

# ESF

in the East Midlands



## Grants boost for grassroots projects

COMMUNITY groups have until the end of March to apply for ESF to help local people get back into work.

The ESF community grants programme is also funded by LSC East Midlands with the aim of giving small, not-for-profit groups an opportunity to access funding through a simplified process.

Melanie Phythian, ESF community grants officer at **Enable**, said: "The fund is there to support these groups in breaking down the barriers to employment for people who are disadvantaged, while boosting their confidence and developing their skills.

"Priority will be given to groups working with people with health or disability issues, lone parents, people over 50, people from ethnic minorities and women.

"The first deadline for applications is **Monday 30th March 2009** and organisations can apply for up to £10,000. We can provide help with the application and project eligibility, but groups are advised to contact us well before the deadline so maximum support can be provided."

The fund is open to locally established charities, community groups and not-for-profit organisations in the East Midlands.

The funding can be used for staff and training costs, venue hire, items of equipment under £1,000, project running costs and to cover childcare and travel costs of participants.

*For further information, to discuss your project and to request an application pack please contact your local community grants office, outlined below:*



**LINCOLNSHIRE/  
RUTLAND**  
CG Partnership  
0167 384 3489  
[www.linkup.cgpartnership.com](http://www.linkup.cgpartnership.com)

**LEICESTERSHIRE**  
VOCOLLS  
CVS Community  
Partnership  
0116 229 3019  
[www.ccp.org.uk](http://www.ccp.org.uk)

**DERBYSHIRE**  
Derbyshire Learning and  
Development  
Consortium  
0133 226 5965  
[www.consortium.org.uk](http://www.consortium.org.uk)

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE/NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**  
Enable  
0115 934 9505  
[www.enable.uk.net](http://www.enable.uk.net)

## PUBLICITY PRIORITIES

TO help push the message that ESF is here to extend employment opportunities and develop a skilled and adaptable workforce, three publicity priorities have been identified across the national programme for 2007-13:

- 1 - promoting ESF success stories
- 2 - supporting providers to meet ESF publicity requirements
- 3 - delivering a promotional campaign.

Nationally, some new publicity materials and tools are being developed to support these priorities:

- Two new films – to raise awareness of ESF funding among new participants during their induction, and to showcase ESF achievements to a wider audience
- A short glossy report summarising progress so far on the 2007–13 programme and the results of the 2000–06 programme
- 25 national case studies that showcase the success of ESF in transforming people's lives, for use in the media, publications, campaigns and other communication channels.

More information will be available on these national publicity measures on the ESF website: [www.esf.gov.uk](http://www.esf.gov.uk)

For help and advice on how to promote ESF success stories in the region, please contact

Jo Sheppard,  
COI News and PR  
on 0115 971 2781



[jo.sheppard@coi.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jo.sheppard@coi.gsi.gov.uk)

## County focus - Derbyshire

A DERBYSHIRE teenager with hardly any job prospects is hoping to cement a career in construction after attending an ESF project to build back his confidence and skills.

The project **Step Up** - run by the Shaw Trust and managed by the LSC - has built **Liam Hughes'** confidence so much he now volunteers once a week at a construction project, run by Groundwork in Clowne, which is helping him learn new skills and giving him the opportunity to mentor school children who take part in the building project.

Liam, 17, has attended the Shaw Trust project, which aims to improve job prospects for 16-19 year olds by finding work placements, since September. He earned himself a skills licence, which means he is now trained in first aid and fire marshalling and meant he could take on this volunteering role.

He also recently started a bricklaying course at Chesterfield College for three days a week, so can still continue his voluntary work.

Liam said, "When I left school I had nothing to do and no goal, so attending the Shaw Trust and Groundwork training has given me a purpose, something to look forward to. The work I do now is voluntary, but I don't mind that I don't get paid because I'm always busy, I'm learning new skills and helping other young people too."

Liam  
Hughes  
at work

**Beverly Wyld**, a development officer at Shaw Trust said, "We have witnessed

a real change in Liam since he joined the project. He has a new found confidence and is an extremely pleasant and charming young man. He really wants to work and hopes this volunteering role will give him a head start and lead to an apprenticeship.

"He has exceptional skills with young people. They really look up to him. He's shown real talent and has a 100 per cent attendance record at the project - a real turn around as he hardly used to attend school, which shows how committed he is."



