

South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau

**Evaluation of the Bureau's SRB funded Training
Programme**

September 2000 to September 2003

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Introduction and Methodology

This evaluation was commissioned by SYFAB to assess the success and impact of SRB 5 funded training delivered to voluntary and community groups in the South Yorkshire Coalfields areas of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and the Dearne Valley between September 2000 and September 2003. The original aim of the SRB funded training project was to **“enable small, disadvantaged groups to build up their confidence and ability to secure their own future through the acquisition of skills, information and knowledge to better prepare them for the task of securing funding for their activities.”** This was to be achieved through the provision of one-off training events, regularly running the SYFAB OCN Funding and Fundraising Course Programme, and hosting an annual funding conference: Tapping Into Funds.

The evaluation is concerned with both quantitative and qualitative information.

In terms of quantitative information it analyses statistical data in order to compare the actual outputs achieved against predicted outputs in terms of numbers and types of courses run in each district, numbers of individuals and groups helped, numbers of trainees gaining OCN credits etc. it also examines grants awarded by some of the major funders to those groups accessing SYFAB's accredited training.

In terms of qualitative information the evaluation looks at the impact of training on both the individual trainees and their organisations in terms of gaining confidence and new skills; how it has enhanced or supplemented working relationships between SYFAB's outreach development workers and some groups; how one-off sessions responded to local needs; working relationships with other agencies; and other factors, such as changes to the OCN course, changes in training personnel within SYFAB, the development of internal quality standards for training, the addition of new training programmes and the 'purchase delivery' of courses to other agencies in order to raise revenue.

The methodology employed for this evaluation has included an analysis of statistical data compiled by SYFAB over the three year time period; an analysis of questionnaires filled in by trainees completing the eight session OCN accredited training course; questionnaires completed by attendees of the Tapping into Funds annual conference; interviews with SYFAB development workers and others, the views of SYFAB's tutors and a search of the websites of the Community Fund, Coalfields Regeneration Trust, the Local Network Fund for Children and Young People and Awards for All to find out what grants had been awarded to groups accessing SYFAB's training. The appendices contain detailed breakdowns and analyses.

Main Findings

1. Outputs and Outcomes

1.1 Open College Network accredited training programme

Over the three year funding period SYFAB delivered 21 eight session long courses across the Coalfields area (see appendix 1a for a full breakdown) – six each in Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham and three in the Dearne Valley. This matches the targets in the SRB funding submission.

Of the total figure of 238 participants enrolled, 208 completed (87%) and, of these, 166 (80%) submitted portfolios, falling just two short of the original target figure. All 166 obtained qualifications. 41 achieved credits at level 2 and 125 achieved credits at level 3. Additionally, since 2001, participants have gained two Key Skills credits.

This is an extremely high level of retention and achievement demonstrating the commitment and engagement of participants as well as good course design, well targeted pre-booking information and good support from tutors and SYFAB's development workers.

The 208 course participants represented 127 community groups and 64 voluntary organisations. Given that the original aim of the training was to enable small, disadvantaged groups to build the confidence of their members in the task of raising funds, the proportionately high numbers of community groups accessing the training shows that publicity for the courses was well targeted.

All course participants were sent evaluation questionnaires for user feedback within 6-12 months after completing the course. Appendix 2a gives a detailed analysis of the responses.

There was a 47% response rate. Of these, 100% felt that the course had enabled them to develop their fundraising skills to the benefit of their group. 87% had shared their learning with others in their group. 70 respondents (87%) had been involved in making funding applications since attending the course, of which 67 bids had been successful, raising a total of £1,437,720. At the time of responding some groups were still awaiting the outcome of bids and others failed to specify amounts awarded so the actual figure would be higher.

100% said that they would recommend SYFAB training to others.

Respondents were asked whether they felt the course needed to be changed in any way. The majority (80%) said 'no'. The few changes that were suggested included splitting the course into beginners, intermediate and advanced; running it over more sessions to make it less intensive; having more examples of completing applications.

Some respondents highlighted further funding issues that they and their groups need to consider such as developing a funding strategy, income generation and sustainability.

General comments and suggestions on the course included:

- *“The course gave me confidence in tackling funding applications with very little supervision.”*
- *“I am more aware of what funders need to know.”*
- *“It helped our management committee be more aware of funding issues.”*
- *“The trainer made it fun, which always makes learning easier.”*
- *“Run more courses in the evenings.”*
- *“Provide childcare facilities at the training venue.”*

During 2001 the course was updated and amended in response to feedback from participants and tutors.

