



**Yate**

## **Volunteer Centres South Gloucestershire**

**Winter/Spring 2008**

# **Training Events**

**Across South Gloucestershire**

## **Volunteer Centres South Gloucestershire Partnership**

**C/o Volunteer Centre Yate, Yate Library, 44 West Walk, Yate  
BS37 4AX**

**To book a place please email Carole Zorzo at  
yatevb@care4free.net or phone 01454 324102.**

**Make sure you book early as we expect these sessions to be popular.**

Thornbury and Patchway, Filton & The Stokes Volunteer Centres, together with The Chase & Kings Forest Community Project. Our training programme for this season is aimed at breaking down barriers to volunteering and looking at ways we can work together to create a more diverse volunteering workforce.

The workshops are free and presented in an informal way, with a chance to learn from each other.

### **Creating a More Diverse Volunteer Workforce**

Volunteering, if it is to be useful and of benefit to everyone, needs to reflect the makeup and concerns of our society and communities. This workshop is for those concerned to widen the potential and scope of volunteering. It will involve an exploration of:

- Diversity and Equal Opportunities
- Strategies for working with the issues and challenges
- The importance of organisational culture
- How buddying and mentoring schemes can help

### **Breaking Down Barriers**

This session is for organisations working with people with learning difficulties, mental health concerns and those generally living in isolation. We will be looking at how we can help these people into volunteering. We would recommend the attendance of organisations whose client base could benefit from volunteering and also those who are interested in looking at ways to create a more diverse volunteering structure within their own organisations.

### **Buddying and Mentoring**

This workshop complements the previous session and will explore ways in which volunteers as mentors or buddies can help build a more inclusive volunteering environment as well as providing support for potential volunteers.

### **Marketing and Best Practice**

Changing perceptions of the role and purpose of volunteering means that we need to look carefully at the ways in which we market volunteering opportunities. This workshop will provide the opportunity to identify the key features of an effective marketing policy, including the changing expectations of volunteering; partnerships with volunteer involving organisations; meeting volunteers needs and getting the message across. There is an increasingly diverse population in South

Gloucestershire and to work effectively with volunteers from the BME communities we need to be better informed about their cultures and traditions. This workshop will provide an insight into some of the issues that organisations need to be aware of

### **Communication and Relationship Building**

The ability to communicate well and build relationships is essential and this session will help you to become clearer and develop skills in listening, giving and receiving feedback, being more assertive and dealing with difficult behaviour

### **Making the Most of Volunteering**

For volunteers and potential volunteers who would like to get the most from their volunteering experience, this session will explore why people volunteer and what to expect; rights and responsibilities; how to go about volunteering; building confidence and what you bring to volunteering -creating a skills profile.

### **Working with people with Special Needs**

People with a learning disability may include volunteering as part of their own life plans and those co-ordinating volunteering initiatives will need to be able to

- understand the different reasons people may choose to volunteer
- use a variety of ways to work with volunteers with a learning disability
- establish support systems when finding a suitable volunteering opportunities

This workshop will help you to explore your current perceptions about volunteers and volunteering and to experiment with different approaches which will increase your confidence in working with a variety of people

### **Cultural Awareness**

This workshop complements the previous session and will explore ways in which volunteers as mentors or buddies can help build a more inclusive volunteering environment as well as providing support for potential volunteers

### **Confidence Building**

Many of us do not know how to get the best out of a situation for all sorts of reasons. Often we just do not feel confident enough to say what we need to say and do. This workshop will help you look at what is blocking you and help you design strategies to be more confident to take advantage of volunteering opportunities

<b>Date</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Creating a Diverse Workforce	Town Hall Thornbury	9.30am-12.30 pm	Derek Close
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Breaking Down Barriers	Ridgewood Community Centre, Yate	10am-1pm	Derek Close
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Buddying & Mentoring	Ridgewood Community Centre, Yate	10am-1pm	Derek Close
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Marketing & Best Practice	Old School Rooms, Stoke Gifford	9.30am - 12.30pm	Derek Close
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Communication & Relationship Building	Ridgewood Community Centre, Yate	10am-1pm	Derek Close
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Making the Most of Volunteering	Jubilee Centre, Bradley Stoke	9.30am-12,30pm	Derek Close
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Working with people with special needs	Town Hall Thornbury	10am-3.30 pm	Clare Greenwood
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Communication & Relationship Building	Patchway Library, Rodway Road	9.30am - 12.30pm	Derek Close
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Cultural Awareness	Jubilee Centre, Bradley Stoke	9.30am-12.30pm	Tim Roberts
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Confidence Building	Town Hall Thornbury	9.30 am-12.30pm	Derek Close
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	A Celebration of Volunteering	Filton Folk Centre	11 am -3 pm	Date for your diary! More details to follow

All Workshops are free of charge. Tea a/coffee will be provided

**Derek Close** is an experienced trainer and facilitator with over 30 years experience of working in the voluntary and community sector. He works with the needs and issues of the workshop members that respect skills and experience

**Clare Greenwood** is a Fellow of the Institute of Training and Occupational Learning and after studying Psychology she has taken on a number of varied roles in the public and not for profit sector. She was Head of Training and Development for Mencap for 10 years and now runs her own training business and Management Consultancy

**Tim Roberts** is an independent equalities trainer and consultant and has worked with a range of public sector organisations and community groups