.uk/ilpnews

Social Enterprise Coalition activity

The Social Enterprise Coalition and the think-tank Demos has launched a pamphlet 'Getting more for less', which argues that the route to public sector efficiency is to focus on effectiveness, and at how social enterprise approaches such as personalisation, collaboration and prevention can deliver better outcomes as well as be better value for money. The pamphlet can be found at: www.demos.co.uk/projects/redefiningefficiency

CaSE Insurance for Charities

CaSE Insurance (Charity and Social Enterprise Insurance Management LLP) is a partnership that provides charities and social enterprises with a dedicated suite of underwriting and general

broking facilities provided by aQmen Limited, many of which are available online. CaSE Insurance returns some 40% of its profits to the sector through the Charities Aid Foundation. Contact CaSE: 0845 225 22 88 or visit: www.caseinsurance.co.uk

Sources of funding

Hardship Fund

This government fund offers grants of between £50,000 and £250,000 to provide support to third sector organisations that deliver front line services to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in society. Visit: www.bit.ly/hardshipfund or www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Help for Rural Social Enterprises

Grants available to help establish and develop social enterprises providing vital services for rural communities. Part of the LEADER programme which has £4 million available to help businesses, farms and communities in rural Sussex. The money is part of the Rural Development Programme for England and has been awarded by SEEDA. The money will help a wide range of projects aimed at rural development, strengthening the rural economy or provide facilities and services for rural communities. For social enterprises with an eligible project idea, LEADER can provide grants of up to £50,000 if the project is exceptional, although there is a preference to support more organisations with grants well below this level. The grant is mostly for capital expenditure. For more information on the LEADER programme visit: www.westsussex.gov.uk/rdpeleader or call the LEADER programme team for an informal discussion on: 01243 756606 / 756755.

Co-operative and Community Finance

Loans are available to co-operatives, community businesses, voluntary sector businesses and social or green businesses who wish to own and democratically control their business or those which operate in their local community. Finance and financial services are available to enterprises which practice or support the principles of co-operation, common ownership, employee, community or social ownership, equal opportunity and sustainable development. More details available from Co-operative and Community Finance: 0117 916 6750 or email: info@co-opandcommunityfinance.coop . Visit www.co-opandcommunityfinance.coop/

Close Brother Growth Capital Fund

Combined debt and equity investment funding is available to small and medium sized enterprises to undertake development activities to help them grow and develop. Companies must have an experienced management team and have gross assets broadly equal to the total funding requirement. For more details contact Close Brothers Growth Capital: 020 7563 1760 or email: cgc@growthcapital.co.uk . Visit www.growthcapital.co.uk/

Publications

A Practical Guide to Managing in a Downturn

By Kim Sayer *et al* (2009). ISBN: 978 1 906294 35 9. Price: £18.95

Guide for those running a charity that is feeling the pinch. Contains practical guidance on how to manage finances, information about the legal position, how to spot early warning signs and practical tips on how to keep afloat. Available from:

www.dsc.org.uk/publications



To go on the mailing list

If you wish to be added to the emailing list or provide copy for a future bulletin, contact Gemma at ICIS on 01903 859928, email: admin@icis-info4life.org.uk

As a West Sussex information provider ICIS links with social enterprise, funding and training and other support for groups and services. ICIS is a social enterprise and works with statutory, voluntary and independent organisations and facilitates access to information supporting independence, health and wellbeing for all in the county.

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