

Growing Care Farming Regional Network News - Yorkshire & Humber, October 2019

Welcome

Hello all,

As the nights start to draw in and we head towards winter there's no rest for care farm staff across the region, who are still working hard from dawn 'till dusk, ensuring their beneficiaries are able to make the most of the daylight and gain maximum benefit from being outdoors in all weathers. Here at Social Farms & Gardens the GCF team are also working hard, both nationally and regionally.

One of the key areas that GCF are now focusing on is a programme of regional engagement; enabling networks of care farmers and other stakeholders to provide mutual support, strategic growth and to develop links with health, social care and education referral organisations, to increase the number of care farming referrals. Our first major regional event is happening next month, so please make sure that the Going Live event is in your diary (more details below). We would encourage you to book your place soon as it will be a great opportunity to network, share and learn.

We hope you enjoy this month's bulletin and if you have any events you would like to promote, or good news stories you would like to share please get in touch with us at rso@farmgarden.org.uk as we'd be happy to feature you in a future bulletin. Alternatively, you can also tag us into any social media posts that you would like us to share or promote, via our twitter.com/GrowCareFarming.

Hope to see you on at the Going Live event on 26th November!

The Growing Care Farming Team

Yorkshire & Humber News

Yorkshire and Humber Care Farmers Network Meeting, 4th October

Two weeks ago care farmers & prospective care farmers from across the region gathered at Beetle Bank Social Farm on the outskirts of York for an informal networking meeting. These meetings have been taking place bi-annually for a couple of years and are a great opportunity to visit other care farms, network, share, learn and collectively feed back to the GCF team about how we can help you to grow the sector.

Beetle Bank is an open farm which caters for families most of the time but opens one day a week as a social farm. Justin Mazotta and his volunteer Claire gave the guests a guided tour of the farm and talked about their ongoing work with service users living with

dementia. There were interesting and animated discussions around the Growing Care Farming project, referrals and social prescribing, having a collective care farming presence at events such as the Great Yorkshire Show, or Countryfile Live in 2020, and also the future of the group and its meetings. These meetings only happen because of the dedication and commitment of a few key care farmers who take the lead; organising these meetings and keeping in touch with members on a voluntary basis.

The network is keen to welcome new members and the next meeting will be held in early April at Meanwood Valley Urban Farm in Leeds. If you would like to join the network and be notified of future meetings, please contact Robin Asquith on 01287 661208 or email robin.asquith@cvt.org.uk.

[Read more](#)

BBC Radio York at Beetle Bank Social Farm

An exciting day was had for staff and service users at Beetle Bank Social Farm when Emma from BBC Radio York came to visit and filmed a short video for use on their website. Emma filmed the service users and staff whilst they fed and watered the ponies, pigs, goats and sheep, and also interviewed key staff and service users. Hopefully the piece will highlight the significant therapeutic benefits of the group activity, being outdoors, interacting with the farm animals and the purposeful nature of the work.

[Read more here.](#)

Farmers Guardian Highlights Social Farming & The NHS

Robin Asquith and his team at the Camphill Village Trust, High Farm at Botton in the North York Moors have been featured in a recent article by the Farmers Guardian, highlighting the positive contribution agriculture can make in social care. When I spoke to Robin he was pleased that they had taken such a keen interest in his work and hoped that it would help raise the profile of the wider care farming sector.

[Read more here.](#)

Care Farming Facilitators Appointed

Two weeks ago GCF staff Debbie and Sarah met with four care farmers from the region who are each taking on a role as a Care Farming Facilitator. We believe that the people who best understand the local picture are those that have a track record of delivering care farming services in their area, for a range of commissioners, within health, social care and education.

Facilitators will work closely with the Regional Support Officer Sarah and Manager Debbie, and will network, gather and share learning and facilitate care farming events in their locality, supporting other local care farmers and prospectives, and helping to make links through pre-existing relationships with commissioners to help expand the care farming sector in the region. If you are contacted by one of the CFF's over the coming weeks please have a chat with them so that we can feed your data, successes and barriers into the overall data for the region to present at the Going Live event.

