

If you would like to become a member of EBCDA, please fill out the form below.

We would like to become members of EBCDA:

Organisation Name:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Email:

I am also interested in the following (please tick):

Getting involved in the Community Workers' Forum

Receiving email Information Bulletins

East Belfast Community Development Agency exists to provide resources, support and capacity building programmes for community groups that are based on partnership, equal opportunities and sustainable outcomes.

For further information please contact:

Community Support
East Belfast Community Development Agency

East Belfast Network Centre **T** 028 9045 1512
55 Templemore Avenue **E** info@ebcda.org
Belfast BT5 4FP **www.ebcda.org**



Community Support





EBCDA is the 'umbrella organisation' supporting community development in East Belfast.

Our membership is made up of community groups drawn from an area that contains almost 109,000 people. It is representative of a broad range of interests and needs within communities and encompasses a variety of groups, including local residents' associations, faith based organisations, sports clubs, older people's projects and women's groups.

What is Community Support about?

The Community Support Unit aims to assess the needs of the community sector in East Belfast and work with community groups and other key organisations to draw up programmes, projects, plans and strategies that build capacity and work towards developing a strong, effective and confident sector.



The work we undertake includes:

PROVISION OF TRAINING

For example introduction to community development, volunteer management, writing funding applications, partnership working, social model of health, etc.

ADVOCACY

We provide support for lobbying and collective action.

PROVISION OF ADVICE AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

For example to help to establish new organisations, signposting services, support to source, apply for and manage funding, project management support, organisation of information seminars, topical conferences, funding, health and volunteer related events, etc.

INFORMATION SHARING

Through access to a resource library, provision of a quarterly newsletter and event diary and a bi-monthly email information bulletin.

PROMOTION OF BEST PRACTICE

Through sharing policies, provision of training and organisation of shared learning visits.

CO-ORDINATING LOCAL NETWORKS

For example the Community Workers' Forum and the Inner East Forum. We also organise various social and work related networking opportunities.

CO-ORDINATING CONSULTATIONS

Allowing collective responses to government, funding and strategic documents.

SUPPORTING PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Through involvement with local Neighbourhood Partnerships, support to develop local action plans, facilitation of partnerships between groups and other agencies and support to problem solve at a local level.

East Belfast Community Workers' Forum

EBCDA co-ordinates the Community Workers' Forum which is a support group for people who either work or volunteer with a community group in East Belfast. The Forum meets once every six weeks and the venue is rotated amongst those who attend to allow groups to show-case their facilities.

Forum meetings start at 12 noon with lunch and the agenda normally includes various relevant speakers, discussions around issues affecting community workers in East Belfast and an information sharing session.

The Forum provides workers / volunteers with the opportunity to:

- Network and meet other people working or volunteering in the community sector;
 - Offer peer support;
 - Raise and discuss problems/ issues you are facing
 - Share information and highlight projects/events that you are working on;
 - Find out about funding and training information, events and other activities;
 - Use your fellow workers as a sounding board for new ideas;
 - Enjoy a relaxed lunch while informally networking;
 - Hear and meet relevant guest speakers;
 - Keep up-to-date with what's going on in East Belfast.
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