

London Action Trust working to break the cycle of offending and so create safer communities

Raising money, cutting crime



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR LONDON

In January LAT's Development Division, in partnership with the Home Office Crime Reduction Unit, delivered a seminar on how to raise funds from statutory and non-statutory sources, to implement Crime Reduction Strategies.

The half-day event at the Government Office for London aimed to:

- Encourage a strategic approach to fundraising
- Help participants to consider their options
- Identify potential funding sources
- Identify the skills necessary for structured and unstructured funding applications.

The workshops were structured to give an **introduction to fundraising** from Trusts, National Government, Europe and the Community Fund, followed by facilitated working groups discussing crime reduction programmes, and the process required to develop and fund successful projects.

Feedback from the event was positive. Ellie Roy, Regional Crime Reduction Director for London said, "the event has proved to be a great success, I am sure other partners such as **the Prison Service would welcome an event such as this!**" and delegates said, "a well organised event", "good use of expertise from LAT."

Further training is planned for our Crime Reduction Partners later in the year.

This seminar was designed specifically for our Crime Reduction Partners. The expertise within the Development Division allows us to design workshops with our target audience in mind to achieve maximum effectiveness.

Training we deliver includes:

- **Developing a Fundraising Strategy**
- **Fundraising From Trusts**
Companies
National Lottery
Europe
Government
- **Topic Related Fundraising Training**
Hate Crime (Domestic Violence, Racism etc)
Literacy and Numeracy
Activities for Young People (sports, arts etc)
Street Safety
Community Involvement
Substance Abuse(alcohol, drugs etc)
Mental Health



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The duration of training varies from half day to two days, and can be delivered in house or externally.

i If you would like further information on fundraising or future events please email John Trainor, Development Director john@lat.org.uk or call the Development Division on 020 7582 8841.

Developing a fundraising strategy with crime reduction professionals.

LATnews

CSAS capacity building voluntary sector



London Action Trust has obtained funding from the Association of London Government, to set up a second tier project: Community Safety Advisory Service. It will support the growth of voluntary sector and community organisations to enable their participation in the reduction of crime across London.

The service will co-ordinate, build, and **develop new and existing community safety organisations** in London through training, advice, liaison and fundraising. Areas of focus will include Outer London and addressing the needs of Black and Minority Ethnic Communities in London.

i *The project will commence in September 2002 and is funded initially for 3 years. If you would like further information contact Marie-Luiza de Menezes on 020 7582 8841 or maz@lat.org.uk*

Certified Achievers

Nearly 50 people gathered at Leyton Orient football club earlier this year to see the latest group of FOTE clients receive their Open College Network accreditation certificates.

Fifteen clients from the Football, Dyspel and Community Service projects were present to receive their awards from project coordinators Ian Adotey, Liz Gentilcore and Camille Curtis respectively. Proud parents, families and friends applauded the groups dedication to achieving their qualification.

Ian Adotey told them **'The certificates are a mark of your enthusiasm** and commitment to increasing your skills'.

Certificates were sent to a further 52 clients who had achieved their accreditation but were unable to attend as they had moved onto new projects, training or work.

i *If you would like further information about FOTE contact Melanie Millar on 020 8558 6452 or mel@lat.org.uk*



CS Project Manager supporting successful client.

Action For Learning

The Action for Learning programme which ran from Oct 2001 to March 2002, recently presented its findings at the St Alban's Centre in London.

Supported by the London East Learning and Skills Council the programme's eight projects enabled offenders and those at risk of offending to **improve their access to learning** and to enhance their ability to gain and **maintain employment**. This was achieved through building on existing programmes, training of staff and the piloting of new and innovative forms of delivery.

The event offered the opportunity to hear the partnership's experiences of delivering the programme and provided useful **information for those working with difficult to reach groups** in the field of education, training and employment.

i *Copies of the evaluation report are available on request from the A4L Co-ordinator on 020 7793 0842.*

(Action for Learning consisted of 7 partnership organisations, which included LAT projects, London West Training Services (LWTS), mBA, London Probation Area (LPA) and North London Education Project (NLEP), London Action Trust co-ordinated the work of the projects.)

Songs and Sonnets

Following the highly successful Music Technology courses for Dyspel clients, a celebration was held to award graduates with their certificates and exhibit examples of their work. **Simon Hughes MP**, Liberal Democrat spokesperson for Home Affairs presented **certificates of achievement**. This was followed by clients showing off their DJ skills on the decks keeping up the **celebration atmosphere**.

Clients who had contributed to 'DysPoetry' (poems written by dyslexics) then performed their poems to the enthusiastic audience. Most performers had never read their poems in public, but the potential of their performance talent, as well as their creative writing skills was

clearly evident. Participants left feeling proud of what they'd achieved and keen to develop these skills further.

i *If you would like a copy of 'DysPoetry' or a copy of the CD's containing music created on the Music Technology Courses, Raw Talent, One and Too, please contact Simon Morgan on 020 7251 6770, or simon@dyspel.org.uk.*



Dyspel client mixing on the decks



Ian Powell The Director

Ian Powell is responsible for the overall management of London Action Trust. Ian tells us about the steady growth, achievements and future developments of London Action Trust.



