



Local event brings new hope to community groups

If you're a community group or project in Nottingham and you want to find out more about funding opportunities and meet funders face-to-face, get along to the Base Camp Funding Spectacular at the Djanogly City Academy, Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham on the 11th March.

The event, which will run from 10am to 3pm, is open to all voluntary community groups in Nottingham, whether you're already up and running or you'd like to find out more about starting a group or project.

The event is being run by Base Camp, a project supporting (South Asian) voluntary community groups in Nottingham, led by the Partnership Council charity based in Hyson Green.

You'll get the chance to meet some of the UK's best known funders, including BBC Children in Need, Lloyds TSB and the National Lottery. Plus, the event will give small community groups and projects, run by volunteers, a unique opportunity to talk directly to funders and find out more about what funding is available and how to get it.

In addition, the event will also be attended by organisations who can offer *support* to voluntary community groups, giving volunteers the chance to find out more about topics such as health and safety, child safety, the legal duties of voluntary community groups and how to market a group or project.

Syed Ali from Base Camp, the man behind the event, explains:

"Community groups run by volunteers are a real driving force in Nottingham, without them hundreds of local people simply wouldn't get access to much needed services such as children's homework clubs or skills training.

The Funding Spectacular will hopefully help both new and existing groups to thrive in 2009, so they can continue to support communities throughout Nottingham, especially with the credit crunch in full swing."

BASECAMP

47 Gregory Boulevard · Hyson Green · Nottingham · NG7 5JA

Telephone 0115 970 8200 · Fax: 0115 970 8200

Email syed@partnershipcouncil.co.uk or rukhsana@partnershipcouncil.co.uk

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The Base Camp project traditionally supports voluntary community groups from the South Asian community, but the Funding Spectacular is open to ALL voluntary community groups.

The project has helped to set up and sustain over 30 voluntary community groups and organisations, and helped them secure over £85,000 of funding to deliver a variety of projects around Nottingham.

One group who has benefited from Base Camp's help is Ujaala:

"Without Base Camp's help we wouldn't have known how to go about applying for funding or how to organise things such as our group's Constitution for example.

It's great that Base Camp is there to help as there's plenty of volunteers out there with great ideas for helping the community, that haven't necessarily got the knowledge or confidence to turn those ideas into reality.

Best of all, Base Camp offers genuine, practical, personal support, not just to help groups start up, but to keep groups running too."

The event will also feature guest speakers and the life-changing personal stories of those who have benefited from Base Camp-supported voluntary community groups.

One of those who has benefited is 7 year old Habibah Ghani. Her mother Uzmah explains:

"Habibah suffers from cerebral palsy but last year she joined a girls' football group through Base Camp which has made a real difference to her life. She has grown in confidence, made new friends and really loves going to the training sessions, she even gets her kit ready the night before!

If anyone doubts the impact that voluntary community groups have in the community, I'd urge them to think again. The experience has genuinely changed Habibah's life for the better."

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In addition, Base Camp is planning a few surprise highlights at the Funding Spectacular so watch this space for more! Attendees can also enjoy lunch and entertainment including live music.

To find out more please contact:

**Syed Ali or Rukhsana Aziz from Base Camp on 0115 970 8200
or email syed@partnershipcouncil.co.uk
or rukhsana@partnershipcouncil.co.uk**

**Any organisation wishing to book a stand at the event is also welcome
to contact Syed or Rukhsana as above.**

To find out more about the Partnership Council please visit - www.partnershipcouncil.co.uk

The Funding Spectacular is being funded by - <http://www.capacitybuilders.org.uk>

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