

Holiday playschemes Social clubs

Sports opportunities for all






Exciting and innovative projects to support the needs of people of all ages in a community are being developed around the county, ranging from initiatives to take young people off the streets and into more positive environments, to setting up gardening and transport schemes for the elderly.

To help you develop your own projects, you may find it useful to read how other people have developed their ideas.

In addition to information in this leaflet of how the highly successful **Candi Youth Café** in the Forest of Dean got off the ground, you can find out more about other initiatives including **A Voice for the Young** – a youth project in Churchdown – and the **Older, Bolder – and Healthier!** scheme for people living in Whaddon, in the Beelines Bulletin in this folder and on either of the following websites:

Forum – www.town2town.org.uk

BBC – www.bbc.co.uk/gloucestershire/communitytoolkit

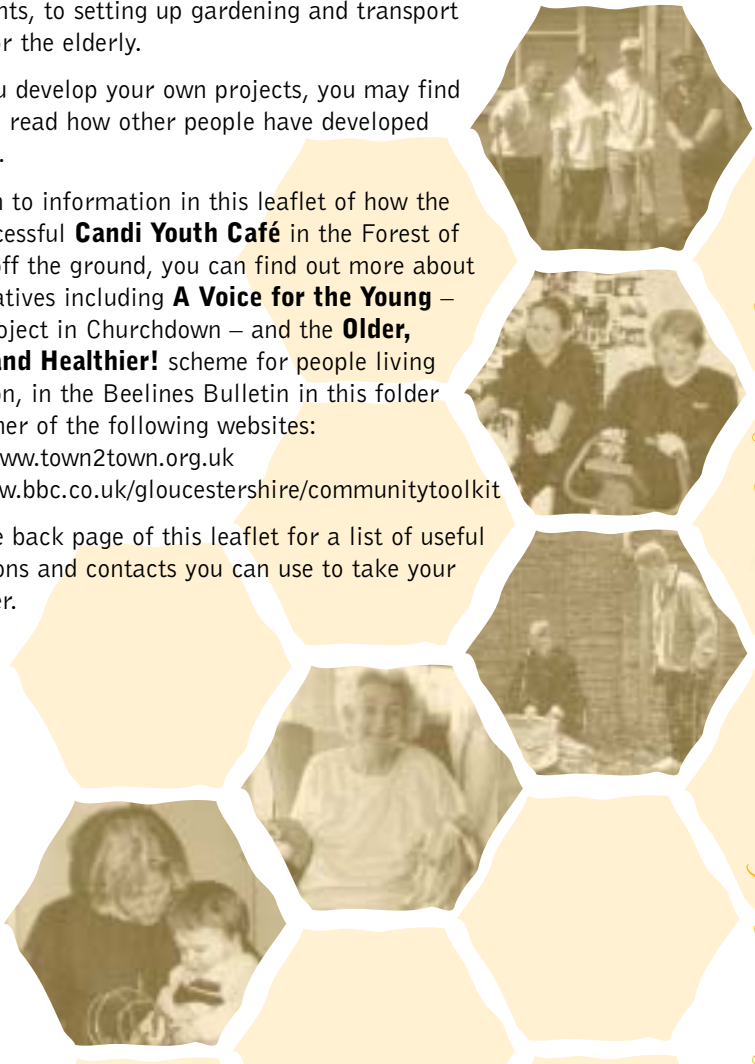
Turn to the back page of this leaflet for a list of useful organisations and contacts you can use to take your idea further.

Drop-in centres


Ball-a-ride schemes

Gardening schemes

Homework clubs Drop-in centres



CANDI YOUTH CAFÉ, FOREST OF DEAN



The Challenge

A spate of problems involving young people in Cinderford led to the funding of a youth worker to spend six months talking to local youngsters to find a solution. Funding came from local town and parish councils, the County Council's Youth and Community Service and the then Rural Development Commission.

Developing the idea

A questionnaire asked young people what they wanted – an evening drop in café headed their 'wish list'. Youth worker Sue Fellows brought together an initial working group of six young people who met weekly to discuss the way forward.

A run-down former sports shop in Market Street, Cinderford proved the ideal premises – the enthusiasm and vision of the young people overwhelmed initial adult reservations!