In 2002 the course successfully went through its five yearly resubmission to the Open College Network.

During 2003 it was decided to drop the Key Skills element of the accreditation as the accrediting body (the OCN) identified that the teaching time on the course could not cover an award for one funding and two key skills credits. They were replaced with an optional extra funding unit which was considered to be more appropriate to the course aims and more accurately reflected work done by learners on the course. Two funding credits are now offered at level 2 and level 3 standards

1.2 One-off training sessions

The original target was to deliver 90 one-off sessions (18 full day and 72 half days) spread equally across the districts over the three year period. (See appendix 1b for a full breakdown.)

115 sessions were actually delivered, exceeding the target by 25. The total number of participants in these sessions was 1,619, representing 968 community groups and 317 voluntary organisations.

Fewer sessions were held in Doncaster than in the other districts. This was due, in part, to a gap in 2002 between the former development worker leaving and the new worker starting and settling into post and also due, in part, to the nature of the area and scarcity of infrastructure organisations to work with and through.

Topics covered included:

- Objective 1 Funding
- The Key Fund
- Community Fund
- Awards For All
- SRB 6 Funds
- The Neighbourhood Renewal Fund
- Coalfields Regeneration Trust
- An introduction to fundraising
- Funding for arts projects

- Funding for community buildings
- Funding for church community projects
- Do- it- yourself fundraising
- Business planning.

Topics were determined in a number of ways in response to requests from groups: to publicise changes in or on new funding programmes (e.g. the Community Fund); in response to funders offering their time to come out and talk to groups about their funding regimes; tying in with what else is happening in a particular area at a particular time (e.g. neighbourhood forums) and based on SYFAB's development workers' perceptions and experiences of need (e.g. Awards For All and budgeting and accounting).

1.3 Annual 'Tapping into Funds' Conference

The target of holding one each year, each in a different district, was met (see Appendix 1c for details). The average attendance at each conference was 85. Each conference hosted a mix of workshops throughout the day and gave groups the opportunity to network. The workshops included presentations by funders, such as the Community Fund and WREN, and skills based workshops, such as finding the right funder and employing a worker. The level of attendance and feedback from participants (see appendix 2b for details) shows the conferences to have been highly successful events both in terms of their organisation and content.

Some comments from participants:

- *"A very enjoyable and interesting day – I feel I've learnt a lot from the sessions"*
- *"Please let me know of future workshops"*
- *"Can I come again to the next event?"*
- *"Sharing time with others was worthwhile"*

1.4 Groups supported

Across the three training strands funded by SRB money, 180 plus community groups and 414 plus voluntary organisations have received support. This far exceeds the original target figures of 269 and 236 respectively. The greater preponderance of small, locally based community groups accessing training events is very much in keeping with SYFAB's aims and the aims of this funding bid.

1.5 Grants awarded

The figures that follow are based on a) feedback from OCN accredited course participants and b) information from four key funders in the region (The Community Fund, Awards for All, Coalfields Regeneration Trust and the Local Network Fund for Children and Young People). They do not provide a complete picture of all grants awarded to all groups who have accessed SYFAB's training courses nor can it be directly claimed that the grants awarded are solely attributable to attendance at the training. They merely give a flavour of the size of grants coming into the area, for which SYFAB's training must rightly take some credit.

Of the 83 course participants who returned questionnaires 70 had been involved in making over 80 funding applications since attending the course. At the time of responding 67 applications had been approved, raising a total of £1,437,720. (See appendix 2a). The actual amounts raised would be significantly higher as the numbers returning questionnaires only represent 40% of those completing the training, nor does it take account of any subsequent fundraising by these groups. Nor for this exercise have we analysed grants awarded to groups accessing SYFAB's one-off training sessions or funding conferences.

A detailed search of grants awarded by the four key funders listed above (see appendix 3 for full breakdowns) shows that 81 groups who had participated in the accredited training course had between them successfully raised £3,213,667. Some groups have received grants from more than one funder. For instance, DIAL Barnsley received grants from the Community Fund, Coalfields Regeneration Trust and the Local Network Fund for Children and Young People.

Looking at each in turn:

Awards For All

35 groups received a total of £147,904. Average grant size £3,146.

Community Fund

12 groups received a total of £2,113,599. Average grant size £132,099.

