



THE SCOTTISH VOLUNTARY SECTOR HEALTH NETWORK



ANNUAL REPORT 2004-2005

Building partnerships for health

Supported by ongoing Scottish Executive funding, VHS has pursued the development of partnerships for health at both national and local levels over the past year. With Community Health Partnerships now in place, and mainly through VHS's work as a member of the CHP national Development Group, the local voluntary and community sector is now assured of participation in governance, service provision, advocacy and public involvement.

This year, VHS has been active in supporting local infrastructure and partnership development in Edinburgh, Greater Glasgow, Fife, Ayrshire and Lanarkshire, where the CVS and VHS have supported a successful Health Development initiative. Good practice in these areas has been disseminated to other parts of the country.

Councils of Voluntary Service are increasingly developing a health profile to their work and VHS has worked in partnership with the national CVS Network based at SCVO to support this.

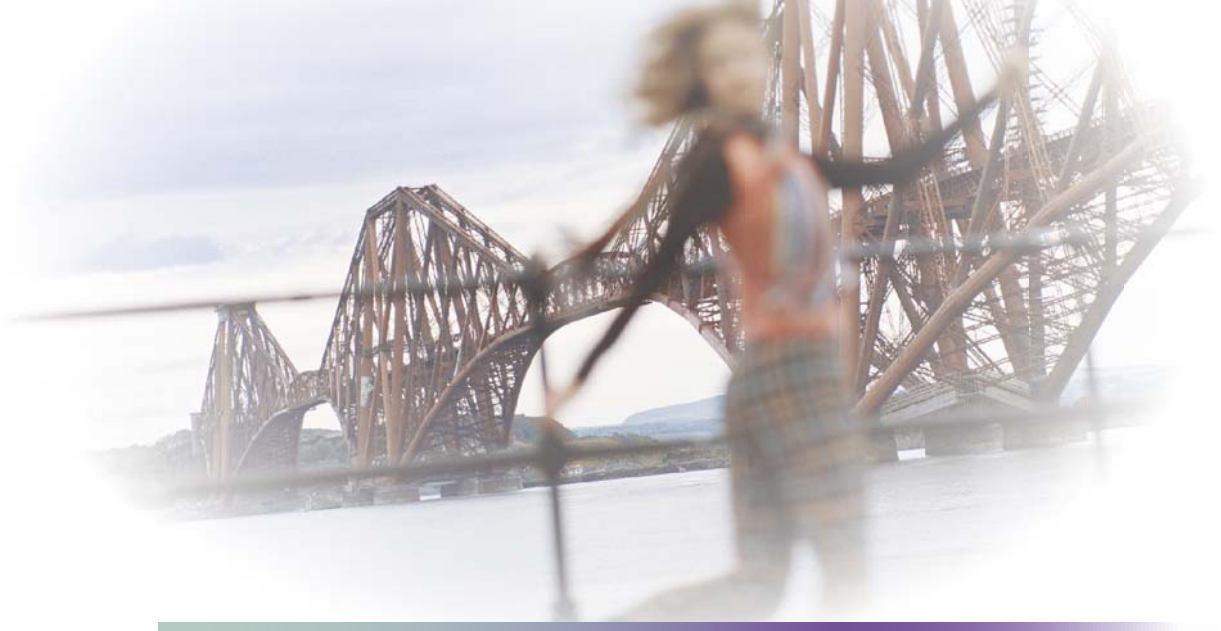
The *Guide to building local compacts for health*, developed by VHS in 2004 in response to a ministerial challenge, has begun to assist the process of local partnership development in a number of areas across Scotland.

VHS fieldwork in the Northern Isles this year had indicated as much enthusiasm for building local partnerships and *compacts* for health through CVSs in the far north as in more urban areas.

Taking forward health improvement through the voluntary sector

Working along with CHEX, The Scottish Community Diet Project, Communities Scotland, VDS and others, in partnership with the Health Improvement Challenge Team at the Scottish Executive, VHS has participated in taking forward the strategy for community-led action in *Improving Scotland's health: the Challenge*.

Increasingly, Scotland's voluntary and community sector is playing a key part in involving local people in health improvement and addressing health inequalities. Evidence of that involvement will become stronger through a revised Performance Assessment Framework and the new *Standards for Community Engagement*. The voluntary sector workforce requires enhanced skills for its role in health improvement and VHS has linked with *Skills for Health*, through NHS Health Scotland, to promote health competency in the sector.



Promoting the patient and public voice

Voluntary Health Scotland is committed to greater involvement by patients, local people and voluntary groups in health services in Scotland. The network is supported in this by the Scottish Executive's *Patient Focus Public Involvement Programme*.

Nationally, VHS has worked to secure voluntary sector involvement in the development of CHPs and this year produced the advice note to accompany the Guidance to the setting-up of CHPs. At the same time, work has continued to increase the opportunities for meaningful participation by Patient Interest Groups in the work of quality and standard-setting NHS bodies, in particular The Scottish Inter-Collegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) and the Scottish Medicines Consortium.

Now, with the mainstreaming of the Equality and Diversity agenda throughout Scotland, VHS is increasingly engaged in supporting the identification and linking together of groups from hard-to-reach and marginalised communities and plans to hold an event in the autumn on the role of the voluntary sector in supporting this.

Disseminating information for the voluntary health sector

Information provision has always been at the heart of Voluntary Health Scotland's work. Located at the interface between government and the voluntary sector, VHS acts as a collective voice for the sector on most major policy developments, at the same time disseminating new health and policy information out to stakeholders across Scotland.

