



SOCIAL ENTERPRISE  
SHARING BEST PRACTICE  
AS A TOOL  
IN YOUTH WORK

Project Newsletter No4  
November 2019

## Joint Staff Trainings in Novi Sad, Serbia and Merthyr Tydfil, Wales

The 4th and 5th joint staff training visits were hosted by **NSHC** on 9 - 15 June 2019 in Novi Sad, Serbia and by **Stephens and George Centenary Charitable Trust** on 8 - 14 September 2019 in Merthyr Tydfil, Wales, UK.

The training in Novi Sad, Serbia encompassed the following visits: to **Business Incubator**, where youth ideas become successful business ventures; **Youth Creative Centre OKCe**; **NGO "Vera ljubav nada"** which runs an educational and inclusive farm; **Ecology Centre "Radulovački"** dedicated to educational programs for young people; **Psychological Counselling Centre**, a volunteer-based project offering psychological counselling; **Secondary School of Mechanical Engineering**; **The Drop In Centre for street children** which prevents risks and involves street children in education; **Youth Centre CK13** which encourages social engagement and political activism; **Group "Izadji"**, a grass-root association started by young LGBT+ people; **Special Education School "Milan Petrović"** offering primary and secondary level education and rehabilitation to children and youth with disabilities; **Youth Info Centre "Infopolis"**; and **Centre for Student Support** of the University of Novi Sad.

The training in Wales, UK encompassed the following visits: to **Stephens & George Centenary Charitable Trust** which aims to raise literacy standards by providing training, academic support, bursary awards and internships; **Challenge Wales**, the charity which helps young people to develop their life skills to improve their employment prospects; **Cambrian Village Lakeside Trust**, a key community hub which developed the Lakeside Café Bar and other services on a disused colliery site; **Welsh Youth Parliament** in Cardiff which consists of 60 young people aged 11 - 18 who are representing Welsh Youth; **Merthyr Tydfil Institute for the Blind**, a supported wood manufacturing workshop based in South Wales that offers direct employment to people with disabilities; and **Bike Park Wales** in Merthyr Tydfil, a full scale mountain bike park started as an entrepreneurial initiative by a group of young people.

### Project Partners



**AMACH! LGBT!**  
Ireland  
[www.amachlgbt.com](http://www.amachlgbt.com)



**Petrklíč help, z.s.**  
Czech Republic  
[www.petrklichelp.cz](http://www.petrklichelp.cz)



**Asociatia Clubul Sportiv Experienta Multisport**  
Romania  
[www.experientamultisport.ro](http://www.experientamultisport.ro)



**Asociace středškolských klubů**  
Czech Republic  
<http://askcr.cz/>



**Dacorum Council for Voluntary Service LTD**  
United Kingdom  
[www.communityactiondacorum.org.uk](http://www.communityactiondacorum.org.uk)



SOLNA STAD

**Solna Youth Centre**  
Sweden  
[www.solnaungdomscafe.se](http://www.solnaungdomscafe.se)



**Novi Sad Humanitarian Centre**  
Serbia  
[www.nshc.org.rs](http://www.nshc.org.rs)



**Stephens and George Charitable Trust**  
United Kingdom  
<http://www.sg100charitabletrust.org.uk/>

## Drop In Centre for Street Children



The last day of every short term training visit is spent in evaluation and selection of examples of best practice. During the selection in Novi Sad, one of the most voted-for examples of good practice was the Drop In Centre for street children.

The Drop In Centre was started in 2010 by a local NGO. Its goal was to prevent and reduce the risks that the street children, mainly Roma, are exposed to, and to involve them in the

education and health system. At the same time, the Centre ensures access to other social services for this vulnerable and marginalised group. Since 2015, the centre has become part of the Centre for Social Welfare of the City of Novi Sad.

## The Cambrian Village Trust, Wales

The Cambrian Village Trust is a community organisation set on a disused colliery site. Today it is a key community hub for local people, promoting healthy living and social cohesion.

The Trust offers boat rides, sport activities, up-country walks and mountain biking. The elderly love coming to the Lakeside Café Bar with their carers, where they spend hours chatting away and meeting new friends. The Café Bar is also a very popular venue for many outreach community groups such as the elderly and disabled, offering a relaxing environment, fabulous views, and lovely walks. The facilities at the Lakeside Café Bar are also available for private events.



## Merthyr Tydfil Institute for the Blind

Merthyr Tydfil Institute for the Blind (MTIB) is a supported wood manufacturing workshop based in South Wales, that offers direct employment to people with disabilities. They also act as a supported employment agency, helping people through training and support, to achieve and sustain employment in the wider community. Started in 1923, it began as a sheltered workshop for 14 blind former miners. Later it became a registered charity employing over 50 people with disabilities.



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