

Youth matters

Hampshire, Isle of Wight & Surrey Youth Newsletter

Main Contact: Mike Baxter (Service Manager – Youth), Red Cross House, Winnall Close, Winchester, SO23 0LB. T: 01962 868253 M:07738 944571 E: mbaxter@redcross.org.uk

April 2008

Welcome

It's all happening! Everything in "Youth" is exciting and buzzing with life. So hold onto your seats, read on and get in touch if you can help or want more information. Enough from me – read on & enjoy. **Mike Baxter**

Youth Strategy

For those who are new or need reminding, we have 4 strands to our work.

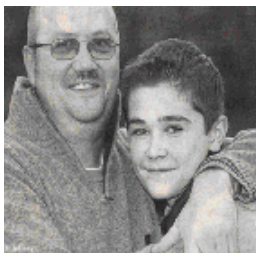
- > First Aid education for young people.
- > Humanitarian education for young people.
- > Young Volunteers.
- > Vulnerable young people.

The news that follows is split into those strands!

First Aid Education

The Youth Education Project goes from strength to strength. Over 20 trainers, 60 peer educators, 20,000 young people trained, 200 courses and one young man we taught who saved his dad's life on work experience.

You are all fantastic – thank you SO MUCH!



Mitchell Holmes who saved his dad's life, now a peer educator with the Red Cross.

Junior Citizen This is where we train year 6 pupils in basic first aid with other safety workshops by the police and so on. The next two are:

Romsey & Eastleigh – 25 March – 5 April

Andover & Basingstoke – 30 June – 11 July

We have already covered the first event!

National First Aid Competition Chris Jefferies, one of our peer educators was part of the area team who came second in the National First Aid Competition. Their team will be entered in the 2009 First Aid Competition Europe (FACE). Well done to all the team!

Young Trainers Following the trainer training in October, the following young people are now trainers. Paul Bourne (North Baddesley), Mel James (Romsey), Matt Mills (Winchester) and Chris Jefferies (Guildford). **A big well done to you all – a high standard all round!**

Inclusive First Aid This is first aid for disabled people ... we have run courses at Lord Mayor Treloar, Alton (for those with physical disabilities), West Hill School, Leatherhead (learning difficulties) and Icknield School (various social/communication needs) where we used Widget (symbols to represent words) to communicate ideas. For more information on Inclusive First Aid email nwaight@redcross.org.uk.

Motorcyclist First Aid We continue to provide first aid education for young people who undertake their CBT (compulsory basic training) through Youth Clubs (Hampshire and IOW). These are often vulnerable young people and thanks must go to Azalia Gosling and Maureen Powell who regularly cover these Save a Life courses.

Young Offenders

We have been working with OLASS to deliver first aid training to young offenders in Aldershot, Portsmouth and on the Isle of Wight. These courses have been received well and provided accreditation for the young people to get back into education & employment.

NE Portsmouth Schools Partnership We have been asked to deliver 10 courses for over 200 young people across NE Portsmouth for young carers and other vulnerable young people. Thanks to Bob Carr, Maureen Powell, Maureen Locke and Emma Taylor (new vol) for helping out – feedback so far has been very positive!

Project Advantage So named, by the peer educators who put the funding bid together, we hope to secure funding from Connexions or Hampshire County Council to allow us to subsidise first aid training for young carers, travellers and other vulnerable young people. We will be working with the Youth Service and other local groups to deliver the training, which we hope will involve peer education where possible supported by our trainers.

Teacher Training

Another successful course was run for 5 teachers (and one peer ed from Kent) taking the total number of teacher doing first aid on our behalf in schools to twelve.

Resources We have 4 training kits for peer educators and trainers to use for those who don't have access to their own kit available

plus three projectors – one in each county. We also have speakers for the DVDs we recommend – Ordinary Day and Buying Time – both by Heart Start UK. Also, if you need to borrow any Annies – we have plenty and a new set has just been purchased for use by the Peer Educators and Trainers in Banstead.

Babysitting A new babysitting pack is now available – all newly branded and updated. Also the new website www.redcross.org.uk/babysitting is online with online booking for courses!

First Aid for Young People New guidance on First Aid for young people will soon be available. Our peer educators helped redraft the pack, changing the syllabus of youth first aid to make it more relevant – more soon.

And finally... We are going to try and break the WORLD RECORD for the most people trained in first aid at one time in the Autumn at Perin's School in Alresford, where we already have a peer education project.

Humanitarian Education

We have 10 school speakers, who give talks on various humanitarian issues including child soldiers, landmines, the Red Cross, refugees and food insecurity.

This is still an area for development and Robert Streeter, Surrey Volunteer has kindly volunteering to take on a co-ordination role to get together all the resources and organise them.

