

Learning Disability Development Fund (LDDF) Progress report



Name of project: Voluntary Work Project

Project Lead: Karen Kingsland

Project Targets from bid:

- 20 people with learning disabilities will be helped to get new volunteer work
- 15 people with learning disabilities will be helped to keep on doing their volunteer work
- 5 support staff will learn to support people doing volunteer work and will directly support people in volunteer work
- 6 groups of staff will be told about supporting volunteer work so they can help the people they support to do more volunteer work
- 2 Government / Valuing People meetings will be told about supporting volunteer work

How the bid says the project will do this work:

Manager of the Voluntary Work Project will:

Train staff; help people chose good work, find work for people, help the people at the work place, tell the LDPB what is happening, let people know about this choice, talk to groups of staff and to government meetings.

Staff doing job coaching will:

Help people learn new jobs, help people get to and from their jobs, help people solve problems or make changes to their jobs.

How much LDDF money the project got in 2008/9: £24,823

Name of person completing this report:

Suzette Attwood

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What the project has done from April to July 2008:

(Yearly Targets – 20 people to get new volunteer work, 15 to keep on doing their work)

9 people with learning disabilities have started new volunteer work. They work in lots of places such as Age Concern, Starbucks, and a fish and chip shop! Those people are supported by lots of different services, Mencap, Hamilton House, Grace Eyre and council day services to name a few

We support 22 people doing voluntary work. We do development plans every six months to check how people are getting on at work and to see if any changes need to happen

The 'Papermates' group from Buckingham Road are doing mailshots for charities and the council.

We are helping to set up a partnership with St Luke's Junior school and Buckingham Road Day Centre. They will work together on projects.



We helped Debs do work experience at Starbucks. We hope more people will be able to do work experience at Starbucks soon.

We helped one person get a working interview with City Clean. That person wants paid work in the City Clean depot.

10 people are waiting to get work and more keep coming to us. We will have Dave working one day per week to help Suzette with the work.

(Yearly Targets - 5 staff to directly support people in volunteer work, 6 staff groups to be told about supporting volunteer work)

6 members of staff from Day Services and some from residential services have been supporting people to do their voluntary work. Some of those staff are being trained to do development plans as well.

The project manager has talked to 3 groups of staff about supporting people doing voluntary work.

One meeting about Supported Employment was attended in London.

The project is very busy, and its very exciting, (but *soon there will be too much work for one person to do!*)

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What the project has done August to November 2008:

(Yearly Targets = 20 people to get new volunteer work, 15 to keep on doing their work, 5 staff to directly support people in volunteer work, 6 staff groups to be told about supporting volunteer work)

Since August 10 more people with learning disabilities started volunteer work or work experience.

One person is a volunteer in her local church. Another client tried some work in a pub. Martin is a volunteer at Brighton Museum, where he gives out leaflets to members of the public.



We developed our partnership with Starbucks and a further three people have accessed work experience in three coffee shops. Adam used the experience to find out what sort of work he might like to do in the future. Sam gained valuable experience that will help him in his quest for paid work. Foad, after a

two-day work trial earlier in the year, did a full work experience at Gatwick Airport Starbucks. Foad has always wanted to work at Gatwick.



Two of our clients are doing work experience as recycling operatives with the council. The council is in the process of employing them both in paid work.



The project manager met with the Assessment Team to tell them about the project, and also co-facilitated a work shop about work & skills at the learning disability staff conference.

We are still supporting 23 people in volunteer work and 5 more development plans have been completed. Southdown Housing Association has joined the list of services that are supporting people in their volunteer work; they support Simon to work in a charity shop. About 10 more staff have been involved in supporting individuals in work over the last 3 months.

Dave Simner, a staff from Wellington House, now works for this project one day per week. This is because demand is so high. We have stopped taking new referrals as we still have over 10 people waiting for volunteer work and the project staff are working at their capacity.

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What the project has done in December 2008 through March 2009:

(Targets – 20 people to get new volunteer work, 15 to keep on doing their work. 5 staff to directly support people in volunteer work, 6 staff groups to be told about supporting volunteer work.)

Most of the targets were achieved by November 2008. Since December 2008 two more people have started volunteer work.

Sarah (opposite) works in a charity shop unsupported and is hoping the experience will help her to return to paid work in the future. The other new volunteer is Paul who started working as a volunteer for the recycling project in



Portslade.



One of the two people working as recycling operatives at Denmark Villas (photo opposite) received his first pay cheque this month!

We are still supporting 21 people to do their volunteer work, and since November 11 more development plans have been completed. Some of these have been very positive with people developing their roles and skills at work. Martyn from our last report, who works at the Museum, is now handing out leaflets in Pavilion Gardens and is hoping to appear in City News in the spring. Sam who worked at Starbucks has now met with the Employment Support Team and hopes to find paid work soon.

The Buckingham Road Makaton group have been doing some great work at St Luke's Junior school. The school children and staff are very pleased to see them every Thursday.

The Future:

Although the Voluntary Work project will not be able to run at the same capacity now the LDDF funding has ended, it will still exist on a smaller scale, and several people are hoping to start volunteering in the near future. Kate hopes to help the Fire Brigade on their open day, two more people should be commencing work experience at Starbucks and one person hopes to start work in a Charity Shop soon, supported by her P.A.