



FUNDING FOR VOLUNTEERING

a funding information leaflet from *funderfinder*

The governments of each of the countries of the UK make funds available to encourage and support volunteering. Grants are usually given on a two or three year cycle but the details vary from country to country:

ENGLAND

For over 25 years, **Opportunities for Volunteering**, a Department of Health initiative, has provided grants to local health and social care organisations to enable them to involve volunteers in the delivery of their services. The scheme has now come to an end and is being replaced by a new health and social care volunteer fund called the **Volunteering Fund**.

This fund will continue to support local volunteering projects, but will also be open national projects to improve health and wellbeing. Projects already funded under OFV will be covered up to 2012. The Volunteering Fund will provide two distinct grant funding schemes:

- a local grant scheme aimed at supporting volunteering in health and social care.
- a national portfolio scheme in which national organisations will be able to apply for more substantial awards to deliver more strategic or developmental volunteering programmes.

Both national and local level projects will be invited to apply for funding and support, for up to three years. Local projects will be targeted through a rolling programme of application rounds that target all regions in each funding year so that all regions are included but at different times of the year.

Projects should contribute positively towards:

- The Department of Health's strategic objectives
- Enhancing capacity and ability of the third sector in the health and social care field, contributing to PSA targets such as 18 (promoting choice) and 21 (sustainable funding)
- Improved volunteer experience through better management and use of volunteers
- Alignment with commissioning in health and social care.

The Fund opens in January 2010 for local projects, with a later second national round.

For more information check the website at: www.volunteeringfund.com or contact them on 0845 172 8058 or email volunteeringfund@ecotec.com

V was set up to deliver the recommendations of the Russell Commission on youth action and engagement. Its aim is to inspire a new generation of young volunteers (aged 16-25) in England and enable a lasting change in the quality, quantity and diversity of youth volunteering.

Funding is available to organisations through the Match Fund programme to create new youth volunteering opportunities. It aims to inspire greater levels of investment in youth volunteering from private companies, charitable trusts and foundations and individuals and provides grants that match up to 100% of any new private sector investment for youth volunteering projects in England.

There are six new priority investment themes:

- Health and well being
- Environment
- Supporting children and young people
- Community cohesion
- Poverty
- Human rights

More information from www.wearev.com or contact them at: 5th Floor, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AF, tel: 020 7960 7000.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Funded by the Department for Social Development, the **Community Volunteering Scheme (CVS)** is designed to support and develop a wide range of projects that promote volunteering opportunities (by voluntary and community organisations) targeted at groups of people who are under-represented in the volunteering population and unemployed people, including people not in paid work. This includes volunteer activities aimed at involving young people aged 16-25, people from minority ethnic communities and people with disabilities.

The current funding round is 2006-2009. There is a main (three year) grants programme (currently closed) and a small grants programme for applications up to £1,100, which is awarded annually.

More information from: Volunteer Development Agency, 129 Ormeau Road, Belfast BT7 1SH, tel: 028 9023 6100, website: <http://www.volunteering-ni.org/grants/cvs.asp>
www.volunteering-ni.org/what_we_do/small_grants_for_volunteering/

SCOTLAND

In Scotland the Voluntary Action Fund manages three grant programmes, which are all funded through the Scottish Government. The funding enables community based organisations to undertake projects that challenge inequalities and overcome barriers to being involved in community life.

The **Volunteering Scotland Grant Scheme** resources projects within voluntary organisations, which ensure that those previously excluded from or unaware of volunteering have the information, support, training and encouragement to participate as volunteers. The current funding round is through until 2011 and is currently not accepting

any new applications. Check the website for further details:
www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk or contact Voluntary Action Fund, Unit 14 Dunfermline Business Centre, Izatt Avenue, Dunfermline KY11 3BZ, tel: 01383 620780.

WALES

WCVA administers the **GwirVol Youth Volunteering (Russell Commission) Fund**, aimed at encouraging young people to volunteer. There are two levels of grant - up to £10,000 for Opportunities project funding, and up to £5,000 for Promotion project funding. The 2009-2010 round is now closed. For more information check their website at www.wcva.org.uk.

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