



# GR NEWS



**Good Relations Information**

**August 2009**

Ever wondered what good relations programmes were all about or what good relations grant aid could be used for? In this news sheet we'll provide an overview of the different types of programmes, some examples of successful GR projects and funding available at present.

## Types of Programmes

Examples of GR projects that have taken place in other areas. Do any of these ideas appeal, would they work well in your community or perhaps you have some new ideas of your own which you would like to develop?

- **Sarah and the Whammi** (for pre-schoolers and 4 – 6 year olds)  
Engaging entertainment for young children with support and guidance for dealing with difficult situations.  
Supports education for mutual understanding and citizenship skills
- **A game of three halves** – bringing young people from different sections of the community together to get involved in football, GAA and rugby sessions.
- **The PATCH** (Political Awareness through Citizenship and History) **programme** – helps to challenge pre-conceived beliefs and encourage bonding
- **Training** - If your group would be interested in undertaking accredited training there are courses which look at GR issues such as conflict resolution or mediation training to name but a few.

For further info on running a good relations programme in your area then contact the community services team on T: 9446 3113 or E: [community.services@antrim.gov.uk](mailto:community.services@antrim.gov.uk)

## ▪ Hold a Cultural Day

Schools – why not join up with other schools to deliver a project as part of your Personal Development & Mutual Understanding program. The aim of these fun and educational activities was to enhance integration and appreciation of different cultures and languages.

## ▪ Ending Hate Crime in Our Communities Training (UINCORE)

Are you interested in increasing your understanding of the extent of bias, harassment and hate crime in the community? Are you interested in developing the skills required to deal with bias and harassment?

INCORE and the Centre for the Prevention of Hate Violence (CPHV) have worked in collaboration to deliver Ending Hate in our Community Training in Northern Ireland. There are currently 66 trainers throughout Northern Ireland who are available to conduct a 3-hour Ending Hate Workshop free of charge. For community groups and /or groups of young people (including schools).

The objectives of the training are to:-

- understand the extent of bias, harassment and hate crimes in the community
- explore the impact of bias and harassment on those who are targeted
- learn practical skills for response and prevention.

If you know of any group or organisation who would be interested in receiving training, please contact Sylwia Slonka, Minority Ethnic Liaison Worker on T: 9442 8176 or E: [Sylwia.slonka@antrim.gov.uk](mailto:Sylwia.slonka@antrim.gov.uk)

## TRAINING & SEMINARS



**Community Dialogue**  
**10 September at 7pm**

Community Dialogue through its Peace III programme has organised a session on Steps into Dialogue at the **Community Relations Office, Linen Green, Dungannon**. The overall goal of the project is to use dialogue as a mechanism that allows those affected by the conflict to deal with and address their past and to begin to respect and understand the views and past of others.

Key questions to be posed at this session:

- What are the issues that you and the people in your community need to discuss?
- Who need to be targeted to engage around those issues?
- Are there barriers to getting people involved?
- Is there a need to provide safe spaces to enable people to discuss the issues?
- Are there creative approaches that would be useful?

For further info contact Jim O'Neill, Dialogue Development Officer on T: 9032 9995 or E: [admin@communitydialogue.org](mailto:admin@communitydialogue.org)

### Sharing Our Space

**26 October Tullyglass Hotel, Ballymena**  
6.30pm to 8.30pm (buffet on arrival)

The Rural Community Network and the Community Relations Council supported by the Interface Working Group (IWG) are holding an Overcoming Division in Communities event which will provide an opportunity for the community to comment on a draft working document based around the nature of rural interfaces. The concept of rural interfaces is less well explored and defined and could be related to townlands, extremely localised physical features, or a mindset that impacts on people's behaviour and social patterns.

For further info contact Bebhinn McKinley on T: 8676 6670 or E: [bebhinn@ruralcommunitynetwork.org](mailto:bebhinn@ruralcommunitynetwork.org)

## GR PROGRAMME STAGES

Where you are already involved in Good Relations work or want to do something in this area for the first time. This diagramme identifies six key types of work:

**Single Identity**

**Cross Community**



### 1. Needs Analysis

Identifying the issues in a particular area.

### 2. Capacity Building

These first two stages are largely single identity and community based in nature and are located in areas of low community relations capacity, high levels of social exclusion, political conflict and tension.

Activities might include leadership development, information access and network building. Views outcome as: Increased understanding of local community and individual needs and increased capacity to undertake community relations work.



