



G:up Offers 'Working with DUO' Training

a practical framework designed to support voluntary sector infrastructure organisations to influence and be influenced in a way that is empowering both to themselves and to their members

22nd & 23rd February 2012

bayc conference suite
Hilda Simister House, 581 Pershore Road, Birmingham B29 7EL
Participants must attend both days

G:up is offering prestigious 'Working with DUO' training, designed for voluntary and community sector Infrastructure Support Organisations, it gives staff critical training in how their organisation can influence and be influenced.

'Working with DUO' is a brand new course developed following the successful VOICE training and will be facilitated by Changes, both of which many G:up members have used and found extremely effective.

G:up is able to subsidise this training through its Big Lottery-funded G:XL project, for which it meets key objectives in increasing voice and influence in the sector.

G:up is offering a total of 20 places at just £80 each (normally £240!). This 2-day course will give you a range of skills and materials to improve the way you work for the benefit of your organisation and your members.

See more information below and read the booking form for eligibility details. Don't miss this excellent opportunity as places will be snapped up fast!

About 'Working with DUO' and Changes

The 2-day 'Working with DUO' course is appropriate for those who work in voluntary and community sector infrastructure support organisations and:

- Want to be involved in exploring ways in which their organisation operates in relation to influencing and being influenced
- Are in a position to effect change in their organisation

The course will explore what influence means to your organisation and to your members, and have an opportunity to discuss the tensions that arise from the





different parts of your organisation's dual role in influencing and being influenced, for example:

- Is the organisation working with members rather than for them?
- Should the organisation be guardians of the process for influencing the statutory sector?
- Does the organisation listen to some voices more than others?
- What are the tensions between members' expectations and the local state's expectation?
- What systems exist for responding to what members say?

Participants will be introduced to the DUO framework and have a chance to work with the different parts of it to get to grips with how it could work for them.

To date, people expressing an interest in DUO work for organisations like: Councils for Voluntary Service; Local Involvement Networks; Regional Voluntary Sector Forums; Rural Community Councils; Voluntary Sector Forums.

And are working on things like: Commissioning & Procurement; Community area partnerships; Community engagement; Community forum support; Community involvement in health & social care; Community-led planning; Compact; Disability services; Equality & diversity practice; Member Services; Parish & Town Council support.

The training, and accompanying resource pack, will equip participants to work

- On their own - to think through how their infrastructure organisation operates in terms of influence
- Alongside colleagues in their own infrastructure organisation
- With colleagues in a different infrastructure organisation

"The new DUO package gives us here at Community First and Wessex Community Action everything we have been looking for. In the past we have recognised that many of the groups we work with have a role in both providing a 'voice' as well as being 'open to influence' and we have therefore needed to find a way to support both areas. The DUO programme is great because it is one programme and feels like one programme and therefore we anticipate it will be very successful in future in terms of achieving outcomes". Karen Winchcombe, Community First Wiltshire





DUO is one of 4 frameworks in the Axis of Influence series, which include VOICE and ECHO, read more here: www.axisofinfluence.co.uk. DUO has been developed by **changes** in association with South West Forum and with input from:

- Community Council of Shropshire
- Dudley CVS
- Locality
- NAVCA
- The Diversity Trust
- Voluntary Action Swindon
- Wessex Community Action
- Wiltshire Community First
- Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council

The training will be delivered by Jill Bedford and Sue Goring from **changes** www.changesuk.net

Contacts

If you need any further assistance, please contact G:up on gup@bayc.org or 0121 460 5870. www.gup.org.uk