Coalfields Regeneration Trust

20 groups received a total of £880,329. Average grant size £41,920.

Local Network Fund for Children and Young People (only operational from September 2001)

14 groups received a total of £71,835. Average grant size £5,131.

2. Other Achievements

2.1 Appointment of a training co-ordinator

In January 2001 SYFAB was successful in securing a grant from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation which enabled them to appoint, for the first time, a part time dedicated training co-ordinator and increase administrative support to the training programme by one day a week. This post has enabled them to both maintain and develop a programme of training at the level of demand required to meet the needs of voluntary and community groups in South Yorkshire. This funding expired in January 2003 but once again SYFAB were successful in securing a further two years funding from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust to maintain the training co-ordinator post and to meet the costs of running training after the expiry of this SRB funding in September 2003.

2.2 Potential income generation from training

A number of voluntary organisations both within and outside South Yorkshire have either bought or expressed an interest in buying in training from SYFAB. There has been a growing interest in purchasing the OCN accredited course (bought so far by Dorset Council for Voluntary Service, Somerset Council for Voluntary Service, St Helens Council for Voluntary Service and Southey and Owlerton Funding Information and Advice Development Service) and the five session course (Southey and Owlerton Funding Information and Advice Development Service, Thorne and Moorends Partnership, Doncaster CVS, Conisborough and Denaby Development Trust and Attercliffe and Darnall Community Enterprise).

Generating additional income from the sale of training is clearly a bonus for SYFAB but has to be balanced against the additional demands on workers' time.

2.3. Additional training

In response to requests by organisations for less intensive and time consuming fundraising skills training SYFAB has developed a five session non accredited course which has been run four times now across the region. This has attracted people from organisations who did not feel ready or able to complete the eight session accredited OCN course but has been devised in such a way that individuals can progress onto the accredited course if they so choose.

It has yet to be shown whether the existence of the five session course will lead to a drop in numbers of groups wanting to access the accredited course, but this does not appear to be the case thus far. An internal review and overhaul of the five session course is currently underway.

SYFAB is keen to provide and develop training at a range of levels in response to identified needs but is restricted in what it can do by limited

training resources. But, within the resources available, they remain open and flexible to requests and imaginative in their approach.

2.4 Impact of training on the role of SYFAB's development workers

SYFAB has a dedicated development worker in each of the three districts to provide, amongst other activities, one to one support to groups and some training. Having the additional SRB resources to provide one-off training sessions and the annual funding conferences has meant that they have been able to reach and provide a service to far more individuals and groups than would otherwise have been possible. It also provides a means of publicising SYFAB's existence to new groups and organisations.

The development workers all have an input into the accredited training programme – encouraging groups to attend and providing support to groups throughout the life of the course and beyond. They cited a number of ways in which the accredited training course benefits their work:

- It provides a way of picking up new groups.
- It helps generally in groups' development and in boosting confidence.
- Groups are much better equipped to undertake fundraising on their own after completing the course. They are less reliant on development workers.
- Groups appear to be much better organised as a result of the training.
- Groups have a broader awareness of funding issues.
- For groups with ongoing funding needs attending the course reaps long term benefits.

2.5 The view of the tutors

SYFAB has a pool of highly experienced tutors who deliver the accredited course, the five session course and some one-off training events. They meet together quarterly at the tutor review meetings and at OCN moderation sessions. As part of this evaluation they were invited to comment on the organisational aspects of the training, support they receive from SYFAB, course content, how participants benefit and any other training needs they have identified.

Overall the response was very positive and full of praise for SYFAB.

The following is a précis of the feedback from tutors.

- Level of organisation and support:
 - *"I think it is excellent and represents good practice such as regular tutor meetings, seeking and listening to our views and opinions, proper recruitment and induction, picking the best venues etc."*
 - *"Very good. All the materials and resources are ready and consistently of a high standard."*
 - *"Pre-course interviews seem to work well. I have had nobody come to any course over the past 24 months who has not had the correct expectations."*
 - *"I have experienced and appreciated a lot of support from SYFAB."*

There was an additional comment about the dangers of too much bureaucracy.

- Course content:

The accredited training course has recently been updated. Some tutors were finding it a lot tougher to teach and were experiencing teething problems with some of the new materials. However, nobody thought the problems insurmountable.

Views on the five session non-accredited course were mixed. Some tutors felt it was disjointed and too repetitive of the accredited course whilst others felt it's great advantage was that there was less paperwork and thus it gives people more time to talk about wider issues in respect of funding and fundraising.

