

Trust update May 2014

Hot news

Poverty: Community Solutions June 18th 2014

Poverty is persistent and intensifying in many communities across the East of England. Faced with increased social distress, many community organisations are attempting to provide lasting solutions with local people and partner agencies.

Locality and Cambridge Judge Business School are bringing together policy makers and practitioners to explore how local communities can take sustained leadership and what seems to work.

For Professor Christoph Loch, Dean of CJBS;

‘I would encourage policymakers and practitioners to join us to learn about the social innovation at the heart of community responses to poverty and models they can adopt within their own communities. Cambridge Judge Business School is proud to be supporting this important event’.

Professor Paul Tracey, a key note speaker at the event who spent nine months working for Keystone as part of a research project, feels that community solutions can be;

‘...relatively rapid responses to pressing needs, but work best when community organisations are in it for the long haul; in other words build projects, services and employment that are sustainable. To do so they do need to build alliances with public and private organisations who are committed to making change and making a lasting difference.’

Social Incubator East launch June 2014

The project will be launched at the first Social Venture Weekend in June. Up to 80 aspiring entrepreneurs will join Cambridge Judge Business School faculty, Keystone, Future Business and Foundation East to develop ideas and 25 will move to the next stage in July.

META clients to feature in an Ecologist magazine film

The Ecologist film production team recently interviewed META clients about their experience working within the local poultry industry. The film will explore issues from the farm gate to supermarket shelf and examine working conditions and consequences around the costs of production within the industry. A separate article for The Guardian newspaper is expected to follow.

Keystone Community

Works4Me (Suffolk Work Clubs)

The project is being successfully delivered to 150 students across the 5 participating schools.

Rebecca O'Dell, the key Delivery Lead for the Suffolk schools has now confirmed the new summer programme and broadcast the information via a letter and activity leaflet to the parents of the students on the programme.

Cambridge School Work Clubs

The new project is progressing well under Shelly Deegan as Delivery Lead in the three targeted schools in Cambridge and Ely.

Katharine Ellis as Business Lead has been able to develop a well-received programme of guest speakers from the local business community to inspire and inform the students engaged on the programme. The focus has concentrated on skills for business, interview presentation techniques and future apprenticeship opportunities and work placements.

Breckland Advice Project

The META team continues to deliver and develop the service at the Citizens Advice Bureaus in Thetford and Dereham.

A*spire

The A*spire, Children in Need funded, project is now being co-ordinated by Ricky Aylott, with a new youth worker set to be recruited.

Recent sessions have included guest professionals from fitness and micro-biology backgrounds, with young people learning about important factors for their own health and appropriate responses to a virus outbreak. They also conducted experiments such as extracting DNA from blueberries.

In May the session will be a visit to Carrow Road, the home of Norwich Football Club, for a tour and workshop based around potential careers in the football grounds.

KAVO – Brandon Voluntary Forum

KAVO has entered into discussions with Community Action Suffolk around the delivery of support services to voluntary organisations in Brandon, as both have a remit to deliver very similar activities. Community Action Suffolk are organising a network meeting to take place in Brandon in June and it is hoped that this can take place at the Brandon Centre with clear messages about the routes to support.

The next Brandon Voluntary Meeting is taking place on the 19th May and a speaker from Community Action Suffolk will attend to introduce themselves.