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News for refugee community organisations (RCOs)

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Dear Html

Welcome to *RCO Connect* which provides RCOs with up to date information on funding, training and resources to support the work they do. We want this e-newsletter to be as useful as possible to your organisations, so please email us at basis@refugeecouncil.org.uk with any comments or content you would like us to include about your work or any learning that you want to share with other readers.

News

FREE Community Matters membership for small community organisations

Community Matters represents the largest network of grassroots community organisations in the UK. Community Matters carried out a recent survey which showed that their members have seen their incomes drop by an average of 18%. Consequently they are now offering community organisations with an annual turnover of £15,000 or below access to their support services by becoming a member free of charge.

[Click here](#) for information about the free specialist advice you could receive and much more.

Access to healthcare for vulnerable migrants gives concern in 10 EU countries and in the UK

A report published by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) states that “excluding irregular migrants from healthcare endangers their lives and well-being, increases the cost of future emergency treatment and can also potentially pose a health risk to the wider community.”

To read the report [click here](#)

Become a community member of the group looking at 'preventing domestic violence'

NICE is seeking applications from people (16+) with personal experience or knowledge of domestic violence to become community members of the group that will develop national guidance on this topic for NHS, local authorities and other relevant agencies and organisations.

They are looking for people without a professional background to apply for community membership.

For further information and an application form [click here](#)

Closing date: 5pm on Tuesday 22 November

Training and resources

Supporting Community Groups to Influence Decision Makers

Thursday, 15 December 2011

Time: 9.30am - 4pm, Guildford, Surrey

The Federation for Community Development Learning (FCDL) support a network of individuals, groups and organisations around Community

Development learning and practice and wish to share information and good training practice, to learn from each other and to provide good opportunities for Community Development learning.

This is a free one day course. For more information [click here](#).

Free Cakes for Kids

Free Cakes for Kids is a community service to families who find it difficult to provide a birthday cake for their child. Free, friendly, confidential.

Please contact Sophie and Julia on:

Email: freecakesforkidshackney@gmail.com

Mobile: 07940 738 762

Free capacity building training for NGOs

17 November 2011, 10am-4.30pm - Central London

Runnymede is pleased to offer UK NGOs and grassroots organisations working in the equalities sector the opportunity to attend one of two free awareness raising seminars focusing on advocacy, the media and monitoring. These free events, funded by the European Commission, aim to develop the capacity of civil society organisations in dealing with anti-discrimination.

The seminars will be practical in nature and participants will have the opportunity to share experiences and good practice, important in these days of funding cuts and dwindling resources. [Please apply now](#) for your place.

Fundraising opportunities

Strategic Legal Fund for Refugee Children and Young People (SLF)

The SLF for Refugee Children and Young People supports strategic legal work which goes beyond securing justice for an individual to make a significant contribution to law, practice and procedures that upholds and promotes the rights of refugee and asylum seeking children and young people.

[Click here](#) for more information

If you have any queries contact Frances Smith, SLF Project Manager, Migration Work CIC at fran.smith@migrationwork.org or call 020 7091 0539

Application deadlines are monthly, the next one: 14 November 2011

Community Radio Fund

The Office of Communications (Ofcom) has announced that the next round for funding applications for the Community Radio Fund will open on the 19 October 2011. The Community Radio Fund has been established to help fund the core costs of running a community radio station. These not-for-profit radio stations have a social purpose, and work to involve their target community in running the service. Under the fund, Community Radio Stations are being invited to apply for funding to support their core running costs.

There is no upper limit of grant that can be applied for. Grants can only be made to community radio licensees ("Licensee") which are broadcasting under a community radio licence (and not an RSL, for example). Grants awarded usually range from £5,000 to £17,000.

Application deadline: 5pm on 16 November 2011

[Click here](#) for more information

Help a Heart Grants

Have an idea for a project that could make a real difference to people living with a heart condition? Grants between £300 and £2,000 are available for voluntary and community groups.