- How do you feel participants benefit from the courses?

The three greatest benefits cited were the opportunity to meet other groups and exchange experiences and information, and, by the end of the course, having developed the skills and confidence to complete a funding application, and the amount of information and advice they accumulate.

Some tutors felt that the courses are of most benefit to groups that are in their early stages of development. More experienced groups may gain less.

- Other training that you think SYFAB could run?

- business planning
- 'packaging' projects for funding applications
- specific training for black and minority ethnic groups using bi-lingual tutors or interpreters
- more one-off training days as part of a short course programme which could be charged for.

- General comments:

- *"The training section of SYFAB is at the most competent and consistent it has been."*
- *"Overall, the training is great and I think it gives people confidence and skills."*
- *"SYFAB set high standards for everyone involved in its work. It's staff, freelance trainers and the people who come on courses. This ensures a high standard of outputs and outcomes are delivered."*
- *"They (SYFAB) have clear and demonstrable practice in relation to equality of opportunity for their tutors and local community groups."*

2.6 Partnerships and links with other agencies

Other agencies, particularly development and infrastructure agencies and other training providers, benefit from SYFAB's training courses either through being able to direct groups they are supporting onto the training or by inviting SYFAB to run in house sessions for them or through partnership working. As well as the three Councils for Voluntary Service SYFAB has worked in partnership with the Workers Educational Association, Dearne Valley Partnership, Doncaster Community Learning Partnership, the South Yorkshire Voluntary and Community Sector Training Consortium and others.

As part of this evaluation Magda Jenkins, a worker with Bentley Association for Supportive Help (BASH), was interviewed. Both she and other workers at BASH have completed SYFAB's accredited training course which they thought was excellent and which they have subsequently encouraged other Bentley groups to attend. She felt that the training has given local groups increased confidence in applying for funding, in particular making Neighbourhood Renewal Fund applications. She also praised other training events organised by SYFAB, such as the Community Fund day. She frequently recommends SYFAB training to groups and refers groups to SYFAB's development workers for advice and support.

2.7 The development of quality standards for training services

SYFAB is currently developing quality standards for all aspects of its services through PQASSO (Practical Quality Assurance for Small Organisations). This includes their training services. Under these standards anyone accessing SYFAB's training can expect to receive training that is accessible, appropriate, relevant and useful. They can also expect that training will be provided in a safe environment and will be delivered by tutors who are knowledgeable, skilled and well prepared. Standards will be regularly monitored and evaluated through a variety of means. The Bureau has a complaints procedure for any dissatisfied service users.

3. Some Difficulties

3.1 Changes to the OCN accredited course

As outlined in 1.1 above course participants can gain OCN credits at levels 2 or 3. From January 2002 participants were offered the opportunity to achieve an additional two credits in Communication Key Skills in Reading and Writing and Speaking and Listening without having to undertake any additional work. SYFAB gained Open College Network approval for this and offered it to participants as part of the existing programme as a way of further enhancing people's qualifications. However, following the appointment of a new OCN moderator in 2003, it became clear that misunderstandings had occurred between the OCN and SYFAB over the approval of the Key Skills credits and the rules around how much contact teaching time was needed to achieve three credits. After much debate it was decided to withdraw the Key Skills element of the accreditation and replace it with an optional extra funding unit which was considered to be more appropriate to the course aims and more accurately reflected work done by learners on the course.

3.2 Cancelled courses

Over the three year funding period four of the planned accredited courses had to be cancelled because of low take-up. Reasons for this are unclear but could in part have been due a number of factors at the time: choice of location, early Easter holiday period affecting timings over 8 weeks, other training available at the same time, development workers on annual leave and thus not spending time promoting the courses amongst groups, etc. This caused additional administrative and organisational work for Bureau staff, but, by slotting in additional courses during the funding period, the original target of 21 courses was still met.

3.3 Training Co-ordinator post

SYFAB's original training co-ordinator left in August 2002 to take up another post. With only five months funding remaining it was unrealistic to reappoint to the post so temporary cover was arranged. Unfortunately the person providing temporary cover fell ill so that existing Bureau staff had to provide cover for the final three months of the funding period. Short term funding can frequently lead to paid staff leaving prior to the end of fixed term contracts thus posing real difficulties for small voluntary organisations who do not have unlimited internal resources to cover such eventualities. Fortunately, having secured new funding from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust a new training co-ordinator was appointed in April 2003 and SYFAB's training provision has not been adversely affected.

