



Hi

We have recently been updating our contact records and we may have out-of-date details. If you are not the correct contact person for your organisation or you have changed your contact details, please let us know.

Welcome to the May 2009 edition of re@d-it! the monthly newsletter from do-it.org.uk.

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Please feel free to share this newsletter with other members of your team, especially those who use V-Base or V-Base Recruiter.

This month's top tip

Sophia says:

Try to avoid using the word 'volunteer' in the title of your opportunity. As do-it.org.uk is a volunteering website, all the opportunities advertised are for volunteer roles, so think of other titles that will make your opportunity stand out, such as 'Entertainment Co-ordinator'.

Promote your employee volunteering service

If you offer a brokerage service for organisations or if you offer volunteering opportunities directly, why not promote your service in our Employee Volunteering Services (EVS) finder. The finder allows organisations to search for volunteering opportunities, or to find a local broker who will be able to help them find opportunities that match their interests.

There are two ways to ensure you appear in the Employee Volunteering Services finder results. If you're a V-Base Recruiter user, you can edit your details from within your main account. If you're a V-Base user, please contact us, and we will add you to the EVS finder.

Wanted: great examples of volunteer management

Here at do-it.org.uk, we're looking to collect best practice case studies around volunteer management. Do you have a story about which demonstrates how you've used do-it.org.uk, V-Base or V-Base Recruiter to create an excellent volunteer service? An example might be how you deal with an unsuccessful do-it.org.uk application or how you find the perfect placement for someone who applies online. The best five case studies will be featured on the do-it.org.uk website in the coming months, so if you have a story to share, please get in touch.

Involving young disabled volunteers

As some of you may have heard, YouthNet is working on a new web-based service for young people as part of the Lifetracks programme. Lifetracks is a partnership between YouthNet, Rathbone, Skill and The Foyer Federation which provides on-the-ground and

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[Training feedback: 'Very friendly training and approachable – Thank you'](#)

[Victoria Wickins, Vital Regeneration – Re-Evolve](#)

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[Tell us what you think about re@d-it!](#)

[Please post any feedback, suggestions and ideas you have for re@d-it! here.](#)

online services to empower and support 16 to 25-year-olds to make informed choices about their work, training and study. The three-year Lifetracks programme is funded by the Vodafone Foundation and v, the youth volunteering charity.

As part of Lifetracks, Skill, the National Bureau for Students with Disabilities, will be working to help young disabled people to get into volunteering, and to enable and encourage voluntary organisations to provide greater participation.

If you've got great stories about how young disabled volunteers have benefited your organisation or if you'd like to find out more about offering a volunteer placement to a young disabled volunteer, then Skill would love to hear from you.

Case studies and positive stories about involving young disabled volunteers which can be used in Skill presentations, articles and similar, can be sent to Rhoda. If you're interested in finding out more about offering a disabled young person the opportunity to volunteer at your organisation, contact Lisa Price (London/Essex) or Gary Clark (Birmingham/Somerset).

Help improve the volunteering experience

Here at YouthNet we are currently researching how volunteers interact with the National Volunteering Database (NVD), the websites do-it.org.uk and vinspired.com and also their ongoing volunteering experience. We want to make sure we investigate the whole journey, from when a potential volunteer logs on to one of the respective websites to when they start their volunteer opportunity.

As part of this research we are holding an online discussion about how we could improve the process volunteers go through. We are looking for organisations like yours to take part in this online discussion, along with the volunteers you work with. We will, of course, be sharing our findings with you over the coming months. Please get in touch if you or anyone you know would like to get involved.

Volunteers' Week: 1-7 June 2009

Volunteers' Week (1-7 June) is the UK's annual celebration of volunteers and volunteering. This year Volunteers' Week reaches its 25th anniversary, and here at YouthNet, we're pleased to be partnering with Volunteer England as they celebrate. During Volunteers' Week events will be held across the country to recognise, reward and recruit volunteers.

You can be a part of the celebration: whether you work for an organisation that has benefited from the selfless contribution of volunteers or you have had a great experience as a volunteer yourself, share your experiences on the Volunteers' Week website.

Goodbye Giuseppina

Sadly Giuseppina will be leaving the Partnerships Team at YouthNet in early June. She has been an integral part of the team and will be greatly missed by us all. We wish her good luck in all her future endeavours.

Upcoming training events

V-Base training: 5 June, 29 June and 24 July 2009

Information about V-Base training and the dates of future sessions are now available on do-it.org.uk. If you are interested in attending the training sessions, please fill in and send us the V-Base training booking form.

V-Base Recruiter training: 19 June 2009

Information about V Base Recruiter training and dates of future sessions are also available on do-it.org.uk. If you would like to attend a session or wish to register your interest for future sessions, please fill in and send us the V-Base Recruiter training booking form.

Location

All training sessions take place in YouthNet's office: First floor, 50 Featherstone Street, London, EC1Y 8RT.

Mentoring and Befriending Training Programme

The Mentoring and Befriending Foundation (MBF) provides guidance and support to organisations and practitioners involved in mentoring and befriending. MBF trains mentoring and befriending practitioners throughout the country, helping them to learn more about setting up and managing successful schemes.

New dates and courses have been announced in various locations. If you are interested please see more information on all NTP courses and book online.

Welcome to three new partners!

This month, we're welcoming three new organisations into the fold:

- CleanupUK
- Depression UK
- Campaign to Protect Rural England

We look forward to working in partnership with these organisations and promoting their opportunities on do-it.org.uk.

Until next time,

The Partnerships Team
www.youthnet.org
www.do-it.org.uk