Where did you work before joining LAT?

Before joining LAT, I was a Senior Probation Officer in Greenwich. Before that I worked as a Probation Officer and a Teacher including a spell for Voluntary Services Overseas in Tanzania. I am returning to Tanzania in July 2002 with my wife and two children for a holiday.

How was LAT set up?

London Action Trust was set up as an initiative of the former Inner London Probation Service. In 1993, I was seconded with an administrator and a few months later LAT obtained charitable status and assumed responsibility for the Benevolent and Education Trust.

Why set up a specialist charity such as LAT?

If you want to reduce crime and tackle deprivation, there are advantages to having a separate agency. Statutory Agencies are often limited in the provision they can offer. LAT can, for example, **take an holistic approach to individuals**, developing tailored education and training programmes to up-skill offenders preparing them for employment. We are able to **innovate, experiment and create new partnerships to reduce crime**. As a charity we are also able to access additional funding, such as the Lottery or Trusts.

How has the organisation developed over the last 8 years?

The work force has grown from 2 to 52, with a budget of **£200K, increasing to £1.8million**. The growth has been steady and projects have been introduced and developed over a period of time.

We have needed to introduce three divisions. The projects themselves form one and the fundraising, development and publicity work is the responsibility of another, the

Development Division. Most recently, we have formed the Partnerships Division to manage consortia of partner agencies, which utilise European and Learning and Skills Council funding.

What are the greatest achievements of LAT?

Raising over £20million to date, particularly from the Single Regeneration Budget and European Social Fund, for projects such as From Offending to Employment and From Dependency to Work, which are multi borough projects, targeted at reducing crime.

We have demonstrated and publicised the **high incidence of dyslexia among offenders** and have championed the needs of dyslexic offenders in our Dyspel Project. Since 1995, the project's annual budget has grown from £28K to £450K.

The Greater London Domestic Violence Project, a second tier capacity building project, is an expanding and well-established project. With other key partners, the project has drafted and is implementing the Greater London Domestic Violence Strategy, which is starting to have a **real impact on the safety of the survivors of domestic violence**.

How have you had to adapt as a result of the growth of LAT?

I now have a more strategic role, but I like to keep my skills up to date; for example I manage the budget for a project and I often write bids. I have a higher level of financial responsibility than I used to and many more tasks.

How do you see the future of LAT?

As well as continuing much of our current work, we hope to be involved in a **wider range of crime reduction work**, targeted at areas with high levels of crime or deprivation, as well as greater emphasis on working with young people.

Promising Practices



Vera Baird QC, MP
addressing domestic violence professionals.

It has been a busy year for the Greater London Domestic Violence Project (GLDVP) with the project developing the support it provides to the voluntary sector by increasing the opportunities for such groups to network, share information and develop support mechanisms.

Work has included establishing the internet support group, already receiving over 200,000 hits a month (see below for link) and working with Cityspace to provide information for survivors of domestic violence on the 200 i-point internet kiosks across London.

A recent event hosted by the GLDVP, provided partners with an **opportunity to share best practice**. 'Promising Practices' was opened by Vera Baird QC (MP for Redcar) and guest speakers included Anjum Mouj of Newham Asian Women's Project and Beryl Foster of Standing Together. Topics discussed on the day included:

- Accessible and inclusive service provision

- Awareness raising
- Safety planning
- Partnership work.

The GLDVP was pioneered by London Action Trust in 1997 with the aim of **increasing safety for survivors** of domestic violence, and to **hold abusers accountable** for their behaviour. The project works to ensure that good practice in domestic violence work is transferred across London, **bring together agencies to develop London-wide policies**, raise awareness about domestic violence and increase the effectiveness of inter-agency work.

i Please contact Davina James-Hanman or Rachel Carter for further information: 020 7983 4238/5772 or davina.james-hanman@london.gov.uk rachel.carter@london.gov.uk
You can also visit the internet support group at (<http://ivy.ivillage.co.uk/boards/ivy/ukrl/exploreabuse?forum=60&maxlevel=100>)

Sharing Good Practice Across Europe



In June NewLIFE was invited to present its work plan at the European Offender Employment Forum's conference in Athens on exploring best practice in (ex)-offender employment work.

The event proved to be a fantastic opportunity to share innovative approaches to this area of work, **drawing on expertise from across Europe.**

Steve Thacker (Partnerships Director) and Brook Hayes (NewLIFE Co-ordinator) had the opportunity to take part in a discussion group on the subject of "The Business Case for Recruiting Ex-Offenders" and used the conference as a networking opportunity to form links with the Apex Scotland project ASERT (Apex Scotland Employer Recruitment Training) and a successful

supported employment project in the Netherlands called Start Kans.

NewLIFE's own transnational work is now officially under way. The first transnational project leaders meeting took place in Rotterdam at the end of June. In October NewLIFE will be hosting a **4 day transnational meeting in London** where working parties will address topics such as how to approach and **engage with employers** and how to **assess (ex)-offenders work options** and aspirations as the basis of good careers advice.

i For further information contact Brook Hayes on 020-7793-0842 or brook@lat.org.uk



EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
European Social Fund

Steve and Brook at the Rotterdam transnational conference.



European partners exploring best practice in Athens.

