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### **CLINKS EVENT: manifesto launch**

The workshops have been confirmed for our Spring conference **[8<sup>th</sup> March, London, from £50]** and will include intelligent commissioning, community justice courts, volunteering in the CJS, strong local community partnerships, diversity and race, and localism. To be involved, book your place now at: [Clinks Events](#)

### **CLINKS MEMBER'S OFFER: Free places to our conference**

To support small member organisations, Clinks has five free places to give away to our Spring conference **[8<sup>th</sup> March, London]**. To apply for a place simply tell [Richard Nicholls](#) how attending this event will benefit your organisation. Don't forget to include your Clinks membership number!

### **CLINKS REQUEST: help develop our new guide**

Clinks is developing a guide for new and existing Management Committee members or Trustees of small to medium VCS organisations working in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) to support offenders in prison and/or in the community. It will complement existing generic guidelines produced by such organisations as NCVO, but will provide specific information about the CJS in an accessible, clear format and style. Initially, we would like to hear from any organisations that have already produced some guidance or an information pack for their Management Committee members or Trustees. To contribute, email: [Liz Dibb](#)

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM: All Probation Boards to become Trusts**

An order has been laid before Parliament creating 35 probation trusts, replacing all 42 probation boards. Trust status will begin from 1 April. A list of the trusts, including amalgamations and name changes can be downloaded [here](#)

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM: Educating the public**

Lord Bach gave a speech on how better information and education about the justice system can empower citizens to participate in a healthy democratic society. Read the speech at: [MoJ](#)

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM: research on juries**

The 'Are Juries Fair?' report is the most detailed research of its kind. It used case simulations with more than 1,000 jurors from real trials, analysed more than 68,000 verdicts over two years and carried out post-verdict surveys with 668 jurors. The research found that jurors struggled to understand judge's oral directions, all-white juries did not discriminate against ethnic minority defendants, and pre-trial media coverage influenced 1 in 5 jurors. An interesting report available at: [MoJ](#)

### **COMMISSIONING: NOMS ESF round 2**

The second programme of NOMS ESF funding, to improve the employment prospects of offenders, is now active. The funding will be split into eleven regional funds including all **nine English regions**, and the specialist areas of **South Yorkshire and Merseyside**. The underpinning principle of the ESF programme is to provide added value to existing services by filling gaps in existing services and supporting offenders to access mainstream employment and skills services that currently do not reach offenders and ex-offenders. The anticipated total value of the Contracts will be just over GBP100m, but at the time of publication the exact figure is not known. The deadline for expressions of interest is 5<sup>th</sup> March 2010. This opportunity will be administered through the BravoSolution e-tendering portal. Access this [here](#). Any issues and queries should be directed, via email, to [Joanna Fernandes, NOMS Procurement](#)

### **FUNDING: changing negative perceptions of young people**

The Truth About Youth Programme challenges and changes negative perceptions about young people, by supporting projects which enable them to work with adults, the media and the wider community. A grant of up to £140,000 per year, for two years (£280,000 in total) is available to one charity working in the **Bristol** area. Find out more and apply at: [Truth about Youth](#)

### **FUNDING: for small London organisations**

Community groups, voluntary organisations, charities, community interest companies and social enterprises in **Camden, Southwark, Wandsworth, Islington, Haringey or Hammersmith & Fulham** may apply for £3,000 from the Deutsche Bank Small Grants Fund. Projects must focus on Education or community Development. A group's annual income must be less than £150,000 and priority will be given to groups with an income of less than £100,000. Deadline for applications is 30<sup>th</sup> April at: [CCF](#)

### **FUNDING: for small East of England organisations**

ESF Community Grants of up to £15,000 are available for small VCS organisations in the **East of England**. The aim of the grants is to give small voluntary and community organisations the opportunity to access funding, to support people who are unemployed or economically inactive. Projects supported could provide Career and business development workshops for BME women; Career guidance, job seeking support and tailored training for ex-offenders; or Providing volunteering and work placement opportunities to develop transferable skills and work ethic, coupled with employment support. The deadline for applications is 19<sup>th</sup> March at: [Tribal Group](#)

### **FUNDING: for organisations in Leeds**

£938,287 available to commission activity to support delivery of the Local Area Agreement targets in the **Leeds** Strategic Plan (2008-11). VCS organisations are particularly encouraged to apply. Deadline Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. A special information session will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> February from 2.00 to 3.30 at the Carriageworks Theatre, Leeds. Details at: [Funds in Leeds](#)

### **FUNDING: for small London organisations**

The Sport Relief Community Cash Grant Scheme will support small community organisations working in disadvantaged areas within London, focusing on those who are excluded or disadvantaged due to low income, social isolation, age, disability, race, sexuality or gender. Applicants must be small local groups with an income of less than £50,000 (in the last year) run by local people. Grants range from a minimum of £500 to a maximum of £1,000. Applications must be submitted by 5<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at: [CCF](#)

