

West Lancashire Challenge NEWS

September 2011

GREAT NEWS!

On the 9th July the West Lancashire Challenge was officially launched. Hosted by West Lancashire College all partners contributed to a fun summer fair and launch event for the community.

The Challenge Team and the wider Community, Faith and Volunteer Sector were on hand to promote the Passport and local volunteering opportunities. Cllr Adrian Owens presided over the launch, cutting the ribbon to officially launch the Challenge Project in West Lancashire.

Louise Dawson, Principal of West Lancashire College, said in launching the project *"The Challenge partners are fully committed to playing their part in making a difference in West Lancashire and creating a sense of pride and a culture of aspiration and ambition"*

As a West Lancashire resident you can sign-up to the Challenge Passport, to help you set personal goals, log progress and certificate your achievements. To refer yourself or someone you know call 01695 712645.



SUCCESS!

Since the launch of the West Lancashire Challenge in July the CVS has issued Passports to a number of local people who have expressed a wish for support to overcome barriers to work, volunteering and learning. Each of the Passport Holders has been linked with a mentor and together they have worked out a development plan which identifies short, medium and long term goals.

Even this early on in the programme, we have already seen some excellent results. Several Passport Holders have begun courses with West Lancashire College, Learn Direct and Lancashire College. We are expecting at least 1 person will start paid work by the end of this month and another has commenced voluntary work with a view to increasing their hours over the coming weeks.

All of these are positive signs that, with a will to succeed, coupled with the guidance and support offered by their mentors, residents of West Lancashire are up for the Challenge.



West Lancashire Council for
Voluntary Service

APPRENTICESHIPS!

The Challenge Team is working closely with the Government's National Apprenticeship Service to encourage employers to take on apprentices and/or put existing employers through apprenticeships.

Apprenticeships are suitable for people of any working age and there are over 200 apprenticeship frameworks, covering a range of industries and job types.

Apprentices will benefit your business through improved productivity, a committed work force and aiding the transition of young people into employment for a brighter future. To get your business involved in the Challenge project and support this great initiative, please contact one of our Challenge team members today who will make the process hassle free.

It is easy to get involved, whether you are taking on one apprentice or one hundred! Just call **01695 712645** or email: john.corish@westlancs.gov.uk

