



PRESS RELEASE

Issued 2 Sept 2008

Business start up course at VAC

LAST CHANCE to attend a Business Start Up Programme Training Course in Penrith. The penultimate course in this current series of business start up training sessions, delivered and by run by Voluntary Action Cumbria (VAC) is due to start on Monday, September 8 at the Old Stables, Redhills, Penrith. The final one will be run near Carlisle later in the year.

The previous A4E – Action For Employment – courses have been well attended, but there are a limited number of places available for the new six week course. People who have been on the course have said; “It was very useful, supportive and informative. It has made me enthusiastic and wanting to know more”. “Today’s session was really useful, well thought out and worded presentation, good materials and excellent personable tutor”.

The A4E project is providing business training for women, disabled and disadvantaged people across Cumbria through VAC and is financed by the North West Development Agency.

VAC's specialist freelance business advisors are delivering the six-part training course, and would be business owners can drop into sessions and do not have to complete the whole course.

The course is designed especially for those thinking of going into business and those who are within the first 24 months of trading. In addition those taking part will be offered one-to-one business advice from A4E advisors.

Claire Hudson of VAC said: “These training sessions have proved to be very valuable, not only have they provided an opportunity for clients to explore their business plans in more depth, but it has created a shared learning experience and many of our clients are regularly keeping in touch with each other for support and developing trading opportunities.

“The sessions will run every Monday from 6pm until 9pm for six weeks. Topics covered will include: marketing, market research, business viability, finance and practical and legal issue.

“You can choose to do the whole course or benefit from individual support from a specialist business advisor – or both. The programme is completely free of charge and tailored to individual needs to enable people to maximise their business potential.

“The free business training and support is worth £75,000 and aims to help more people to set up new business in Cumbria.”

Support for the new businesses will be available for the next 6 months, but the free business training, worth more than £600 per person, will be available on a first come first serve basis.

To book a place on the A4E course or for more information call Dani Hudson at VAC on 01768 840827.

- Ends -

Photo:



Claire Hudson, Business Start Up Course Coordinator

Further press information available from:

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Notes to Editors

Voluntary Action Cumbria

- VAC is Cumbria's Rural Community Council and a registered charity.
- VAC is working with people and communities to improve the quality of life in rural Cumbria.
- VAC is an independent organisation able to work with a wide range of partners on an open and equitable basis.
- Established in 1948, for 60 years VAC has been supporting communities that are socially, economically and environmentally vibrant where the needs of all are considered.
- To find out more information, please visit VAC's website: www.ruralcumbria.org.uk