# Derbyshire lad lays foundation for better future thanks to ESF

Shaw Trust contact is Beverly Wyld:  
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07817 575844

LSC contact is Cheryl Roberts:  
[Cheryl.roberts@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:Cheryl.roberts@lsc.gov.uk)  
01332 868375



## County focus - Lincolnshire and Rutland

A YOUNG Lincolnshire woman is benefitting from an ESF project which has boosted her confidence so much, she's landed a new job and is now a star employee!

**Kaylie Bower**, 20, is just one of many who have boosted their career prospects since starting a project run by New College Stamford. She got a job within two months of starting the project which helped transform her job hunting skills and lift her confidence.

The course is funded by £900,000 from ESF and LSC East Midlands.

Kaylie said, "I had been looking for a part-time job for a few years, and I found out about this project a couple of months after I completed an IT course.

"I went to see the tutor and she explained how the course could help me. Straight away they helped me sign on for a Jobseekers Allowance!

"I had no confidence at all before, but they helped with all sorts of things – from CV and letter writing, how to search on job sites, to getting my hair right for an interview. On my second interview I got my job at Homebase, and now I am one of their star employees, with a performance rating of 90 per cent."

**Glenn Powell**, implementation manager at New College Stamford, said,

"Young people who are not in work, nor in education or training, often find it difficult to navigate the range of options available to them in the educational and employment sectors.

This project seeks to simplify the options available for young people by providing clear, transparent pre-



### *ESF helps young Stamford woman shine*

apprenticeship and pre-diploma routes to learning and employment.

"Contrary to popular belief, the majority of young adults who come to us who have not got a job, nor are in training or education, are well-behaved, motivated and as keen as their peers to grasp available education and employment opportunities. They just need a little more help along the way.

"Kaylie is one of several learners who have already successfully transi-

tioned to a new job, full-time education or apprenticeship places."

**New College Stamford contact is Glenn Powell:**  
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01780 484300

**LSC contact is Marie Kaempfe-Rice:**  
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01522 508560

## County focus - Connexions Leicester Shire

### *Winning the battle for better skills*

A LEICESTER youngster, who left school with no GCSEs and was on verge of being expelled, has turned his life around by volunteering to coach young children – thanks to a course to help win the battle for better skills and confidence.

The amazing transformation of **Christopher Parchment**, 17 from Kirby Frith, began after attending a 'Warriors' ten-week course, which focused on sports coaching skills.

The course is run by **Connexions Leicester Shire**, which received almost £2.5m from ESF and LSC East Midlands, and aims to help young people who are long term employed, or not in education or training, to develop the skills and confidence to help improve their job chances.

After being a frequent truant at school, Christopher earned a 100 per cent attendance record on the course and also a NVQ Level 1 qualification in First for Sport Coaching.

Christopher became so dedicated that he went on to volunteer in the holidays and at weekends, helping coach younger children.

Christopher has now gone on to an Entry 2 Employment course run by the YMCA, which is helping improve his numeracy and literacy and will lead to an NVQ Level 2 Community Sports Leadership Award.

**David Smith**, external funding manager at Connexions Leicester Shire, said: "Our intensive support worker has known this young man for a couple of years, and has seen a remarkable transformation in him. This is partly due to the course run by Karl Brown of Warriors. His ability to instil self-discipline and confidence in a group of young people, many who were previously diagnosed as having behavioural difficulties, is amazing. And he does this without even raising his voice.

"We are confident that with Christopher's calm approach and level of understanding he will be successful on the NVQ Level 2 course and will go on to fulfil his ambition of a career in sports coaching with children."



**Connexions Leicester Shire contact is David Smith:**  
[dsmith@connexions-leics.org](mailto:dsmith@connexions-leics.org)  
0116 261 5924

**LSC contact is Tracey Waterfield:**  
[Tracey.Waterfield@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:Tracey.Waterfield@lsc.gov.uk)  
0116 228 1779

## Provider of the month

# Care Training

## *Voluntary role helps end Etienne's eight year job search*

**ETIENNE Hemagou**, had been out of work for the past eight years since moving from Ghana, so after this long wait, he is delighted to be starting a new health care job at Partnership in Care, based in Calverton, Nottinghamshire

Since living in the UK, Etienne has struggled to find work but as always looked to do volunteering work, including a role at Nottingham City Hospital as an out patient support worker working four hours per week.

