

## Proactive Solutions

As an independent charitable company we work with a variety of partners, designing solutions by developing and co-ordinating voluntary action. We have a successful track record of hosting and delivering projects to meet community need, for example: Winter Warm, Timebanking and Love Every Drop. Our experienced team support people to take charge of local issues, encouraging groups to come together, building on existing skills and confidence to develop ideas into a sustainable reality.



***“Clearly this initiative would have been unlikely to happen were it not for our good relationship with the CVS, and their efforts to support our service. We are hugely appreciative that you were able to facilitate the project and extend our sincere thanks to all involved. The whole process was positive and a pleasure to be a part of.”***



## Search for Help

Chelmsford benefits from the work and activities of a rich variety of voluntary and community organisations; hundreds of groups all contributing to a better quality of life for local people. Quickly and easily find up-to-date information about local services using our online searchable directory at: [www.essexconnects.org.uk](http://www.essexconnects.org.uk). We can work with you to deliver

effective targeted communications to local organisations; helping you to quickly connect with traditionally 'hard to reach' people and communities.

***“No detail too small and managed so expertly – it really was an excellent event from start to finish, and we congratulate the Chelmsford CSVA team.”***

***“Hi @ChelmsfordCVS just a quick tweet to thank you for all your hard work supporting us and other volunteer based organisations.”***

***“Look forward to the next headline / bulletin – you have set a high standard.”***

***“The Centre has played a most important role with guidance, up to date information and much needed support whenever we ask.”***



# How can we help you?

....supporting voluntary and community action



## Voluntary Action in Action

Chelmsford; the City, its villages and South Woodham Ferrers has a diverse range of voluntary groups and charities all working to make our community a better place. We have got it all going on in Chelmsford!

The Centre works with a wide variety of organisations, offering help and guidance, and also supports individuals wanting to make a positive change within our local community. We work to maximise voluntary and community action, to develop diverse, strong communities, enhance local wellbeing and quality of life.



Centre Supporting Voluntary Action is the working name of Chelmsford CVS

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Registered charity no.1112483. Company limited by guarantee no. 05586169.

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# We can help with....

## Need some support?

Running a charity can be complex. We offer expert help on anything and everything to do with the management of your group. Guidance on starting up, agreeing a set of rules or adopting a constitution, project planning, managing risk, budgeting, developing policies - any aspect of operating a voluntary organisation or charity.



## Fundraising

Whether it is a loan of extra collection boxes, help with filling in an application form for grant funding, knowing where to begin to search for possible funders, or brokering you to a local business, we can help. Over the last five years our accredited funding advisor has supported small groups to raise over £1.5 million, bringing money into the city to support much needed causes.

## Connecting

The voluntary sector to new opportunities and to key people within the public and private sectors. We can link you up to local specialist forums and community action groups. We also host a range of networking and learning events to showcase the voluntary sector and as a conduit for information sharing and collaboration.



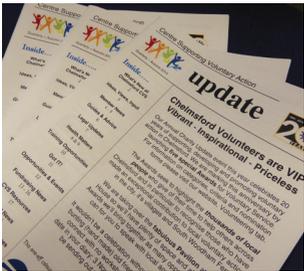
## Influencing

We work with our diverse membership to collectively strengthen the voice of the local voluntary sector to influence policy makers. The Centre aims to connect voluntary and community groups with each other, and raises awareness of the key role the sector has on the health, wellbeing, strength and vitality of local communities.



## Promoting

The Centre is a network of networks: in regular contact with around 350 voluntary, community groups and charities, each with their own networks and members! Everything from small community care groups to major charitable companies. Use our 'Update' newsletter, notice boards, e-bulletin and website (20,000+ hits pa) to spread the word about events, services, projects and activities.



## Volunteering

We hold regular 'drop-in' and information sessions at our city centre base and at key locations throughout the district to promote volunteering opportunities to local people. Handling hundreds of enquiries each month from people willing to give their time, our expert team will also help you to create roles that will appeal, and get your voluntary vacancies filled! We can support those who need extra help to volunteer and offer group sessions and Time-2-Time activities here at the Centre.

## Informing

As a central reference point for information about local voluntary and community activity, the Centre responds to thousands of enquiries each year, signposting as required to local services. We seek information from a wide variety of sources and cascade relevant items and opportunities directly to you.



## Resources

Whether you need a city centre place to meet, want to borrow equipment such as large display boards, PA system, hearing loop, specialist publications or bunting for your event, we've got lots of practical resources for local charities to share. Before you buy try us!