Conclusions

The SRB funding for a period of three years provided SYFAB with the resources and stability to provide an extensive training programme to a large number of voluntary and community groups in the South Yorkshire Coalfields area. The vast majority of groups benefiting from this training would not otherwise have been able to access such extensive, good quality training and of such variety. In turn over £4,000,000 has been brought into the area in the form of grants to groups who accessed the training. Whilst not claiming that this was all entirely due to the training it clearly played a substantial role in helping groups bring in this money.

Despite some difficulties during the period with courses having to be cancelled and the absence of a training co-ordinator for some months all the SRB targets were met and some were greatly exceeded.

SYFAB has always targeted its services primarily at smaller groups, many without a paid worker. The aim of the training has been to raise the confidence and develop skills of such group members, enabling them to develop their fundraising capacity. All the evidence from course participants, development workers, other organisations and funders demonstrates that this aim has been successfully met.

Training has become an integral part of SYFAB's services, complementing and enhancing the work of the development team and the information service. It is to be hoped that funding for training provision and co-ordination can be secured as part of the Bureau's core costs in the future and not subject to short term, district specific funding. Obtaining a grant from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust up until 2005 has to be welcomed but once again it only provides a short term solution.

There is clearly scope for continued income generation through the sale of training to agencies within and beyond South Yorkshire but the time required to market and negotiate such sales has to be balanced against existing demands on workers' time to provide core services, free of charge, to local groups. So, although welcome, it is unlikely that this would become a major source of income for the Bureau.

Finally, given the exceptionally good feedback from course and conference participants, it would be easy for the Bureau to become complacent and carry on delivering more of the same but there would appear to be little fear of this happening. SYFAB is a highly professional, dynamic organisation which constantly strives to improve its services. With all the inbuilt monitoring and evaluation procedures and the implementation of quality standards the Bureau has sufficient mechanisms to ensure that it both listens to and responds to its users. And if this means making changes to meet new and different needs then the evidence is that it will do so given the availability of sufficient resources.

Appendix 1

Training delivered between September 2000 and September 2003

1a) Open College Network accredited eight session training course 'Fundraising and Funding for Voluntary and Community Groups'. Course statistics from September 2000 to September 2003

Area	Number of courses held		Number of trainees enrolled	Number of trainees completing course	Number of portfolios submitted	Numbers obtaining qualifications		Number of passes at level 2	Number of passes at level 3	Number of community groups supported	Number of voluntary organisations supported
	target	actual				target	actual				
Barnsley	6	6	71	65	56		56	12	44	47	16
Doncaster	6	6	67	57	44		44	8	36	34	18
Rotherham	6	6	63	52	45		45	16	29	31	17
Dearne Valley	3	3	37	34	21		21	5	16	15	13
Totals	21	21	238	208	166	168	166	41	125	127	64

1b) One-off training sessions (September 2000 to September 2003)

Area	Number of sessions held		Half day		Full day		Number of attendees	Number of community groups supported	Number of voluntary organisations supported
	target	actual	target	actual	target	actual			
Barnsley	30	56	24	45	6	11	764	428	152
Doncaster	30	24	24	13	6	11	357	223	56
Rotherham	30	35	24	35	6	0	498	317	109
Totals	90	115	72	93	18	22	1,619	968	317

Examples of topics covered:

Objective 1 funding, Key Fund, The Community Fund, Awards for All, SRB 6, Coalfields Regeneration Trust workshops, Neighbourhood Renewal Fund workshops, Introduction to the Landfill Tax, Introduction to Fundraising, Funding for Church Community Projects, Funding for Arts Projects, Funding for Sports Activities, DIY Fundraising, Applying for funding for Community Buildings, Business Planning and Internet / Computer Funding.

