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## **ESF Community Grants Programme Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly - funding now available**

Cornwall Development Company, Cornwall Community Foundation and the Cornwall Rural Community Council are pleased to announce that the second round of the Community Grants programme is now available in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

Funded by the European Social Fund and the Skills Funding Agency as part of the Convergence Programme the aim of the programme is to raise the skills, knowledge and employability of the hardest to reach groups and individuals by supporting the voluntary and community sector to deliver relevant activity in their area.

The programme aims to support projects that benefit the unemployed and economically inactive, participants must be aged 18yrs or over who are from the hardest to reach communities and who have difficulties accessing mainstream provision and/or ESF.

Priorities will be given to projects that target one of the following groups:

- ◆ People with disabilities or health conditions,
- ◆ Lone Parents,
- ◆ People aged 50 or over,
- ◆ Females,

### **What can be funded?**

All activities must help an individual to develop their skills and help them progress towards employment or further learning. Example activities:

- ◆ Help with basic skills
- ◆ Taster work experience and voluntary work
- ◆ Job search assistance
- ◆ Confidence building and personal development
- ◆ First contact engagement activities – helping overcome specific barriers

### **Who can apply?**

- ◆ Constituted voluntary and community sector organisations that are local i.e. based and financially managed in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.
- ◆ Programme start summer 2011. All projects to complete by 31<sup>st</sup> June 2013

- ◆ Grants are available up to 100%
- ◆ Minimum grant = £1,000. Maximum grant = £12,000 pa

- ◆ Project must not have already started and should not be longer than 12 months

### **General Information & Criteria**

- ◆ Must demonstrate local need and demand
- ◆ Must be new activity
- ◆ Beneficiaries shouldn't already be engaged in an ESF/SFA funded activity.
- ◆ Projects must benefit the target individuals
- ◆ Progression of individuals must be demonstrated

### **Types of expected outcomes**

- ◆ People in work or volunteering after leaving the programme
- ◆ People undertaking further learning or job search activity
- ◆ People with improved work related skills e.g. improved confidence, time keeping, literacy etc

### **Key Features of the Fund**

- ◆ Support provided both pre and post application
- ◆ Encouraging use of other progression routes e.g. next step
- ◆ Applications for the first round of funding need to be submitted by 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2011. For dates of future rounds please refer to the Cornwall Foundation website [www.cornwallfoundation.com](http://www.cornwallfoundation.com).

### **Contact details**

For more information regarding the Community Grants fund please contact the Cornwall Community Foundation on [grants@cornwallfoundation.com](mailto:grants@cornwallfoundation.com) or telephone 01566 779333 and ask to speak to either Kristy Philpot or Donna Martyn.

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