### 3. Political Education / Identity

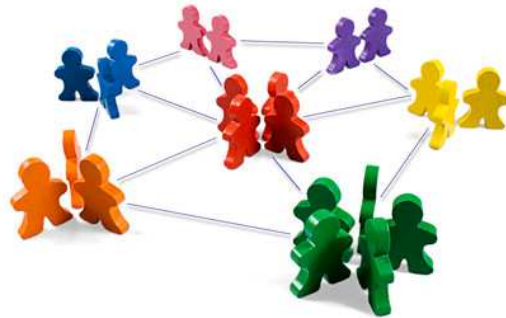
This stage is equality focused and based on a re-examination of political, social and economic structures with a view to empowering communities to address peace building concerns at an individual and community level. While not directly about community relations in the sense of relationship-building, it contributes to the field by addressing social exclusion and inequality. This activity is generally single-identity in nature and may include exhibitions, discussion workshops, and seminars on issue-based themes, such as history, human rights or cultural identity. Outcomes might include increased confidence or a sense of empowerment within a community.

### 4. Awareness Raising

The stage is defined as work which aims to promote awareness and understanding of, and respect for, religious, political and social cultures. These may be one-off instructional or educational projects and might be delivered as workshops, seminars or training programmes, or developmental projects where community groups and organisations arrive at a better understanding not only of their own cultures but of others over a longer period. Much of this work may be single-identity in nature, but there are possibilities for cross-community working. Outcomes might include greater awareness of equality and community relations issues or the development of networks which can facilitate the long-term sustainability of relationships established.

### 5. Relationship Building

This stage's main characteristic is relationship building in a cross-community setting. It involves the use of common interest issues and community development themes to build bridges between communities. It involves activities which set out to address political conflict and community division and address 'hard' issues of contention between communities.



### 6. Sustaining Relations

The final stage is strategic in nature and involves the establishment of sustainable relationships between divided communities by addressing issues of mutual concern in a strategic and coordinated fashion. Types of activity might include the development of partnerships and alliances within a geographical area at a community level to maximise the potential to address common issues.

If you would like to discuss a project relating to any of these stages please feel free to contact the community services team at on T:9446 3113 or E: [community.services@antrim.gov.uk](mailto:community.services@antrim.gov.uk)

## FUNDING

### **RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (RDC)** **Call for Expressions of Interest -** **Integrating Community Organisations**

Managed by the RDC and funded by the International Fund for Ireland the project phase is designed to assist community groups co-operate on a cross border and/or a cross community basis to work in partnership on issues of common interest.

Open to urban and rural groups operating

within the Northern and the Border regions of Ireland.

The project phase provides project grant and implementation support for partnerships between individual community organisations. For further info visit the RDC website at [www.rdc.org.uk](http://www.rdc.org.uk) or contact Yvonne Breen or John Kelly T: 8676 6980, or E: [info@rdc.org.uk](mailto:info@rdc.org.uk)

**Closing Date:** 4pm on 14 Aug

### **ANTRIM BOROUGH COUNCIL**

#### **Good Relations Grant Aid Programme**

To support events /projects that engage people in good relations activities which tackle racism, sectarianism and promote shared communities. Support may be provided to programmes which promote:

##### **Civic Leadership**

- Encourage, influence and promote high levels of civic leadership and equitable practice
- Promote greater understanding of GR issues within the Community

##### **Community Participation**

- Promoting greater participation in GR activities to include new/ marginalised communities
- Eliminating prejudice, tension and conflict to support the development of a harmonious & shared community
- Assisting development of capacity to communicate and to promote mutual understanding, trust and acceptance
- Encouraging, supporting and delivering neighbourhood cultural projects and events that explore the complex and diverse make-up of Northern Ireland

##### **Re-Imaging**

- Reducing tension/conflict at interface areas
- Reducing visible manifestations of sectarianism/racism
- Supporting programmes that develop groups in areas of limited uptake

**Closing Date:** Rolling deadline however please note that in some circumstances a decision may take upto 8 weeks

### **CAN PARTNERSHIP**

#### **PEACE III Grants**

The CAN (Carrickfergus, Antrim and Newtownabbey) Peace III Small Grants Programme is now open.

Applications are invited for projects ranging from £5000 to £30000 which can be delivered between Oct 09 and Dec 10 under the following programmes:

- Positive Futures
- Our Shared Future
- Play Fair
- Addressing Perceptions Programme
- Engagement, Integration and Diversity
- Shared Future (re-opened as all funds were not allocated in the last round, opening to new applications. Previous applicants may re-apply)

Applications require submission of both a Part A which is submitted online via the EU Grants website [www.eugrants.org](http://www.eugrants.org) and a Part B which, once completed, can be submitted in either hard copy or electronically. Download Part B at [www.newtownabbey.gov.uk](http://www.newtownabbey.gov.uk). Contact community services for further info by T: 9446 3113 or by E: [community.services@antrim.gov.uk](mailto:community.services@antrim.gov.uk).

**Closing dates:** The programme is open on a rolling basis from 1 July 2009 with two cut off dates for assessment

**Fri 11 Sept** for projects wishing to start in 2009 or **Fri 30 Oct** for projects wishing to start in 2010. Early submission is advisable to ensure a decision before your proposed start date.