1c) 'Tapping Into Funds' Annual Conference

Year	Where Held	Topics covered	Numbers of people attending	Number of community Groups	Number of voluntary organisations
2001	Rotherham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choosing the Right Funder • Making good applications • Community Fund grants • Heritage Lottery Fund • Other funders workshops 	90	Not available	Not available
2002	Doncaster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Fund medium grants programme • Finding the Right Funder • Business Planning • Writing Effective Funding Applications • Property Applications 	91	54	13
2003	Barnsley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Fund • Accessing Funding from WREN • Heritage Lottery Fund and Arts Council England • Finding the Right Funder • 3 Key Areas in Funding Applications • Funding sources • Employing a worker • Computer software for Fundraising • Property applications 	74	31	20

Appendix 2

Analysis of Feedback from Trainees

2a) Analysis of OCN Accredited Training Course Evaluation Questionnaire Returns from Trainees

	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
total number enrolled	85	65	88
total number completed	72 (85%)	53 (82%)	83 (94%)
portfolios submitted	55 (76%)	42 (79%)	69 (83%)
accredited at level 2	18 (33%)	13 (31%)	10 (14%)
accredited at level 3	37 (67%)	28 (67%)	59 (86%)
Number of questionnaires sent out:	63	49	65
Number of questionnaires returned:	26	29	28
Percentage returns:	41%	59%	43%
Q.1. Do you feel that attending the course has helped you to develop your fundraising skills in a way that you will be able to use in your organisation?			
Yes	26 (100%)	29 (100%)	28 (100%)
Q.2. Do you feel that attending the course has helped your group develop their fundraising skills and abilities?			
Yes	18 (69%)	26 (90%)	25 (89%)
No	5 (19%)	3 (10%)	3 (11%)
Don't know	3 (12%)		
Q.3. SYFAB training has been designed so that what you have learned can be shared with others. Were you able to share what you had learned with others in your group?			
Yes	22 (85%)	26 (90%)	24 (86%)
No	2 (11%)	3 (10%)	4 (14%)
Don't know	1 (4%)		
Q.4. Have you been involved in making any funding bids for your group since attending the course?			
Yes	21 (81%)	23 (79%)	26 (93%)
No	5 (19%)	6 (21%)	2 (7%)
Nos of successful bids	20	29	18
Nos of bids outstanding	1	8	5
Total amount received	£198,936	£171,782	£1,067,002
Q.5. Would you recommend SYFAB training to anyone else?			
Yes	26 (100%)	29 (100%)	28 (100%)

Q.6. Are there other fundraising issues your group needs to consider?

Yes	6 (23%)	12 (41%)	9 (32%)
No	18 (69%)	15 (52%)	15 (54%)
Don't know	2 (8%)	2 (7%)	4 (14%)

examples:

- Long term budgeting
- Income generation
- Sustainability
- Secure core funding
- Developing a funding strategy

Q.7. Do you feel any changes need to be made to the Funding and Fundraising Training course?

Yes	5 (19%)	5 (17%)	2 (7%)
No	19 (73%)	22 (76%)	25 (89%)
Don't know	2 (9%)	2 (7%)	1 (4%)

suggested changes:

- More examples of completing a bid.
- Invite a speaker from a group who have previously attended the course and successfully fundraised as a result of attending.
- Split the course into beginners, intermediate and advanced.
- Run more sessions so that it is less intensive.

Additional comments / suggestions

- "The course gave me confidence in tackling funding applications with very little supervision."
- "Good course – thank you – nowhere else gives such practical help. It was good to actually write a bid as part of the course. All other sources of advice is talk, yours addressed the actual doing."
- "I am more aware of what funders need to know."
- "It helped our management committee be more aware of funding issues."
- "The trainer made it fun, which always makes learning easier."
- "Excellent, well informed course, well worth attending."
- "Would like the opportunity to progress to fundraising qualifications."
- "Run more courses in the evenings."
- "Run an advanced course."
- "Provide childcare facilities at the training venue to enable more people to attend."

2b) Evaluation of 'Tapping into Funds' Annual Conferences based on questionnaires completed by attendees

	2001	2002	2003
total number registered	120	91	94
actual number attending	90	91	74
number of questionnaires returned	61	72	50
Comments on the venue and organisation of the event			
good venue	49	59	47
good catering	54	40	42
event well organised	48	59	47
good booking procedures	43	55	48
Comments on the workshops			
good presentation	56	61	44
content good	58	61	44
good quality handouts	56	43	41
useful information	58	60	43
Overall impressions			
event useful for own group	61	72	42

Some general comments:

" A very enjoyable and interesting day – I feel I've learnt a lot from the sessions"

"Please let me know of future workshops"

"Can I come again to the next event?"

