



## Contact Us

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## A Short Guide For Community Groups Setting Up Health Projects



Health Education  
North West London



## Things to consider when applying for NHS funding

- Engaging senior leaders across the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and local authority is vital.
- Be able to demonstrate the clear aims and objectives of the project.
- Use current research evidence.
- Demonstrate knowledge of local demographics.
- Define the area of your project.
- Focus on local need - demonstrate knowledge of the local area and where its needs are highest (include the most critical priorities first so the impact and potential of social value is not diluted).
- What are the potential perceived outcomes?
- Monitoring - how will you demonstrate the perceived outcomes of your project?



## Working with volunteer referrals

- User-friendly referral pathways; get new referrals signed up as soon as possible.
- Hold volunteer inductions.
- Prioritise communicating and supporting volunteers in an open and friendly environment to ensure attachment to the project.
- Offer PEER support for new volunteers.
- Keep information updated and ensure all volunteers have access to newsletters, provide electronic and paper copies.
- Staff to have specific knowledge and skills of managing groups and group dynamics, and the ability to adapt the physical and social environment of the group, e.g. ensuring participants are aware there is a cut off time to start, which avoids disruptions to the group process.
- Ensure other staff are aware not to interrupt any group in progress.
- Avoid unnecessary background noise such as deliveries or other groups running at the same time.
- Ensure continuity of sessions.
- Arrange specific events and outings for volunteers as a gesture of appreciation.

## What HCGA have found works and why

- Creative networking; to include open days and tours of our sites.
- Keeping the website updated.
- Utilising social media.
- Visiting services and healthcare professionals:
  1. Giving talks/presentations
  2. Attending practice meetings
  3. Holding taster sessions
- Contacting healthcare professionals on a regular basis to provide updates on our projects, delivering leaflets & referral forms to ensure HCGA is at forefront of their mind for new patient/client referrals.

## Useful Links



### Department of Health

[www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health)

### Federation of City Farms & Community Gardens

[www.fcfcg.org.uk](http://www.fcfcg.org.uk)

### Growing Health

[www.sustainweb.org/growinghealth](http://www.sustainweb.org/growinghealth)

### Institute for Voluntary Action Research

[www.ivar.org.uk](http://www.ivar.org.uk)