Within a year, and with a great deal of help and support from the local community, the café was up and running.

Making it happen

The Management Committee of young people meet monthly and decide how the Café is run, within budgets. Initially, it opened for four sessions a week with one full time manager – who was interviewed by the young people – and six volunteers from the local church.

Additional funding led to six sessions a week and an assistant manager was employed. More space downstairs was opened with a pool table, TV and 'chill out' room – local people were generous with donations of fixtures, fittings and time.

Various charitable trusts as well as the county, district, town and parish councils all contributed relatively small amounts, but substantial funding was needed. Major charities including Somerfield, Henry Smith, the Kensington Estate and John Paul Getty were approached and the former Training and Enterprise Council helped fund essential training for the manager and assistant.

A drop-in session is held weekly for young single mums aged 13 to 25 who had nowhere to go with their babies during the day. They meet and support each other over coffee and tea; they swap clothes, toys, organise jumble sales, Christmas parties and summer outings for the children.



With funds from Comic Relief and the Government's Single Regeneration Budget, the Café now has an Information Shop, signposting to advice and information on benefits, services, drug and alcohol problems, housing and relationships, school, college and careers. It has also expanded upstairs with help from Community Service Volunteers and Young Gloucestershire.

Keeping it going

As a result of its success, the Café Project is involved in outreach work in outlying rural areas. Funded by Ruspidge, Soudley and Drybrook Parish Councils and the Worshipful Weavers, two outreach workers were employed to organise weekly youth clubs and bring youngsters into Cinderford to access the support and services they need. In addition, a National Lottery bid proved successful and the Market Street premises were bought outright and refurbishment is underway.

The future will include bidding for a music project and a dance project and setting up a Cybercafe. The gardens are to be developed for use in the summer for barbecues and as a play area for single mothers and their children.

The Café is used by about 200 young people a week, with about 50 inquiries a month at the Information Shop.



Top tips

- Most important is that it is **user led** with ownership by young people
- Make sure fundraising is ongoing (the Candi Project costs £86,000 a year to run)
- Get skilled at writing good 'begging letters' and filling in bid applications
- You need 'start-up' cash and revenue, a highly committed project leader and active supporters
- It's essential to keep the support of local councils, the press and the community
- A management committee must have a wide range of skills represented from local people – business, councillors, governors, police, social services, church
- Contact the local Lions Club and local churches for volunteers
- Set up as a charity, company limited by guarantee
- Personalities of staff important – re: empathy with young people

Contact: Graham Spearman 01594 844563

Who can help?

This page lists the funding streams that were accessed by this particular project and those featured in Beelines. As these may change or cease over time, they may not all be currently available. If they do not appear in the **Contacts Directory** – a separate document to be found in this folder – and you have an enquiry regarding funding sources, please contact the Economic Development Unit on 01452 425702.

Funding Sources

Youth projects

- Charitable Trusts
- Children in Need
- Comic Relief
- District councils
- Gloucestershire County Council
 - Social Services
 - Youth and Community
- Gloucestershire Masonic Charitable Association
- Gloucestershire Rural Community Council (Rural Initiative Fund)
- National Lottery Funding Bodies
 - New Opportunities Fund
- Parish councils
- Single Regeneration Budget



Other Useful Contacts

This section lists key organisations that could offer help and support in the development of your ideas. Their details can be found in the Contacts Directory.

- Age Concern
- Business in the Community
- Colleges
- Connexions

- Crossroads
- Diocese of Gloucester
- Disability Action Group
- District councils
 - Environmental Health
 - Planning
- Fair Shares
- Families' and Children's Information Service (FACS)
- Foyer Federation
- GloFYSH
- Gloucestershire Association for Mental Health
- Gloucestershire County Council
 - Adult Continuing Education & Training service
 - Early Years Development Childcare Partnership
- Gloucestershire Drug and Alcohol Advice Service
- Gloucestershire Media
- Gloucestershire Neighbourhood Projects Network
- Gloucestershire Rural Transport Partnership
- Health and Safety Executive
- Parent and Teacher Associations
- Police
 - Neighbourhood Inspectors
 - Rural Beat Officers
- Princes Trust (Business)
- Women's Institute
- Young Gloucestershire

Notes