St John's, Redhill has just run two workshops on refugees and child soldiers for their sixth form.

ACS international school, Cobham has just run a humanitarian education session with us and is looking to set up a peer education project in 2008/9.

Humanitarian Active Schools Award is a Red Cross award that School's can achieve by completing 5 tasks:

- > Find out about the Red Cross.
- > Take part in a first aid workshop.
- > Take part in a humanitarian education workshop.
- > Raise some money for the Red Cross
- > Run an event for the local community.

WELL DONE TO THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS WHO HAVE COMPLETED!

- > Vineyard School, Richmond
- > Fort Hill School, Basingstoke
- > Cams Hill School, Fareham

There are another 5 in the pipeline and we are the first area to offer the award!

One Life European Road Safety Launch

Our area has been chosen to hold the launch of the new European Road Safety Pack in June 2008. This is likely to be held at Eastleigh Fire and Rescue HQ and will involve young people from local schools attending a Junior Citizen type event. There will be lots of publicity with visits from sponsored which may include Tom Tom. Watch this space for more information.

Young Volunteers

- > The minimum age for young volunteers is now 15, unless they are in partnership with another organisation, in which case it is 13.
- > We have a Young Peron's Consultative Group set up for young people to feed into the Volunteer Forums. They now have a new constitution. They have also spoken at UK Office and the rest of the territory is taking up the idea!!
- > We are looking to establish links with Solent Youth Action to further our young volunteer outreach. Meeting planned during April.

> We now have an email for our peer educators peereducators@redcross.org.uk, a website at www.peer-eds.org.uk and a facebook and BEBO site. Email for more info.

BEBO – www.bebo.com/H-P-E

HIV & AIDS Peer Ed Project

We have just applied for £700 to run a training day for our peer educators to learn about HIV & Aids which will be run by Magda Cummings the national adviser on HIV Aids for the National Children's Network.

Fergus Carter-Brazier is now on the SE board of the Terrance Higgin's Trust Sexual Health Yong People's Board and he will be taking a lead on the project.

The training day is on 10 May at Winnall.

Youth Conference

Eight young people have just returned from the territory Youth Conference – a showcase of work from around the SE including dance for life, life live it and peer education from our area. The Saturday evening was a massive (biggest ever) Crystal Maze followed by a discussion about the new UK strategy on the Sunday.



The Crystal Dome & AIDS posters



Youth Management Team

We had our first Youth Management Team meeting, where adults, young people and partners got together to look at our progress and the way forward. After an hour evaluation of each project, we spent an hour brainstorming the future with workshops on Hum Ed, HIV/Aids and peer education. Minutes are available from Mike.

National Assembly

Three of our young people have attended the National Assembly to talk about the role of Youth on the SE territory stand – which was very successful – we will be encouraging more young people to attend next year.

Dance for Life – help needed

Dance for Life is an event where young people harness the power of humanity to dance in heats and a county final. It is an excellent show... help contact fundraising for dates! LDeacon@redcross.org.uk or see www.peer-eds.org.uk for info.

Work Experience

We have 6 people booked in to do Work Experience in our Winnall and Guildford offices this year. Each will undertake a two week placement, working with services and peer educating in schools.

Young People in Crisis

Portsmouth Refugee Project Update

As you will know, the Redhill Project has been disbanded as the young people have moved to Croydon and the young people are now in the our peer befriending project there.

Well, a new project is on its way. There are 25 young unaccompanied minors in Portsmouth and we are working with Portsmouth City Council, who are employing a worker to look at their health needs, to set up a befriending project with them. They are very keen.

Dates so far are:

11 – 13 April – Peer Befriending training weekend

16 to 22 June – Refugee Week 2008

We are setting up links with the university and other local groups in the area. For more information or if you want to get involved, contact Mike Baxter.

Child Protection

Our roadshow is now over – 20 centres/ groups covered (although a few left to arrange still) + all shop managers trained – well done and thank-you to everyone involved a mammoth effort.

We also now have our full quota of Child Protection Officers – Anna Martin and Mary Shiels for Surrey, Mike Baxter and Azalia Gosling from Hampshire and Jacqui Prince on Isle of Wight. They have all completed training and are also finding out about the Common Assessment Framework.

All child protection queries go via the duty pager 07659 143536 (do not give information to the duty manager, just ask for CPO).

Territory Roadshow

This year the roadshow will be looking at vulnerable groups.

> We will have a “V” young volunteer for 20 weeks which is advertised on the website. No applicants so far!

Mike Baxter, Service Manager (Youth)

01962 868253 / 07738 944571

mbaxter@redcross.org.uk