Denys Raises funds for Hull Children's University



Farmer Denys, Denholme Care Farm's resident farmer and manager, completed the Chicago Marathon on Sunday 13th October 2019. In his late 60's Denys felt this would be a real challenge. His training involved running around the Care Farm numerous times! He set out to raise money for a charity called Hull & East Yorkshire Children's University. The charity works closely with Densholme and brings groups of children to visit on a regular basis where they can enjoy a variety of activities.

Farmer Denys has raised over £1,500 so far which will help give children across East Yorkshire and Hull many learning experiences to inspire, engage and educate; hopefully helping the children discover talents they never knew they had.

[Read more here.](#)

Upcoming Events

Yorkshire & Humber Going Live Event, 26th November, York

November sees the official launch of the Growing Care Farming regional engagement work at it's first 'Going Live' event. We decided to start our work in Yorkshire as there is an existing active and engaged network of care farmers, and also significant interest and support from commissioners and an active social prescribing scene.

This event which takes place on the afternoon of Tuesday 26th November at Askham Bryan College in York will provide more information about care farming across the region, highlight opportunities and challenges and will give delegates the chance to take part in workshops to share learning on referral pathways and social prescribing. There

will be opportunities for delegates to promote their work too with a 'marketplace' area for stands/stalls.

This is a FREE event and is open to existing or prospective care farmers, commissioners, health, social care or education professionals and any other individuals or organisations with an interest in the care farming sector. For more information see the flyer attached to this email or to book places please email: rso@farmgarden.org.uk

FREE Training Course for SF&G Members - Insurance and Risk Management

McClarrons are hosting a free training course exclusively for SF&G members on 28th November on Insurance and Risk Management. The course will take place at Meanwood Valley Urban Farm in Leeds. For more information go to <https://www.farmgarden.org.uk/events/new-2019-growing-healthy-garden-dobies-england-wide> or contact alison@farmgarden.org.uk for further information.

Potential Social Prescribing, Tendering and Funding Workshop

As part of the GCF project we are wondering if there would be an appetite for an event in early December this year on social prescribing, understanding the tendering process and general fundraising. At this point there is no date or location set, but it would be useful if you could email: rso@farmgarden.org.uk to express an interest if this is something you might be interested in attending. Further details can then be emailed out once we have potential numbers.

Funding and Tender Opportunities

Day Opportunities Service (Barnsley, Doncaster & Rotherham) - Market Event

Doncaster Council wishes to engage with potential contractors to discuss the future tender opportunity: To provide a Day Opportunities Service to support the service user to improve the quality of their life and promote independence. **PLEASE NOTE - You need to register an interest in this contract by 31st October 2019 at 12pm.**

This opportunity is being advertised through Proactis - a portal which hosts tender and framework opportunities on behalf of a large number of local authorities and organisations.

- Date: Monday 4th November 2019. 11.30am - 1.30pm.
- Venue: Doncaster Council, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster

To reserve a place email: Deborah.Redhead@doncaster.gov.uk stating 'Day Opportunities Event' with the names of people that you would like to attend. In the event that they are oversubscribed they may limit places to one representative per organisation.

To register as a supplier on the Proactis portal please go to:
<https://procontract.due-north.com/Register>.

Calderdale Borough Council - Tender Opportunity for Community Based Day Opportunities for all Vulnerable Adults

Calderdale Borough Council are seeking flexible, diverse, cutting edge, creative and innovative opportunities for vulnerable adults in the Calderdale and Kirklees area which enable users to lead a full and aspirational life. Contracts will run from April 2020 - March 2025. **PLEASE NOTE - You need to register an interest in this contract by 29th October 2019 at 12pm.**

This opportunity is being advertised through Proactis - a portal which hosts tender and framework opportunities on behalf of a large number of local authorities and organisations. The opportunity ID for this contract is DN441712.

