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CaDVAS launches training programme for local charity trustees

CaDVAS, the local support organisation for the voluntary sector, has won a grant from the **Big Lottery Fund** to provide a programme of training and other activities for the hundreds of local people who serve their communities as trustees of charities and other voluntary and community organisations (VCOs). The programme will include networking and induction events and a campaign to recruit more local residents as trustees.

There are hundreds of voluntary sector organisations in the Canterbury district, providing a huge range of services and often working with vulnerable and marginalised people. Each of these groups has a governing body, and the people who form these governing bodies are called Trustees.

Trustees come from all walks of life, and are united by their wish to create positive change in society. The work of a trustee provides an opportunity to serve the community while gaining new knowledge and experience and learning new skills. They are involved in all aspects of the life of their organisation, for example, strategic planning, developing and managing staff and volunteers and making policy decisions, and they have overall responsibility for the running of their organisation.

Sue Tucker, CaDVAS Development Officer, points out that: "Many of our member organisations tell us that they sometimes have difficulty recruiting new trustees and that there isn't enough training or support available to help trustees in fulfilling their responsibilities, so we're delighted that our application for Lottery funding to set up this programme was successful."

The programme is being launched at a networking lunch meeting on **Thursday 28th January at Kent Enterprise House, Herne Bay.**

Sue says, “Whether you are a serving trustee, seeking training and development opportunities for your trustees, or seeking to recruit new trustees to your organisation, come to the launch and find out more about our planned training for new and existing trustees, trustee support network and mentoring scheme and information and recruitment campaign. ”

For more information call 01227 452381, 07595 543411 or email sue@cadvas.org

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Notes to Editors:

1. The launch of our Trustee Development Programme will take place at Kent Enterprise House, The Links, Herne Bay CT6 7GQ on Thursday 28th January 2010 from 11.45am – 2.30pm.
2. For more information contact Sue Tucker: 01227 452381, 07595 543411 or sue@cadvas.org
3. CaDVAS (Canterbury District Voluntary Action and Support) is an infrastructure organisation providing services to Voluntary and Community Organisations (VCOs) across the Canterbury district. These services include training for staff, volunteers and trustees, a monthly newsletter, a directory of local VCOs, managed in partnership with Canterbury City Council via its community portal, advice and information about a range of issues (including setting up and registering a charity, sample policy documents, funding, governance) and representation and promotion of the VCO sector.