Etienne always had a strong interest in working in the health and social care sector so in December 2008 signed up to **Care Training's** progression to employment in health and social care programme to gain the knowledge and principles of working in care.

Since December Etienne worked towards getting his certificate in adult literacy and numeracy which all helped him get his new job.

## *Teresa working towards a career change*

**TERESA Brown** was made redundant from her role as a sales manager for a Nottinghamshire textiles company in June 2008, which sparked a change in career direction for her, so started to apply for jobs within the care sector.

Teresa found that due to having no experience at all she was not being offered interviews and this in turn affected her confidence and motivation.

So this January, Teresa started the progression to employment in care programme, to increase her job chances.

Within two weeks of being enrolled onto the course Teresa has received confirmation of her first interview working within a care role, Teresa feels this has given her confidence a much needed boost and has spurred her on to applying for various other care vacancies regardless of experience.



## MEET A CARE TRAINING ADVISER

**SIAN**, 23, from Hucknall has been an adviser with Care Training since July 2008.

She knows what its like to switch careers herself as she used to work in an accountancy role.

With people on Progression to Employment courses, she conducts one to one job search, CV surgery and interview techniques.

Sian (below) enjoys meeting new people, helping them develop and supporting them in finding a job.



## Provider of the month - Care Training



### EMPLOYERS MEET CARE TRAINING JOB SEEKERS

A SERIES of employer talks have been arranged at **Care Training** to help people on the course to hear first hand what employers are looking for in their employees. Giving a recent presentation are **Lynn Beresford** and **Julie Briggs** from a Charity called **Norsaca**, which helps people with autism to live their lives with dignity, choice and independence.

## Volunteering set to boost confidence for Simon

**SIMON Marston** joined **Care Training** in January on the progression to employment in childcare programme.

Simon has no previous work experience and has dyslexia which he felt was a major barrier to employment.

Various options were discussed, including how a voluntary placement may help increase his knowledge

and skills in the childcare sector as well as giving him something to boost his CV. Simon wasn't confident with contacting local employers due to his lack of literacy skills but after sitting his initial assessment with Learndirect, he is now working towards gaining a Level 1 certificate in adult literacy and numeracy.

Simon has recently contacted five local employers regarding voluntary placements with a view to contact more now his confidence has improved.

## Who is Care Training?

**Based** in Nottingham, Care Training East Midlands is a provider of government-funded training, professional development and adult guidance services.

Funded through ESF and LSC East Midlands, it is helping people into work via its pre-work training course called 'progression to employment.'

These courses help people create that perfect CV, studying interview techniques and spending time job searching.

Employers look to hire people who already have essential skills needed for the job and usually want training or qualifications as proof of these skills.

Therefore Care Training provides vocational courses ranging from childcare to retail, with the aim of giving people confidence, experience, skills and qualifications.

Care Training  
East Midlands  
[www.CTEM.uk.com](http://www.CTEM.uk.com)



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0115 959 9544

LSC contact is Sandra Welsh:

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0115 872 0054

## Raising awareness

# Make sure your ESF plaques are proudly on display

DISPLAYING ESF plaques helps raise awareness among the public and participants of the role and benefits of the programme.

Plaques should be displayed at the provider's main location, ie. the most commonly attended location by participants at each provider (and each of their sub-contractors) during the lifetime of the project.

Larger providers and larger sub-contractors have discretion to request and display a limited number of additional plaques where there are several other well attended locations. (These should be attended by at least 50 or more participants for the duration of the whole project.)

The distribution of plaques is embedded into delivery arrangements. This allows ESF contract managers to issue plaques directly to providers, and through providers, to sub-contractors.

Providers and sub-contractors will be given the opportunity to review their ESF project plaque requirement and order additional plaques from their ESF contract manager.

*And don't forget your ESF posters either...*

ESF posters for providers are also available to promote ESF.

To order, contact your ESF contract manager.



## Give us your ideas

**ANY ideas for articles, including 'County Focus' and 'Provider of the Month' please contact Jo Sheppard at COI News and PR on 0115 971 2781. The deadline for copy for April's edition is Friday 27 March 2009.**