To register as a supplier on the Proactis portal please go to:
<https://procontract.due-north.com/Register>

HM Prison and Probation Service Grants Programme 2020 - 2022 - SHORT DEADLINE

The grants HMPPS are offering are for activity over two years (April 2020– March 2022) and are aimed at supporting rehabilitation of people in the criminal justice system. They are open to voluntary sector organisations to support the **piloting of new services, approaches or extending/developing current programmes**. This means the grants cannot be used to fund existing work. HMPPS have emphasised that the grants are for trialling new ideas and approaches or developing current programmes within new settings or with a new group of service users. For example, taking an intervention that worked well in prison and trialling it in the community or one that worked in the youth estate and trialling it in the adult estate.

Grants from £50,000 to £250,000 are available from a total value of £2.5m over the two years. There are four themes that organisations can apply for funding under;

1. Improving support for families and significant others
2. Improving outcomes for those with protected characteristics
3. Improving health and well-being
4. Improving safer custody across the prison estate.

This grant programme is now open for applications via the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) Sourcing Portal, but the application deadline is **Friday 1st November**.

HMPPS have advised potential applicants to [sign up to the MOJ Sourcing Portal](#) as soon as possible if they haven't used it before, to familiarise themselves with the system. Once logged into the portal organisations can find the grant programme themes by searching for ITT. Organisations can submit clarification questions to HMPPS using the portal.

[Read more here.](#)

First Steps Enterprise Fund

This combined grant and loan is for community organisations (charities and social enterprises) based in England that are looking to take on their first loan to help them grow and become more sustainable. The fund is managed by Social Investment Business on behalf of the ASDA Foundation. Particular preference is given to organisations that work in the following areas:

- Older people
- Health and wellbeing
- Employment for young people

Funding packages of up to £30,000* are available (90% loan and 10% grant). The loan element is charged at 5% (fixed) to be repaid over a period of 4 years with an optional capital holiday for the first year. This programme is open to community organisations that:

- Are based and work in England
- Have been operating for at least one year
- Can provide evidence of need for and benefit to their local community

If you have a question about the application process or would like to discuss the fund in more detail, please contact: christian.stannard@sibgroup.org.uk

[Read more here.](#)

Grants available through Groundwork

Groundwork is a national charity which administers a number of national and regional grants on behalf of a number of grant givers. Here's a quick run down of some of the grants which might be useful to you;

1. **European Social Fund (ESF) Community Grants** - Yorkshire only. Between £5000 and £20,000 to small and voluntary organisations for projects which help unemployed people advance towards employment, education or training. Applications will be accepted on a rolling programme until October 2020.
2. **The Comic Relief Community Fund** - grants of up to £4000 to support community projects across England. Projects must fit one of Comic Relief's four core themes; Children under 5, women & girls, homelessness or mental health.
3. **Tesco Community Grants** - grants of £4000 up to £25,000 to benefit local communities - although Groundwork are not currently not accepting applications you can register an interest and be notified when grant applications re-open.
4. **One Stop Carriers For Causes** - grants of up to £1000 to benefit local communities.
5. **Community Bright Ideas Fund** - grants of up to £15,000 plus 15 days of tailored support are on offer to community groups who wish to develop a community business idea.

[Read more and apply for all grants.](#)

Roger Stott Community Grants

The Yorkshire Dales Millenium Trust (YDMT) set up the Roger Stott Community Grants programme in 2016 to distribute small grants to community groups who are making a difference to the lives of local people. YDMT are looking to support passionate local people across the region to continue or kick-start initiatives that make a real difference in their local communities. By offering small grants, a simple and painless application process and lots of support and advice successful applicants will have funds quickly, enabling them to start making a difference in their community straight away.

[Read more here.](#)

Useful Resources

FREE Safeguarding Resources for all Charities - #SafeguardingAsOne

Building strong safeguarding practices and a safe culture can be complex, particularly for organisations taking their first steps, so the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) has launched a safeguarding resource hub especially for local infrastructure organisations, produced with partners including NAVCA, the FSI, NSPCC, Children England and others.

[To access the hub click here.](#)

Funded by



Find out more or keep in touch with the Growing Care Farming team -
email: carefarming@farmgarden.org.uk | Website: www.farmgarden.org.uk/gcf |
Twitter: [@GrowCareFarming](https://twitter.com/GrowCareFarming)