

**Notes from Volunteer Managers Forums: 17 March 2010 - Mitchell Street Centre and 22 April 2010 - Craigowl Communities**

**Certification for volunteers under 16 and over 25 – at present there is no national award which recognises hours spent volunteering. Volunteer Centre staff are researching what is already on offer elsewhere in Scotland – to be followed up at forthcoming forums.**

**It was suggested that at each Forum, one volunteer manager should have a 5 minute slot to showcase their organisation and the work done by volunteers. Denny Christison from Craigowl Communities was “in the spotlight” at the April forum.**

**It was also suggested that we invite volunteer managers along who have successfully submitted a bid for and received funding for the development of volunteers – Najima Umar from Barnardos Family Support Project came along to the April Forum with some tips for use when applying for funding – particularly in relation to the wording used.**

**Volunteer Training (or other) – where possible, organisations were keen to maximise training opportunities however sometimes training has to be cancelled when there is not enough interest from within the organisation. From the next Forum we will ask attendees to list any forthcoming training which can be offered out to volunteers at other organisations. Also, please email Anne at the Volunteer Centre with any generic training taking place so that we can start a database of courses, providers and locations.**

**(April forum – courses listed include: Introduction to Makaton; British Sign Language; From Sick Note to Fit Note)**

**Fiona Bissett from the Volunteer Centre came along to ask if any organisation could offer any more volunteer placements. Recently, we have noticed an increase in numbers of people who want to volunteer, especially people who need work experience but as vacancies get filled we have fewer opportunities. Any suggestions would be welcomed!**

**Discussion and/or handouts:**

**Strengthening relations between paid staff and volunteers**

**Voluntary Sector Manifesto 2010 (from [www.scvo.org.uk](http://www.scvo.org.uk))**

**“Get Involved” – A campaign which aims to inspire more people to become involved with the voluntary sector in more ways throughout their lifetime – see [www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Home/GetInvolved.aspx](http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Home/GetInvolved.aspx)**

**Funding source: Rozelle Trust ([www.rozelletrust.org](http://www.rozelletrust.org))**

**Storage of policies within the workplace**

**Equal opportunities monitoring forms**

**CRBS – new website**

**Volunteers Week – the Volunteer Centre would be keen to hear about any events going on in Volunteers Week. Staff from the VC will be out promoting volunteering at the Wellgate Centre as well as taking part in volunteering at organisations around Dundee.**

**If you require any further information from this meeting please email [anne@volunteerdundee.org.uk](mailto:anne@volunteerdundee.org.uk)**

**Please see e-bulletin for date of next Forum.**