



Background

The Cinnamon Network is trying to make it as easy as possible for the average local church to help those people most at need in the community. It helps local churches get started, choose a project, work together and access funding. Currently over 3,300 local churches are leading a Cinnamon Network recognised project, mobilising over 50,000 volunteers and impacting 723,000 beneficiaries every year. The Cinnamon Network aspires to increase this by three fold in the next five years which would result in 25% of the UK Church serving over 2 million people in need.

A Partnership Opportunity

In 2014 The Cinnamon Network is partnering with thirty local churches across the UK who are role model examples of church and community engagement. By helping put the spotlight on these churches and one of their projects The Cinnamon Network is aiming to inspire and resource other churches to take seriously the needs of their local community and start a recognised community project.

New Funding Available

The Cinnamon Network is launching its new round of £1,500-2,000 Micro-Grants from 1st January 2014. These grants are available to any local church (or group of churches working together) of any Christian denomination that wants to start one of The Cinnamon Network recognised projects. These grants are available in England, Scotland and Wales thanks to the Cabinet Office, Vardy Foundation, Scottish Government and the JW Laing Trust. There are over thirty recognised best practice projects including well known initiatives such as Street Pastors, CAP, Foodbank and Night Shelter and newer projects such as MakeLunch, Linking Visiting Scheme and 4Family. For the full list see <http://cinnamonnetwork.co.uk/micro-grants/>

When?

The Cinnamon Network would like the events to take place from February 2014 to June 2014 on a date to be locally determined (Micro-Grants will begin to run out as the year goes on so the sooner the better). It is recognised that the time of the event is a significant determinant in the audience that will participate, for example a week day will likely draw more church leaders, a Saturday more church members and an evening possibly both but the event will be shorter.

Lead Together

The event would be co-created and co-hosted by the local church leader and one of the team of Cinnamon Ambassadors. You can choose who from our team you would like to work with including: Mike Royal, Laurence Singlehurst, Adam Dyer, Claudine Reid, Rachel Warwick, Yemi Adedeji, Carl Beech and Mark Kitson.

Partnership Contributions

The Cinnamon Network will provide: major national event promotion through our extensive face to face and online networks, web based event registration, three days of an Ambassadors time to plan and co-host, a brief video message from the founder, a choice of over twenty five short films on recognised projects to be shown during the event.

Local churches would be asked to provide: a venue, refreshments, regional event promotion, a community project (recognised) to spotlight, wherever possible the participation of the local churches network, representatives from the local council and police.

Event Programme

The event programme will be co-created by the local church leader and the Ambassador. We would like to see the following elements included in the programme:

1. Get Starting

- Presentation and discussion on the pressing social needs in local communities.

2. Choose A Project

- Screening of four or five short films of new projects that if a local church was inspired to start would meet a local community need.
- Interview spotlighting one of your local projects (a Cinnamon Network recognised one) with an interview with the leader, volunteers and beneficiaries.

3. Work Together

- A feature on how local churches in the area are working together to deliver multiple church based community projects.
- In addition perspectives on the value of collaboration from local council and local police.

4. Access Funding

- A short briefing session on how to access The Cinnamon Network £1,500-2,000 Micro-Grants.
- Highlight the new funding portal from the Christian Funders Forum www.cinnamonnetwork.co.uk/cff

Next Steps

Initially there are three things:

1. Please confirm that you would like to be a partner by emailing mattbird@cinnamonnetwork.co.uk (we will then not enter into a separate partnership with any other church in your area).
2. Express an interest in which Ambassador you would like to work with (if you have no preference we will recommend someone).
3. Propose a date for your event between February to June (Micro-Grants will begin to run out as the year goes on so the sooner the better).