

been successful, now that the set-up phase has been achieved, the business needs a dedicated and commercially experienced member of staff to grow sales to ensure the viability of the company. Over the past 18 months we have delivered high quality services and have built up our reputation as experts in our field. Our products have strong potential for development and adaptation for use in different contexts and sectors. We need to appoint a Business Development Manager to adapt existing products and develop new ones to take advantage of market opportunities.

2212 The Villages Together

£49,820

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What is it exactly that you want to do and why?

This project aims to deliver on the findings of a community audit completed by The Villages Together over the past year. The findings demonstrated a demand from community groups, local business and the wider community that The Villages Together seek new ways of working to deliver improved services, this included proposals from the community that new partnerships be established and new models be investigated to develop and deliver projects on a variety of themes. The themes focus on:

- Delivering opportunities for organisational change for The Villages Together, its member groups and volunteers
- Developing TVT as a conduit for information on social-economy and sustainable development
- Establishment of a PR & Marketing Strategy to service TVT & local groups
- Delivering the concept of The Villages Together area as a hub and partnership delivery agent.

What is the current situation?

At present The Villages Together sees itself in a pivotal position in its development. Having exited a number of Peace funded projects in 2008, and finding itself with no paid staff, the organisation took time out to strategically rethink its direction and approach to Community Support in the local area. A strategic plan was developed and a strategic development think tank was established to oversee a series of research methodologies which culminated in the community audit. The findings have demonstrated to The Villages Together that it is now time to move forward with an innovative approach which satisfies demand for increased access to services, scope for delivery of new projects, establishment of new ways to deliver projects, using thematic approaches rather than relying on existing group structures to deliver projects and activity.

How will the project be delivered?

The project will be delivered in conjunction with new partners responsible for service delivery across the Community & Voluntary Sector. An already existing pool of potential volunteers with an expressed interest in particular themes and ideas will be supported to act as Rural Champions who will work within their areas to encourage increased buy-in and support from the wider community. The Management Committee of The Villages Together will work with the new volunteer pool to establish a new model of service delivery, probably focusing on thematic programmes for the wider area rather than trying to maintain local village structures which are often fractured or already weakened by trying to deliver projects which may have been beyond local capacity to deliver.

Who will be responsible and when will it be done?

The Management Committee will oversee the project, but responsibility for specific elements will be delegated to informal operational groups who can work on themes and developing ideas. Funding through this project will enable the appointment of a part-time Project Manager and a part-time administrator who will be able to deliver the day to day activities, ensuring particular milestones are met and that the project is delivered to time and budget. If successful The Villages Together will be keen to start work on programme delivery very quickly.

Who else will be involved?

The Management Committee see this project as an opportunity for increased civic involvement and support for Community Development locally. Consequently The Villages Together looks forward to an increased volunteer base, utilising external expertise and optimising local experience, skills and talents. This project will ultimately enable The Villages Together to vastly increase the active volunteer base, the users of services and projects as well as achieving greater buy-in from a wide range of key stakeholders.

2173 Volunteer Now

£50,000

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On 1st April 2010, 9 volunteer centres and the Volunteer Development Agency merged together to create a new organisation Volunteer Now. Volunteer Now now needs to develop, agree and implement a plan for the new organisation and infrastructure support for volunteering going forward over the next 5 years. This is a substantive change delivery programme that will include:

Implementing organisational restructuring, new systems, processes and procedures; Establishing one effective and harmonised organisation from 10 different organisations. Implementing key areas of a new strategy i.e. plan that involves new ways to promote volunteering, link volunteering & civic engagement, provide Volunteer Now services across Northern Ireland,

including use of IT, establish new partnerships to enhance public access to information.

Support is sought to: Provide independent facilitation & advice to implement re-structuring issues associated with establishment of organisational & management structure and identification of appropriate office locations.

Support is sought to: Develop and implement a key aspect of a new strategy for delivery of Volunteer Now services across Northern Ireland. This is specifically related to transforming the promotion of volunteering and provision of volunteering opportunities, incorporating civic engagement, web site development (including social networking), practical partnerships with organisations eg libraries, CAB, unemployment offices; providing greater public access to information that adds value and is cost effective.

The project will be managed by the Chief Executive & senior staff as appropriate following the organisational review and will take place between September 2010 & March 2012.

2162 Holywell Trust

£50,000

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Holywell Trust is the lead partner of the Walled City Community Partnership. The WCCP was formed in Spring 2007 and operates under a Memorandum of Understanding signed in October 2007. To date Holywell Trust has secured £3.4million for the purchase, demolition and re-building of 8-14 Bishop Street from Department of Social Development (Modernisation Fund) and International Fund for Ireland (Legacy Fund). Whilst resources are available for the physical reconstruction of these buildings what Holywell Trust is seeking support for is the further development of the partnership; the creation of programmes which connect this partnership with other organisations, and the recording of these processes so that we can share the learning as widely as possible.

- The partnership organisations of the Walled City Community Partnership are:

The Junction
Peace & Reconciliation Group
Yes! Publications
North West Community Partnership
Holywell Consultancy
Towards Understanding and Healing
Derry Healthy Cities
Reach Across
Extern
Holywell Trust
Community Learning Development Initiative

- Other Organisations which will share the newly development premises include; Football in the Community, Teenage Kickz (a partnership between

Derry City Football Club and PSNI), Foyle Women's Information Network, Turnaround Project, Community Relations Officers of Derry City Council.

- Current other partnership arrangements which will be included in ever-widening the circle of organisations working together; Other partnership arrangements will be developed during the next 18 months so that by the time the new building is ready it will be the hub of a series of interconnecting relationships and activities. This interconnected work needs constant and committed 'servicing' in terms of clearly managed relationship building, clarity of communications, networking opportunities, workshops/seminars and residential.

These processes need to be managed properly otherwise they will lose direction and cohesion. The next 18-24 months are critical. The various energies need the overall articulation and focus provided by the thinking behind Holywell Trust Diversecity. This needs to be resourced and these resources should build on those, which are already being put to good use.

VOYPIC (Voice of Young People in Care)

£50,000

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Include Youth, COYPIC and Mulholland After Care Services each operate a series of administrative and organisational departments which are individually under-resourced, lack strategic expertise and collectively do not maximise on the potential for collaborative working. Our project aims to provide best practice support for the three organisations individually and collectively in the area of corporate services (finance, HR, development). The project will develop the first phase of our proposed Corporate Services Department, recruitment of a Corporate Services Manager who will support the three organisations through high level strategic financial advice and performance improvement initiatives. The new Manager would also lead on the further development of the department. The project will ensure increased effectiveness, excellent governance and provide better value for money. Our project will also provide a best practice example of how organisations can share their corporate services. It will provide a model for others to consider, as they look for paths which will help them increase their efficiency, improve performance and offer value for money services.

The project will increase our effectiveness, give us increased access to more expertise and provide better value for money in the longer term. The partnership received funding from DHSSPS and DSD to carry out a feasibility study of the Corporate Service Department proposal which provided recommendations to its success, operational format and costs. The feasibility study stated that there was a clear need for enhanced collaborative corporate services and that the 3 agencies had complementary structures and processes in place which are key to the successful implementation of shared corporate services. The report findings were shared with DHSSPS and DSD on 11th June 2010.