

Equality & Diversity Update

February 08



Welcome

Welcome to the Equality and Diversity Update, the newsletter of the Regional Strategic Partnership for Equality and Diversity, which provides a brief update on current developments and details of forthcoming events.

Partnership Activity Update

The Equality and Diversity Partnership met on 24th January 08. Notes from the meeting are available at <http://www.wmra.gov.uk/page.asp?id=417> More information on the work of the partnership is also available at www.wmra.gov.uk/equalities

How do we persuade young citizens to promote equality?

Sajida Madni, Lead Organiser for Birmingham Citizens will be leading this seminar on 12th March 12.30-2pm organised by Rights and Equality West Midlands and the University of Birmingham. For more information call Freda Edwards on 0121 250 3863 or see http://www.rewm.org/Seminar_Series.htm

Training and Learning Opportunities in Europe: 11 March 08, Worcester Race Course

EU Connects are holding a free practical half-day event aimed at organisations in the West Midlands who are interested in applying for a fully-funded study visit or in-service training to another European country. For further details, please contact Jo Sartori at j.sartori@wmra.gov.uk or on 0121 678 1036.

Women Take Part

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) suggests that it will take up to 200 years to achieve equal numbers of women in Parliament! The Women Take Part project is producing guidance on models, approaches and resources which can be used to encourage, equip and support women who are currently under represented, to become more active, formally and informally, in governance structures and other aspects of both community and public life.

For more information, contact Sue Gorbing at sue.gorbing@changesuk.net or 01743 350198 or see www.takepart.org

Centro Social Inclusion Fund

Centro-WMPTA's Social Inclusion Fund assists organisations to address the unmet transport needs of socially excluded groups and communities and helps improve access to key services such as employment, health, education services and/or other social needs. Centro-WMPTA's total grant allocation to distribute to projects is typically £235,000 per annum. There is no upper or lower limit on the amount of funding an organisation may apply for, however the amount must be appropriate/justified and match funding is required.

For more information, please see <http://www.centro.org.uk/wwwroot/socialinclusion/Opportunities.html>

Refugees, new migrants and economic inclusion: challenges and solutions policy conference

Advantage West Midlands and the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies at the University of Birmingham are holding a free policy conference exploring new migration and economic inclusion. The event will be held at the Birmingham Business School on the 14th March 2008. Presentations will include issues around new immigration, economic inclusion and social cohesion. For further information please contact Yvonne Harley on 0121 414 4956 or at y.t.harley@bham.ac.uk

Gender Identity Centre Developments

Gender Matters have recently signed the lease for the new Gender Identity Centre in Wolverhampton. This marks a major step forward for the Trans community in the West Midlands and, funded by the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund, will be the first dedicated Gender Identity Centre in the UK. It will provide support, advice, counselling, training and education, drop-in facilities and other services. For a full update on the plans, and contact details for the newly appointed staff, see www.gender-matters.org.uk

Contact

If you would like further information about the issues raised or to disseminate information through this newsletter, please contact Cassie Manly at c.manly@wmra.gov.uk or on 0121 678 1077.