

Funding event set to boost vital work of voluntary and community groups

“The work done by voluntary and community groups doesn’t just change lives - it even saves lives.”

That’s the view of Syed Ali, organiser of a unique event for Nottingham, the Base Camp Funding Spectacular.

Syed’s comment refers to one of the community groups who’ll be talking about their work supporting women and children who are victims of violence and abuse at the event. According to Syed, it promises to be a very moving story.

The Base Camp Funding Spectacular is being held on:

**Wednesday 11th March 2009 from 10am to 3pm
at Djanogly City Academy, Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham**

With Jon Collins, Leader of Nottingham City Council, as guest speaker.

The event will bring together big name funders and voluntary and community groups from across Nottinghamshire. Syed explains:

“It’s not easy for groups to find funding, especially when they’re run by volunteers who don’t know what funding exists or how to go about applying for it. This event will give groups the chance to meet funders face to face and ask one to one questions - as well as get general advice and information.”

The Funding Spectacular will include a ‘speed dating’ style event for groups, giving them the chance to talk to funders including the Asda Foundation, the Heritage Lottery fund, the Big Lottery fund, Boots Charitable Trust, the European Social Fund, Nottingham City Council, the Charity Bank, the Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue Fund and the Nottinghamshire Community Foundation.

As Syed has said, the work done by voluntary and community groups is vital to Nottingham and the Funding Spectacular will help to showcase this. Among the groups attending the event are Vital Steps, Roshni, the Disabled People’s Advocacy group, the Meadows Community Garden and the Nottingham Carnival Club.

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Leading city organisations have also booked stalls at the event, so voluntary and community groups can find out more about the support available to them. Organisations attending include New College Nottingham, Radford Sure Start Children's Centre, Neighbourhood Development Company (NDC), Nottingham Council for Voluntary Service (NCVS) and NHS Nottingham City (formerly Nottingham City Primary Care Trust).

Entertainment will be provided by Muhammad Iqbal Bahoo, a famous Sufi singer from Pakistan and his band. Iqbal has sung on Radio Pakistan and Pakistan Television and was awarded the Tamgha-i-Imtiaz (medal of excellence) in 2008 - for his contribution to music.

The Funding Spectacular is being organised by Base Camp, a project ran by the Partnership Council charity based in Hyson Green. Traditionally, Base Camp supports South Asian voluntary and community groups but the Funding Spectacular is open to ALL voluntary and community groups in Nottinghamshire.

Base Camp has helped to set up and sustain over 30 voluntary and community groups - helping them secure over £85,000 worth of funding to deliver a variety of projects around Nottingham.

To find out more please contact Syed Ali from Base Camp on 0115 970 8200 or email syed@partnershipcouncil.co.uk

Any organisation wishing to book a last minute stand at the event is also welcome to contact Syed as above.

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