

**REPORT TO: HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
6 AUGUST 2008**

SUBJECT: CELEBRATING SUCCESS

BY: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to share with Committee some of the successes and positive developments within Community Care in recent months.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of the Council's Administrative Scheme in relation to the function of the Council as Social Work Authority under the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee notes the successes and positive developments that Community Care have achieved in recent months.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 As part of the process of keeping the Committee up to date on the wider activity of the service and as a means of celebrating success in that context, it is intended to present reports to Committee on events, activities and initiatives undertaken by or on behalf of Community Care.
- 3.2 This information has been collated for the committee's information at **APPENDIX 1** to this report.
- 3.3 The items included in reports to Committee will also be communicated within the Department through regular staff newsletters.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Development Plan/ Community Plan/ Service Improvement Plan

None

(b) Policy and Legal

None

(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)

None

(d) Consultations

None

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 It is recommended that the committee notes the successes and positive developments within Community Services in recent months.**

Author of Report: Sandy Riddell, Director of Community Services
Background Papers:
Ref:

CERTIFICATE OF SUCCESS FOR COFFEE BAR PROJECT

Staff and management at the Coffee Bar Project based at Buckie Community Centre attached to the High School were presented with food hygiene certificates on Thursday 15 May 2008.

The Coffee Bar Project, which has been running for around 12 years is part of the Day Services in Moray for adults with learning disabilities and provides a range of training skills in catering for up to 15 students. The training given by the Coffee Bar Project gives the students the opportunity to develop new skills and to grow in confidence and self-esteem with the prospect of future employment. The ages of those who work at the café range between 23 and 60 years.

The Introduction to Food Hygiene covers a lot of basic skills such as food preparation and storage, personal hygiene and hand washing. There is also a lot of emphasis on the issue of bacteria, and overall it was a very thorough introduction.

A total of 10 staff at the Coffee Bar passed their REHIS (Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland), nine of whom were at a special ceremony to mark their achievement. Project Manager, Roslyn Duncan was also amongst the honours being presented with her Intermediate Food Hygiene certificate.

The students were by no means content to rest on their laurels, and the very day of their certificate presentation saw them undergoing a refresher course on basic skills. November will see them undertake a further REHIS course, a process that is scheduled to be repeated very six months.

Anne Slee
Integrated Learning Disability Services Manager

LEARNING DISABILITY AWARENESS WEEK – JUNE 2008

Learning Disability Awareness week is held every year to raise public awareness of learning disability related issues. This year was a success beyond all our dreams.

The clients and staff of both Cedarwood and Keith Resource Centre held Fashion Shows – a first for us in Moray.

The extravaganzas involved the service users and staff from Keith Resource Centre, Cedarwood and other services, e.g. Harlequins, pupils and staff from New Elgin Primary School, New Elgin High School, Keith & Findochty Primaries and the Keith Community Policeman and Warden.

The events were described as:-

“fantastic productions and so enjoyable”.... which “probably reached more new people who were unaware of learning disability with these events than all previous events to date! And more than that *the way* in which you reached them was with real people being given the opportunity to be part of an event that celebrated people as people, who enjoy participating as much as everyone else – the smiles on the fashion models, service users from both Cedarwood and Keith Resource Centre, spoke volumes. They have now broken the mould by succeeding with an event that crossed barriers and demonstrated that nothing beats participation like participation. The performances by Harlequins that introduced a wider public to Makaton, a method of signing, were both a stroke of genius in terms of getting a message across, but also an inspiration to watch. All the models were brilliant, the dance groups were outstanding.... and the overall programme worked brilliantly and really was a festival of celebration.”

Burnie, the day centre at Buckie put on a performance of ‘Joseph & His Technicolour Dreamcoat’. In addition, Towerview, in Forres, held a musical afternoon on Forres High Street with drumming workshops and jazz sessions interspersed with more traditional music followed by an open invitation to the public to the centre for Afternoon Tea – which left the centre overwhelmed but exhilarated by the success.

All other Local Authority Learning Disability Services, e.g. Artisans, Greenfingers, Burnie & the Community Support Services held ‘Open Days’ with neighbours and families being welcomed in to find out more about the service and learning disability in general.

The only problem now is how to top it all next year!

Anne Slee
Integrated Learning Disability Services Manager