

# Celebrating Success

CaVSA goes from strength to strength to impact on the voluntary and community sector! The successes of the last year include:

- The provision of support and advice to over 80 individual organisations including one-to-one support, mentoring and an ongoing training service on issues directly affecting groups.
- Assisting local organisations to raise over £300,000 from a range of non-statutory funders by providing links with funders, training and one-to-one support.
- Providing support on the local authority's new commissioning process for grants
- The provision of support and training to management committee members and treasurers through a series of forum meetings
- The initial development of a network to support the growth of supplementary schools in the borough
- The continued development of the CVSNI forums including the expansion of the number of quarterly forums and ensuring that they respond to the needs of members.
- The development of the sectors position in the borough including ensuring that representatives are involved on key groups affecting residents.
- The extension of the support offered to frontline organisations through leading the local ChangeUp initiative

We look forward to working with groups to strengthen the voluntary and community sector in the future!

**Penelope Harrison**  
Chief Executive

## What can you expect from CaVSA in 2007/08



- We will be working to improve the training service by gaining accreditation with the Open College Network
- We will be developing develop training courses at Level 2 and above on organisational issues to benefit the more experienced organisations in the sector
- We will be providing tailored employment advice to organisations in the borough
- We will be working with partners to extend the funding advice service to frontline organisations in the refugee and Black and minority ethnic communities
- We will develop the capacity building services available to frontline organisations under the ChangeUp initiative by organising consultation on their needs, and writing a business plan to attract future funding
- We will continue to work strategically to improve support to the more established organisations wanting to tender to provide public services
- We will build on the successes of the CVSNI forums to structure and rationalise them to ensure that each has an agreed action plan for the year
- **And most importantly we will continue to support the rich diversity of the voluntary and community sector in Hammersmith and Fulham!**

Keep up to date by visiting our website

[www.cavsa.org.uk](http://www.cavsa.org.uk)



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CaVSA is funded by



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Hammersmith & Fulham**

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## Acting Strategically

CaVSA worked, often behind the scenes, on various initiatives to benefit the sector. For example we met with statutory partners to look at how we could help larger organisations become ready to compete for contracts: we worked with voluntary sector partners on setting up a company to rent out property at below market rate to local groups; and we chaired West London Network which works across 6 London boroughs and runs forums

## Helping groups grow

Last year we supported groups to raise over £300,000 from a range of funders. The key success was supporting groups through the challenges of commissioning for local authority funding. We developed and delivered six workshops for groups on the process, which were attended by 60 groups. We also appraised draft bids, giving detailed comments against each of the criteria. In addition we ran a Funding Fair which attracted over 100 organisations to talk informally with funders about receiving financial support for their work, along with providing detailed funding searches for groups with complex or unusual requirements.



## Sustaining groups

CaVSA provided support and advice to over 80 individual groups in the last year, ranging from new groups just starting out to more established, and growing organisations!

CaVSA's training programme continued to make a positive contribution to groups with courses on funding and organisational matters, amongst others. We continued to provide financial training and support through our dedicated Community Accountant from CASH.

We have been able to extend the support we offer frontline organisations by leading on the local ChangeUp initiative.



## CVSN



The Community and Voluntary Sector Network had a busy year, caused in part by the increase in the number of forums to include the themes of the Local Area Agreement. This has enabled more focused contributions to the planning processes, and has been a key success in ensuring that the voice of the sector is heard!

In association with the Community Safety Unit, CVSN led on the setting up of a third party reporting centre for the White City area for racial harassment, faith and hate crimes.

## Partnership Working

CVSN allocated themes to each of the six Borough Partnership representatives allowing each to lead on specific issues: this resulted in them being able to contribute to the debates on key issues in more depth.

We also worked to raise the profile of the VCS by expanding the number of partnerships with appointed or elected VCS reps - including the Mental Health Strategic Commissioning Group and the Greater Hammersmith Business Improvement District



## Providing networks

CaVSA was pleased to continue to support and provide training to Management Committee members and treasurers in the borough. The forums continue to be a useful service for the groups concerned.

CaVSA also began developing a network to support the development of supplementary schools in the borough, an important development in such a diverse community!

