



access



The Equal Brighton and Hove Newsletter
Issue 3, Friday 13th January 2006
Happy New Year!

.....update.....

Equal Brighton and Hove: Core Team update

The Equal Brighton and Hove Team has undergone some restructuring, which means the core team is now comprised of Terry Roy, Programme Manager; Fiona Thomas, Susie Griffith and Adam Edwards, Finance; Rachel Brown, Office Manager and Kellee Rich, Communications Officer. We'd like to thank Rachel Fuller and Tom King for all of their hard work on the programme so far, and wish them every success in the future.

Many thanks to everyone who submitted their budgets, claims and EANMF data in time for today's deadline. Now the right systems are in place, we are expecting 2006 to be a smoother ride on the finance and monitoring side of the programme! The Finance team is always available to assist with any issues that might arise, so please don't hesitate to contact us if you need guidance on procedures.

Refurbishment work for our new offices at New England House is now underway and we hope to be moving in at the beginning of next month. Office Manager Rachel Brown is busy liaising with builders, surveyors and technicians in preparation for the move. Details of our new address and move date will be advised in the next issue.

.....events.....

Equal Brighton and Hove Transnational Launch

Friday 27th January 2006, 2.30pm - 4.30pm, Brighton Town Hall, Bartholomew Square

Equal Brighton and Hove has invited its transnational partners from the municipalities of Pescara and Chieti in Italy, to celebrate the launch of its Equal programme partnership on Friday 27th January, at Brighton Town Hall.

Members of the Equal Brighton and Hove team visited Pescara and Chieti in July of 2005, to introduce our programme, meet partners and to discuss ways in which to share good practice as part of the overall Equal strategy. The aims of the partnership are to instil an outward-looking culture by encouraging a European dimension to the programme, and to raise awareness of issues relating to our theme - helping people access the labour market - on a wider scale.

As part of the visit, we would like our transnational partners to meet representatives from our Activity Providers. Thanks to those who have confirmed their attendance at the event; if anyone else wishes to attend, please contact Kellee Rich on 01273 291694, or email kellee.rich@brighton-hove.gov.uk

.....national news.....

from www.communitycare.co.uk

Fifth of young men homeless on release

Almost one in five young men in custody has nowhere to live when they are released from prison, according to a new report.

The Howard League for Penal Reform's study of 86 men aged 18 to 20 describes prison housing advice as inadequate and says this should be addressed by improving training for prison and probation officers. The report also finds that three-quarters of young prisoners had a history of disrupted housing and left home at 15 on average, becoming homeless or living in shelters and bed and breakfast. It calls for the government to place a statutory duty on local authorities to house prisoners on release, and to raise housing benefit for 18 to 25-year-olds to the same rate as older adults.

[Read the full report here.](#)

.....over to you: Brighton Housing Trust.....

Brighton Housing Trust is currently running two Equal Brighton and Hove projects: an advisory service for homeless people; and a catering volunteer programme at the First Base Day Centre.

Brighton Housing Trust - Advice

BHT Advice comprises an Accommodation Service, Housing and Community Law Service and an Immigration Legal Service. Together these services provide housing advice and independent legal advice and representation for homeless people, those at risk of becoming homeless and people with immigration or asylum issues.

The Equal Brighton and Hove project funded the creation of a special housing advisory resource to the whole of the Equal programme.

Homelessness and housing is a key barrier to employment and employability. This project provides a specialist advisor who will help Equal Brighton and Hove clients to overcome housing barriers which would otherwise threaten their chances of success in achieving employability. We use motivational techniques to demonstrate how improving ones employability can create a pathway out of homeless and housing dependency.

The project also offers training and consultancy on housing issues for Equal programme agencies, so they can deliver their aims more successfully.

John Holmstrom is the Project Lead at BHT Advice - you can contact John on 01273 645400 or email john.holmstrom@bht.org.uk

Brighton Housing Trust - Catering

First Base is a day centre, situated in the heart of Brighton and Hove, providing services and support to homeless and vulnerable men and women.

The Centre has a Life Skills and Training Project with a wide range of services and classes to support, motivate and encourage service users to enter training, education and employment.

As part of this project, First base has developed a Volunteer Programme to involve clients in the organisation, management and development of the food service currently provided by First Base. Equal Brighton and Hove funds the Volunteer Co-ordinator post.

Volunteers receive on-the-job training from the Volunteer Co-ordinator, along with ongoing guidance and support.

Volunteers are encouraged to attend relevant training courses on health and safety and food hygiene and will be supported in finding work places and employment opportunities in the catering industry.

Nikki Homewood is the Project Lead at BHT Catering - you can contact Nikki on 01273 645400 or email nikki.homewood@bht.org.uk

.....diary.....

25th January: Brighton and Hove Learning Partnership - Learning Champions Induction Session. Encouraging employers to provide training to their workforce. Sign up and [read more here](#).

25th January: "Ways to work: making welfare reform work for homeless people" - Conference, Portland Place, London - [read more here](#).

Please send ideas, comments and suggestions to kellee,rch@brighton-hove.gov.uk