### **FUNDING: for prisoners**

The Hardman Trust's Prisoner Funder Directory (PFD) aims to help prisoners and ex-offenders as well as offenders serving non-custodial sentences find funding for their personal development and resettlement. Five copies of the PFD 2010 have recently been sent free to the library in every prison in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, The Channel Isles and The Isle of Man with the request that it be made available to any prisoner who wishes to use it. Download at: [PFD](#)

### **FUNDING: to support the homeless**

The Give As You Rent Fund provides grants to alleviate homelessness or housing difficulties in Sheffield. Awards are for organisations providing support to those who are without a home, living in temporary accommodation and/or are vulnerable to difficulties in securing or retaining a permanent tenancy. Grants are normally within the range £500 to £3,000, but amounts outside this may be considered in exceptional circumstances. The 2010 deadline for receipt of applications is 8<sup>th</sup> March at: [Give as you Rent](#)

### **FUNDING NEWS: volunteer management**

Capacitybuilders have today announced that Attend, Project North East, Skills Third Sector and Voluntary Action Sheffield will be the four organisations that will provide development programmes under Strand C of the Volunteer Management Programme. The Volunteer Management Programme is a £3 million programme funded by the Office of the Third Sector which aims to support the professional development of volunteer managers. Read press release at: [OTS](#)

### **AWARDS: Beacon Prize 2010**

The Beacon Fellowship Charitable Trust has put out the call for nominations for the Beacon Prize 2010. The charity is urging people throughout the UK to nominate individuals who have made a significant philanthropic contribution in giving time, money or skills to a specific cause. The overall prize winner will receive £30,000 to donate to the charity of their choice. Get involved at: [Beacon](#)

### **EVENT: annual CJS lectures**

The annual Perrie Lectures [**11<sup>th</sup> June, Newbold Revel, £15 VCS**] exist to promote dialogue between the prison service, helping agencies, and others involved in criminal justice. The 2010 event 'Through-Care: Who Cares? Resettlement in the Real World' features lectures by Bobby Cummines of Unlock, Beverley Thompson of Northamptonshire Probation Service, and Trevor Williams the East of England Director Of Offender Management. Book your place at: [Perrie Lectures](#)

### **EVENT: mental health and homelessness**

'Healthy Minds: The Key to Realising Potential' is a one-day Homeless Link conference [**20th May, London, from £120**] which aims to demystify the mental health care system and inform workers based in the homelessness sector, how they can more easily support clients with poor mental health. It will focus on the clients who have lower level mental health issues, as provision for these individuals is less readily available, despite a recognised, significant demand for this type of support. Details and bookings at: [Homeless Link](#)

### **EVENT: the future of the VCS in the Criminal Justice System**

'Part of the System: The future role of the voluntary sector in the criminal justice system' is a Nacro conference [**23<sup>rd</sup> March, London, £65 VCS**] which will explore the three main political parties plans for, and perspectives of, the voluntary sector. The event brings together the voluntary sector, national and local politicians, the statutory and private sectors to explore what this might mean in practice. Book your place at: [Nacro](#)

### **EVENT: meet the London DOM**

Would you like to speak to the **London** Director of Offender Management face-to-face? You are looking for prisoners' relatives or friends who might want to come and speak to him [**Thurs 25th Feb, lunchtime**]. They are organising a small group conversation with Digby Griffith, who runs prisons and probation services for the whole of London. It's a golden opportunity to speak directly to the man in power... and talk to him about how he can make the system better. Lunch will be laid on and travel expenses will be covered. If you are interested in finding out more about this, please contact [Alison Beck](#) or call on [020 7735 9535](#)

### **RESOURCE: cutting red tape**

The Government is committed to ensuring that third sector organisations are not subject to unnecessary or disproportionate regulation and administrative burdens. As such, The Office of the Third Sector have produced new web pages that aim to highlight recent and ongoing changes and initiatives that are intended to make life easier for the VCS. Take a look around at: [OTS](#)

### **OPPORTUNITY: project evaluator required – women's project**

The Jagonari Women's Educational Resource Centre is inviting tenders from institutions/research organisations and individuals to carry out research on behalf of the Women's Community Project in **Tower Hamlets, East London**. In November 2009, Jagonari W.E.R.C was awarded a grant to set up the innovative Women's Community Project by the Ministry of Justice following the publication of Baroness Corston's report. The overall aim of the commissioned work will be to evaluate and quantify the impact and effectiveness of the Women's Community Project in East London, particularly in Tower Hamlets. The 18 month contract has a £9,000 budget attached to it. Request a tender spec from [Sultana Khanom](#)

