



North Alliance Conference 2017

Workshops

Workshop One

Working in Partnership Across Boundaries

Carmen Gillies, Community Wellbeing Development Officer, Health and Social Care Moray

Ann Griffin, Area Public Health Coordinator, Health and Social Care Moray

Through developing a simple yet efficient and effective community development model, Influencing change across a range of sectors and boundaries has been successfully demonstrated through Moray. Known as Vintage Tea Parties, Moray have successfully engaged and implement change with communities.

Community Development Principles and Practice

Dave Simmers, CEO, Community Food Initiatives North East

Dave will use Community Food Initiative North East (CFINE) to illustrate how our support and services are based around the principles and practice of 'Community Development' which he will define to open the session. More than ever, Community Development's reality, not rhetoric, needs to underpin not only community work but all services and support. WE are so far from this.

Brexit and Civil Society

Alison Cairns, Head of European Unit, Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)

As Brexit negotiations get underway, Scottish charities and voluntary organisations want to ensure that the voice of civil society is heard in the negotiating process. The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) are working closely together with Scottish, UK and European Civil Society to help realise our ambition of remaining an outward looking and collaborative European nation.

As part of this work, it is also crucial to understand the key issues of stakeholders from wider European civil society and the EU institutions and to ensure we can continue to work in solidarity and to strengthen relationships between our nations and organisations.

With this in mind, we would like to invite you to join this workshop to discuss the impact of Brexit on the third sector and hear about the work we are undertaking in Scotland to protect all that we value about our relationship with Europe.

Voice Tool

Christopher Third, Local Officer Grampian, Scottish Health Council

The workshop is a "VOiCE online taster session". It's a quick run through of what VOiCE is and how it relates to the seven new National Standards for Community Engagement. VOiCE is a free online tool which can be used for planning, delivering and reviewing community engagement activity. Anyone can register for it and use it.

Workshop Two

Journey through a Community Asset Transfer

Fiona Birse, Social Enterprise Development Manager, Elgin Youth Café

This workshop will outline how the Elgin Youth Café went through the process of Community Asset Transfer and the difficulties and hurdles they had to cross. They will discuss the support they received from different agencies, and the difference this made to their organisation.

Adult Achievement Award

Gillian Turner, Adult Achievement Award Development Officer, Newbattle Abbey College

Sara Aboud, Development Manager - Lifelong Learning, Aberdeen City Council

Adults learn throughout their lives in a wide range of contexts. Many adults would like their learning to be accredited but cannot attend formal courses for a variety of reasons. Recognising this, SCQF (Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework) Partnership and Education Scotland asked Newbattle Abbey College to develop Adult Achievement Awards, based on the model of Youth Achievement Awards. These have been piloted nationally at SCQF levels 3, 4 and 6 and level 2 is now under development. The workshop will offer: an overview of the Adult Achievement Awards; an understanding of what is required of learners and local tutors; a summary of the pilot programme; an understanding of what delivering an Adult Achievement Award is like in a local context.

Living Streets in Practice

Jade Hepburn, Community Development Officer, Aberdeen City Council

The workshop will give a brief overview of Living Streets along with an interactive activity to highlight the benefits of Community Street Audits. This will be followed by a look at how a Living Streets report can shape the work of community workers, particularly around partnership working and empower community members to be involved in local decision making.

Generations Growing Together

Lindsey Johnson, Connect Project Coordinator, Voluntary Action Orkney

Arlene Montgomery, Adult Befriending Development Worker, Voluntary Action Orkney

This workshop will explore the development of an intergenerational volunteering project attached to Voluntary Action Orkney's (VAO) Adult Befriending Service. The project originally brought together young and older people to deliver a small gardening project, and has developed substantially over the years. The young people (aged 15-21) are from VAO's Connect Project which supports young people who require 'more choices more chances', and the older people from local 'very sheltered' housing complexes across Orkney. This session will explore how the project came about and how it has developed over the years. We will also explore the benefits of intergenerational social interaction and learning to both old and young people alike, as well as to the wider local community.

Workshop Three

Mobilising a movement to influence culture change

Clair Nichols, Chief Officer, Youth Highland

Youth Highland has been leading a movement of third sector and voluntary organisations to develop a new model for universal youth work in Highland. This session will look at how appreciative inquiry methods have been used to enable positive collaboration and an innovative new strategy for open (community based) youth work. We will explore the importance of leaders sticking to CLD principles and values as they engage with others to bring about radical positive change to services in communities.

Influencing change: the voice of older people

Ed Garrett, Area Development Officer Kincardine and Mearns, Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action

This workshop will explore how a network of older people's forums in Aberdeenshire has influenced change, particularly in the health and social care context. It will focus on the links made between grassroots community action and local and strategic decision making processes, including the launch of an older people's charter.

#You Choose – A participatory budgeting (PB) model for choice and change in Moray

Elidh Myrvang Brown, Team Coordinator & Community Development Officer (Drugs and Alcohol), tsiMORAY

tsiMORAY's Health and Wellbeing Team will present the approach we take to participatory budgeting (PB) in Moray through #You Choose. We will describe how we work with partners and stakeholders from three themes: drugs and alcohol, mental health and older people. We will present success and learning from each theme, and invite workshop participants to consider key challenges and opportunities in relation to rurality, accessibility, inclusion and change. Together, we will look to the future of PB in marginal and rural communities and consider how digital engagement could be a 'game-changer' going forward.

Mentoring – Is it for me?

Jackie Halawi, Senior Education Officer – Community Learning and Development, Education Scotland

All personal relationships are shaped by the environment in which they are set and all partners in the relationship bring with them contextual understandings, beliefs and perceptions that influence the relationship. Every relationship is also the context for other relationships. The terms coaching and mentoring are considered as two areas of practice have large areas of commonality and overlap. Mentors are often more effective if a coaching style is adopted where appropriate. Mentoring has become a visible and popular strategy for supporting the development of disadvantaged youth. It is easy to understand and intuitively appealing. Adults who can identify a mentor in their own lives need no convincing that a mentor can be important, even life-changing. Mentoring is a professional activity, a trusted relationship, a meaningful commitment. Whether the relationship is deemed formal or informal, the goal of mentoring is to provide career advice as well as both professional and personal enrichment.