

PRESS RELEASE

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Charities Gather To Learn Why Funding Matters

Big Society expects more and more from voluntary and nonprofit organisations, especially on a local level. But how to raise funds in a gloomy economic climate – and how to make the most of what you have? Involve, the local Council for the Voluntary Sector providing advice and support to charities and community groups, attracted record numbers to its annual conference to answer those questions.

On Wednesday 21st September, over hundred attendees representing almost fifty groups gathered at the Tiverton Hotel for 'Get Involved 2011: Funding Matters', a day of talks and workshops designed to help them rise to the challenges of the year to come. Starting the day was keynote speaker Satish Kumar, noted peace campaigner and editor of environmental magazine Resurgence. Internationally known for his workshops on ecology and holistic education, here he spoke to conference-goers about motivation, making the right choices and finding direction.

"We at Involve wanted to provide delegates with a venue to learn new skills and network with like-minded people," said Duncan Wood, Involve's Chief Officer. "There's nothing like Get Involved in the area. Attendees have rated it above national conferences in years past, and this year is bigger than ever. We take pride in seeing how these conferences draw people together and create new opportunities for them. Satish set the scene well for the day as everyone commented how inspirational he was."

Other attendants included representatives of the local councils and national charities such as the Heritage Lottery and Big Lottery Fund. As interest in this event outstripped the number of places available, Involve hopes to expand its conference next year.

NOTES

Organisation Info

Involve is a voluntary and community, local infrastructure organisation providing the full range of developmental, capacity building and support functions to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of voluntary and community organisations working within Mid Devon. It grew out of the Volunteer & District Volunteer Centre, which has been active since 1983.

As part of its Council for Voluntary Services (CVS) role, Involve supports existing and evolving charities, voluntary organisations and community groups across Mid Devon. As part of its Volunteer Centre role, Involve recruits and places volunteers and provides support, information and advice for volunteers and volunteer-involving organisations in Tiverton, Cullompton and the surrounding districts.

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