



## **Evaluation Report**

### **Project: Learning through Mentors**

**July 2010-December 2010**

#### ***Project:***

The project aimed to identify and provide appropriate advice and guidance and practical support to people who are not in education, employment and training (NEET) with a view to empower them with confidence, skills and motivation through informal mentoring scheme and community learning initiatives.

#### ***Project outputs and Details:***

The project enabled to engage 44 beneficiaries who met the criteria to receive assistance through the project.

20 ladies enrolled for ESOL course at our centre. The beneficiaries were identified as women with low skills and confidence, faced language barriers and some of them had never worked before. Out of these 16 identified gaining basic IT skills and were referred to a local community IT learning centre.

24 beneficiaries were provided with assistance related to CV, Job Search, completing application forms etc. They were also provided one to one and enhanced advice and guidance sessions through mentoring scheme where community mentors were able to interact with them and inspire confidence and motivation through their own success stories. These sessions also covered feeling of satisfaction at work, financial security, aspirations and other topics. The young people especially gained from these sessions.

One woman successfully signed up to Deafway as a casual volunteer and completed PTLS course held at our centre which was organised by Lancashire Wide Network for minority ethnic women.(LWN) LWN also delivered employability workshops with focus on confidence building.

Three male clients gained employment and their details are as follows:

- 1) Full time employment with TV licensing call centre
- 2) Body care toiletries representative
- 3) Casual security person

**Project Delivery:**

- 3 mentoring sessions delivered
- 5 discussion forums and job skills workshops delivered
- ESOL classes
- 2 Moving on forums
- Ongoing one to one sessions

**Project progression:**

- Beneficiaries were referred to basic IT classes
- Client gained PETALS qualification
- Client completed health & safety on-line training

**Project outcomes:**

- Clients were able to identify their strengths and gained confidence
- Clients gained motivation and inspiration through mentoring sessions
- Clients gained qualifications
- Clients learned English language
- Clients were able to explore other developmental initiatives

**Way Forward:**

The clients were encouraged to attend the following planned by us in near future:

- First aid course
- Men's ESOL
- Counselling Level 1 and 2
- Food Hygiene
- Any other activities identified by the clients

**Summary:**

All the clients went through initial assessment on one to one basis where their strengths and needs were identified. The variety of initiatives enabled people from varied age group, sex and social and educational background to improve their confidence and communication skills which we hope would put them in a good stead. The feedback we received was positive and further similar projects were requested by the clients. There were also lessons learnt such as some clients not having National Insurance Numbers, dropping out without completing the course, delays in starting the project etc. We were pleased that some of the clients were able to secure employment and some were ready to take a plunge in the job market. They were also keen to update their skills and register for vocational training.