

## Future Jobs Fund (FJF) Briefing – December 2009

Our FJF Development Officer, Jenny Thomas, continues to be very busy interviewing young people for the scheme. 'Do not attends' are still a problem and Job Centre Plus have been notified of this. Of the 165 young people booked in to see Jenny, to date only 86 have turned up! Jenny has started using text reminders prior to the scheduled interviews and this seems to be working. There is a steady flow of posts being filled as the jobs come on stream – 13 so far, with interviews continuing into next week!

It seems that there may be good news with regard to the scheme continuing from April 2010, so think of what jobs you might want filled now. A word of caution though, some of the jobs posted have had very high and unrealistic expectations of the roles the young people would be able to undertake e.g. an expectation that they will have driving licenses. The lads in particular are looking for very practical, hands on roles. Another plea, please do not ask for CVs prior to interview. Job Centre Plus has already gathered information and Jenny also fills in a brief questionnaire which can be shared with you. We do not want to make this process overly bureaucratic!

### Good news stories on a few of the jobs filled so far:

#### Valley's Kids, Youth and Community Workers

##### Valley's Kids, Admin Assistant

– all started work and settling in really well. The members of staff at Valley's Kids are really pleased with the progress of all of them. They are making a big difference to the organisation.

**Fernhill, Admin/Project Worker** – she had attended and volunteered in her local youth centre in Rhydfelin since she was a teenager. Was looking to work with children and youth and gain some of these qualifications. She will now go on to work with the Fernhill project, and complete her Foundation qualification in Youth Work whilst gaining some new experiences in office based work.

**Fernhill, Youth Worker** – he has volunteered within the Fernhill Project since its opening. This role gives him the opportunity to develop his skills and attend training courses to help advance them.

The interviews for these jobs consisted of attending the Project during an evening session in order to get a feel for the types of things they would be doing, it also gave the existing users and volunteers of the centre a chance to meet the candidates and assess how well they would fit in. They then went on to have a formal interview with a panel.

Bev from Fernhill said she was very pleased with the standard of these applications and is really excited to use the vast skills and experience of these young people.

If you want more information, contact Jenny Thomas on 01443 846200 or on her direct line 01443 846206