Health and Social Care Volunteering Fund: 

Launch of National Grant Scheme 2013-4

Information about the Health and Social Care Volunteering Fund

The Department of Health’s Health and Social Care Volunteering Fund (HSCVF) is an innovative capacity and grant funding programme which helps to build capable communities.

The national scheme provides voluntary sector organisations (VSOs) with a grant and capacity building support to:

- Collaborate: deliver a strategic project that plays an effective and integrated role in addressing health, public health and social care needs in conjunction with commissioners.
- Innovate: test out a new area of work delivered by their volunteers.
- Develop: support the Strategic Vision for Volunteering by investing resources in volunteer support and management systems.

The grant and capacity building programme will be competitive. The scheme is open to constituted charities and voluntary organisations, as well as social enterprises, cooperatives, mutual and other not-for-profit organisations with social aims. It is anticipated that approximately 10-15 organisations will receive a package of capacity building support and project funding. A total grant award of between £50,000 and £200,000 is available per year over a maximum of 3 funding years (subject to annual parliamentary approval). Funding for 1 and 2 year projects is also available.

Aims of the HSCVF National Grant Scheme 2013

Applicants will be asked to apply under one of the following themes:

Theme 1: Increasing User Voice to Improve Quality of Care

Theme 2: Community Based Health and Care Interventions

Theme 3: Improving Public Health through Prevention and Risk Reduction

Theme 4: Improving Management of Chronic and Long Term Conditions

Theme 5: Building Capable Communities

The Fund seeks projects that are strategic and developmental, have something distinctive and different to offer over existing services, and for their potential to develop new and / or
streamlined systems in health, public health and social care volunteering. Grants will not be provided to projects that simply aim to supply additional core services, or request funding for existing services or continuation funding.

Projects must have a clear focus on how they would support and drive forward new ideas in delivering services to communities that add value to existing local statutory services and local health and social care provision. The fund will seek projects that have something special to offer over existing services, and for their potential to develop new and/or streamlined systems in health, public health and social care volunteering.

**Registration and Application process**

Organisations interested in applying to the HSCVF must first register online at [www.volunteeringfund.com](http://www.volunteeringfund.com). The registration process will open week beginning **12 August**. All guidance and application questions will be available from this date. Registration will close noon on **27 September 2013**. Eligible organisations will then be able to submit an application through the online application portal which will also open at noon on **1 October 2013** and will close at noon on **8 November 2013**.

To assist locally based voluntary sector organisations to meet the remit of the HSCVF national scheme, we will facilitate partner-finding between organisations across each SHA cluster area through a bespoke partner-finding portal 'Search for a Partner'. This portal will be operational throughout the application period.

**Advice Sessions**

We are offering one-to-one advice sessions for applicants to discuss their plans for applying to the National Grant Scheme 2013. Interested applicants will be given up to 30 minutes with a member of the HSCVF team to discuss project ideas in detail.

They are designed to:

- Check the eligibility of project ideas
- Check the proposed project’s fit with the HSCVF programme priorities
- Help the applicant think through the elements of a good quality, viable application where the project is well articulated, eligible and fundable.

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| 2- 4 September | Birmingham| Ecorys Birmingham Office  
Vincent House, Quay Place, 92-93 Edward Street, Birmingham B1 2RA |
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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 -11 September</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>CAN Mezzanine, 49-51 East Rd, N1 6AH</td>
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<td>16- 25 September</td>
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There are a limited number of appointments available, and these will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Please note that in the interests of fairness, we will not normally be able to book more than one appointment session per organisation.

To reserve a session time please email us at volunteeringfund@uk.ecorys.com with a completed booking form at least 7 working days before the preferred date. We will do our best to review project ideas and consider suggestions that could develop the idea further.