### **OPPORTUNITY: project evaluator required – prisoner education**

Prisoners Education Trust is looking for a project evaluator to carry out an evaluation of the Learning Matters project. The evaluation, to be completed over the next 4 -5 months, aims to analyse the achievements and outcomes of the project so far and identify strategies for a second stage. Get more information by emailing:

[Pat Jones](#)

### **OPPORTUNITY: secondment to NOMS Children & Families team**

NOMS would like to contract a suitably qualified manager from the VCS to work with the Children and Families Policy Lead. This will involve working on the implementation plan for the joint MOJ/DCSF Framework for Supporting Families of Offenders and assisting in the writing of policy and national guidelines to underpin the Framework. The post will be for a two-year period and will ideally commence 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010. Exact costs would be subject to negotiation, but as a guide £70k per annum plus subsistence and travel. For more information email [Sarah Davis](#)

### **OPPORTUNITY: study women in the CJS**

The Griffins Society Visiting Research Fellowship Programme offers a unique opportunity to explore your own interests or concerns about the treatment of women in the criminal justice system. Candidates must have inquiring minds but previous research experience is not necessary as the Programme supervisors provide comprehensive supervision and support. Griffins are looking for research proposals that explore the resettlement needs of women at any stage of the justice system or related fields (e.g. housing or drug and alcohol support). They welcome community-based proposals and prison-based research that has a resettlement focus. More at: [The Griffins Society](#)

### **OPPORTUNITY: vacancies in Probation**

Despite the cuts in public sector budgets **West Yorkshire Probation Board** is embarking on its biggest ever recruitment of unqualified Probation staff to work with offenders. Vacancies include Probation teams, Accredited Programmes, Community Payback, Hostels and Skills for Work. Find out more at: [West Yorks Probation](#)

### **CLINKS MEMBER'S NEWS**

Clinks member 'pact' has been awarded a contract to run family support services at a new, purpose-built centre at **HMP Nottingham**. The community and visitors' centre will be staffed by pact workers, providing advice, support, information and guidance to hundreds of prison visitors every week. Read more about this at: [pact](#)

### **CLINKS MEMBER'S VACANCIES**

Member's vacancies this week include a Director of Operations and a Head of Programmes at [User Voice](#), and a Caseworker and a Research & Policy Officer at [Inquest](#).

### **TIPS OF THE WEEK...**

**TIP OF THE WEEK I:** De Vere have released loads of rooms for £22, but you must book by 22<sup>nd</sup> February for stays between 19<sup>th</sup> March - 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Book at: [De Vere](#). And the next Travelodge sale starts 6am tomorrow with 200,000 rooms across 392 hotels from just £29. Go online Saturday at: [Travelodge](#)

**TIP OF THE WEEK II:** Spend £10 online and get £5 off at [The Body Shop](#). To get the discount simply enter '510FEB' at checkout and the £5 will be deducted.

**TIP OF THE WEEK III:** From Thurs 18 - Sunday 21 Feb get 20% off at House of Fraser. Details at: [House of Fraser](#).

**TIP OF THE WEEK IV:** Loads of £1 National Express coach tickets available across all routes at: [National Express](#)

**TIP OF THE WEEK V:** From Sat 6<sup>th</sup> – Sun 7<sup>th</sup> March you can get free dance lessons at 1000 participating venues across England. Depending on the venue, lessons include tap, salsa, ballet and modern. There's no age limit, though some classes are suitable for children, some for families and some for adults. To get them, simply search for your nearest venue and book at: [Change 4 Life](#)

**TIP OF THE WEEK VI:** The new 4-star Park Plaza Westminster Bridge hotel in **central London** is offering a special opening rate of just £89 per room, per night -- over £100 OFF the usual rate. This rate includes full English breakfast and a bottle of red wine! This deal is selling out quickly; enter code 'ZOO' at: [Park Plaza](#)

**TIP OF THE WEEK VII:** Stays at the 4-star De Vere Carden Park in **Cheshire** are now £49 per person, per night, including full English breakfast, 3-course dinner at the AA-Rosette-awarded restaurant and a bottle of wine. This offer is valid for Sunday-Friday stays until 29 April, book by 3rd March. Enter promotional code 'TZO' at: <http://www.devere.co.uk/our-locations/carden-park.html>

**TIP OF THE WEEK VIII:** A top-price ticket to 'We Will Rock You' plus a 1-course pre-show dinner with a glass of wine now costs just £39.50. This offer is available for Monday- to Thursday-evening performances from 24 February to 14 May at the **Dominion Theatre in London**. Dinner will be at Kitchen Italia on Earlham Street, which is a short stroll from the theatre. Book by 3 March at: [LastMinute.com](#)

#### EXTRA Information....

**This edition of Light Lunch has been sent directly to 4,147 recipients**

#### NOTES

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Sent every Friday by....

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