"Sharing time with others was worthwhile"

Appendix 3
Grants awarded to groups accessing
SYFAB's accredited training courses
between September 2000 and 2003

**from Awards For All, The Community Fund, Coalfields
Regeneration Trust and the Local Network Fund for
Children and Young People**

‘Awards For All’

District	Number of grants	Number of groups	Total amount awarded	Average grant
Barnsley	14	11	£46,062	£3,290
Doncaster	10	10	£30,840	£3,084
Rotherham	23	14	£71,002	£3,087
Totals	47	35	£147,904	£3,146

Groups in receipt of grants

Barnsley:

Barnsley Arabic Dance (x2), Barnsley Toy Library, Foster Carers Association, Mapplewell and Staincross Village Hall, Open Doors Arts, Rock Social Club (x2), Royston and Carlton Community Partnership, Thurnscoe East Residents Association Steering Group, United Village Partnership (x2), Wombwell, Jump, Hemmingfield & Broomhill Community Partnership, 33rd Salem Guides.

Doncaster:

Craganour Place Tenants and Residents Association, Disabled Peoples Alliance, Gornies Hill Tenants and Residents Association, Madi Ethnic Heritage & Welfare Association, Mexborough Community Partnership, Nor Don Communities Live at Home Scheme, Ollie Owls Fun Club, Rossington Amateur Swimming Club, Sandall Beat Allotment Association, Woodfield Tenants and Residents Association.

Rotherham:

Brampton Little Learners, Friends of Bradgate Park (x2), FACE, Families of Rotherham East (x2), Millmoor Juniors Football Club (x2), Neuro Support Group (x3), Rawmarsh and Parkgate Partnership, Rother Valley Swallows, Rotherham Lifestyles (x2), Rotherham Pensioners Action Group (x4), Rotherham Play and Learn Bus Project, Thurcroft Millenium Planning Group, Upper Haugh Cricket Club, Woodlands Drive Estate Neighbourhood Watch.

The Community Fund

District	Number of grants	Number of groups	Total amount awarded	Average grant
Barnsley	5	5	£831,211	£166,242
Doncaster	3	2	£372,124	£124,041
Rotherham	8	5	£910,264	£113,783
Totals	16	12	£2,113,599	£132,099

Groups in receipt of grants

Barnsley:

Barnsley Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis, DIAL Barnsley, Dearne Valley Venture, Domestic Violence Group, Mapplewell and Staincross Village Hall.

Doncaster:

Doncaster Housing for Young People, Doncaster Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre (x2)

Rotherham:

Friends of Bradgate Park, FACE (x4), Families of Rotherham East, Rotherham Lifestyles, Rotherham Play and Learn Bus Project.

Coalfields Regeneration Trust
Main Grants programme and Community Chest awards

District	Number of grants	Number of groups	Total amount awarded	Average grant
Barnsley	13	11	£673,594	£51,815
Doncaster	6	6	£202,625	£33,770
Rotherham	2	2	£4,110	£2,055
Totals	21	20	£880,329	£41,920

Groups in receipt of grants

Barnsley:

Athersley Community Association & FC, DIAL Barnsley, Dearne Kids Outdoor Activity Group, Easy PC Barnsley, Mapplewell and Staincross Village Hall (x2), New Lodge Bowling Club, Prospect Road Community Centre Group, The Roundhouse Community Partnership, Station House Community Association, United Villages Partnership, Wombwell, Jump, Hemmingfield & Broomhill Community Partnership (x2).

Doncaster:

Bentley Association for Supportive Help, Disabled Peoples Alliance, Doncaster Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre, Higher Rhythm Recording Studio, Ma'adi Heritage – South Yorkshire Branch, Mexborough Community Group.

Rotherham:

Millmoor Junior Football Club, Rawmarsh & Parkgate Partnership.

**Local Network Fund for Children and Young People
(The Children's Fund)
2001 - 2003**

District	Number of grants	Number of groups	Total amount awarded	Average grant
Barnsley	7	7	£29,865	£4,266
Doncaster	5	5	£29,389	£5,877
Rotherham	2	2	£12,581	£6,290
Totals	14	14	£71,835	£5,131

Groups in receipt of grants

Barnsley:

Association of Barnsley Foster Carers, Barnsley Autistic Society, DIAL Barnsley, Dearne Kids Outdoor Activity Group, Dodworth Readers Group, Open Door Arts Group, Worsbrough Brass.

Doncaster:

Doncaster Housing for Young People, Earth Centre, Higher Rhythm Recording Studio, Mexborough Community Partnership, Rossington Extreme Sports Association (RESA).

Rotherham:

Wath Montgomery Hall Community Development Trust, Young Firefighters Association South Yorkshire.

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