To apply, complete the Help a Heart Grant Application form or phone the BHF orderline on 0870 600 6566, or email quoting G248

Application deadlines for 2012: 20 January, 20 April, 20 July, 19 October

For more information call 020 7554 0396 or [click here](#).

Woodward Charitable Trust

They consider applications covering prisoners, and ex-offenders, minority groups including refugees, gypsies and travellers, homelessness and women's refuges and arts outreach.

Every year the trust gives about 80 £100-£5000 small grants, and 5 larger grants over the sum of £5000.

The Trustees favour small-scale, locally based initiatives.

Deadline: Ongoing

[Click here](#) for more information

Events

“Honour” based violence: Whose honour are we talking about?

Camden Centre, Camden Town Hall, Bidborough Street, London WC1H 9AU

Thursday, 17 November 2011

9:30am - 5pm

Organised by the Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO)

in partnership with Refugee Women's Association (RWA) and Türkisch - Deutscher Frauenvereine .V (Papatya) - Germany

Speakers include:

Dr Nawal el Saadawi, Egyptian feminist writer, physician and activist
Mak Chishty QPM, Detective Chief Superintendent, lead on "honour"- based violence, FM and FGM, Association of Chief Police Officers, UK

Conference fee:

£50 statutory organisations

£30 voluntary organisations

£10 concessionary

Venue: For more information email: bookings.ikwro@gmail.com
<http://www.ikwro.org.uk/>

Platforma – arts + refugee network

29 November 2011 - London

Booking is now open for the first Platforma Festival, taking place in London from 29 November 2011. Bringing together performers, artists and organisations from across the UK, the Festival will be a celebration of the arts by and about refugees and a chance to discuss different aspects of artistic practice. Free places available.

[Click here](#) for full details

Invitation to National Conference for RCOs - save the date!

National Conference, Basis Project, 29 November 2011

Macdonald Burlington Hotel, 126 New Street, Birmingham, B2 4JQ

You are invited to join colleagues from around England for the Basis Project's final National Conference. Collaboration, peer support, and "what next" for refugee communities, funders and infrastructure support will be among a range of themes up for discussion, as well as time to network. Register your interest now - send you name and email to Carole Barker at carol.barker@refugeecouncil.org.uk. Save the date in your diary - 29

November 2011.

Job vacancies and volunteer opportunities

Comic Relief- International Grants Policy and Programme Manager- London

£38,000 – £41,000pa

The post is a unique opportunity for someone with a sound understanding of development issues to strengthen the contribution of the African Diaspora to international development debates, policy and practice.

You will project manage our work on strengthening the voice, ideas and contribution of the Diaspora to international development policy, contribute to our learning in this field and manage a portfolio of grants under this initiative.

Closing date: 14 November 2011

[Click here](#) for more information

Barnet Refugee Service- Refugee Advisor- London

£26,401 (Inc OLW) pro rota 18 hours p/wk

The post holder will provide general information, advice and guidance for Asylum Seekers/ Refugees on accessing services at our office, by phone and at other locations across Barnet and neighbouring boroughs.

For an application pack email admin@b-r-s.org.uk or call 020 8905 9002 or write to Barnet Refugee Service, 2nd Floor Podium, Hyde House, The Hyde, Colindale NW9 6LH.

Closing date: 15 November 2011

Interview date: 30 November 2011

Volunteering For Stronger Communities- Camden Project Manager - London

£30351 pro rata, 30 hours per week, 2 year contract

We are looking for a project manager with volunteer management experience. We are seeking someone who is adaptable, excellent at building and sustaining partner relations, positive about involving diversity communities in volunteering, and able to deliver a high quality service.

Please call 020 7424 9990 for application pack or [click here](#).

Deadline: 2pm on 24 November

Interviews: 5 December 2011

Email applications to: recruitment@volunteercentrecamden.org.uk

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basis@refugeecouncil.org.uk