To do this, VHS has provided regular bi-monthly health *Briefings* which now increasingly feature members' practice.

In addition, the Voluntary Health Scotland website has been restructured and reformatted. This has enabled the provision of a wide range of information including research findings, consultation opportunities, policy and strategy documents, as well as health sector news, reports and forthcoming events and activities. As a result, the past year has seen a gradual steady increase in the number of people accessing the website.

At the same time, VHS has responded to government consultations with member input and provided opportunities for networking.

Promoting the added value of the voluntary sector

Voluntary Health Scotland works constantly to increase awareness of the added value brought by the voluntary sector to health improvement and health care in Scotland.

Over the last year, VHS has made many public presentations on the role of the sector and put on a conference on the voluntary and community sector voice in CHPs. VHS is interested in the extent to which this voice is accounted for in the NHS Performance Assessment Framework (Area 5) and in the spring of 2005, an appraisal of Boards' performance in public and voluntary sector inclusion was carried out and will be available later this year as a report.

VHS has been developing a database of members' activities, funding and information provision which will begin generating reports later this year as a tool to establishing information on the function and scope of a significant section of the voluntary health sector.

Supporting membership

Building and supporting sustainable membership remains the core activity of Voluntary Health Scotland. VHS achieved independent status and recognition as a Scottish charity in July 2004 and with continued funding from NHS Health Scotland, VHS has achieved re-affiliation by 266 voluntary and community organisations across Scotland. The VHS membership continues to be valued mostly by small and medium sized organisations. Now, 190 smaller groups compared to 76 larger organisations are members, while local groups currently represent 60% of the VHS membership.


With additional IT and information capacity, VHS has worked this year to respond more effectively to the needs and priorities of members. Feedback from the latest membership survey says:

I have increased my knowledge of CHP issues and VHS through our membership...

As a new member, I have been relying heavily on your information to guide me locally...

Excellent work with EVOC

VHS MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN

- 
- | | |
|--|-------|
| Cancer / Heart disease / Stroke | 6.4% |
| Mental health | 10.5% |
| Other patient interest groups | 22.1% |
| Alcohol / Drugs / Tobacco | 4.6% |
| Community Health Improvement | 23.3% |
| Families / Young people / Older people | 12.4% |
| Carers / Advocacy / Befriending / Volunteering | 12.4% |
| CVS | 8.3% |

Message from VHS chairperson, Philip Bryers

In May 2005, the Scottish Executive published the report of the working group chaired by Prof. David Kerr, entitled *Building a Health Service Fit for the Future*.

The report presents the challenges facing the NHS and its partners and proposes important principles for the future development of health care in Scotland.

We can take heart from the clear statement in the report that NHS Boards in Scotland should 'recognise the valuable contribution the voluntary sector can and does make to health care in Scotland' and from the assertion that 'partnership with the voluntary sector must be an inbuilt element...'. The report refers to some of the key roles – direct service provision, patient advocacy and involvement in service planning – fulfilled by the voluntary sector.

This is a vote of confidence in the actual and potential contribution of the voluntary and community sector. We must rise to the challenge.

Voluntary Health Scotland has a key part to play in maximising the impact of voluntary organisations. For five years now, it has been influencing this agenda and has engaged actively with many of the important issues highlighted by Prof Kerr. The network is well placed to help the sector live up to the high expectations of it.

Thanks are due to the Director and the staff team at VHS, to Board members and to member organisations for all their efforts during the past year, and to SEHD, NHS Health Scotland and Communities Scotland for their financial support.

Philip Bryers

Philip Bryers, Chairperson, August 2005



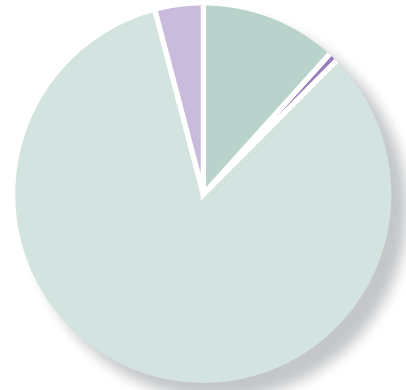
Voluntary Health Scotland

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Income and Expenditure

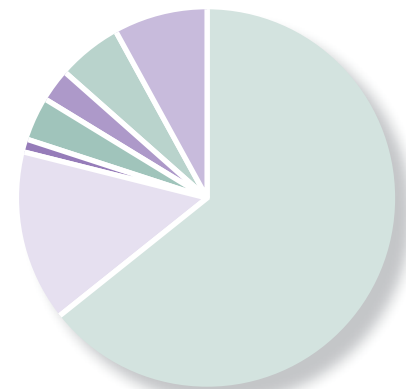
1 July 2004 to 31 March 2005

INCOMING RESOURCES £219,281



Transfer of fixed assets from SCVO	£25,649
Subscriptions	£1,750
Grants	£182,787
Other (conference & investments)	£9,095

RESOURCES EXPENDED £126,955



Staff	£81,641
Office	£18,527
Professional fees	£1,459
Conference and events	£4,679
Travel	£3,543
Staff training and conference fees	£6,876
Other (inc advertising & depreciation)	£10,230

TOTAL FUNDS AT 31/3/2005** £92,326

**Closing balance represents:	£
SCVO asset transfer less depreciation	19,237
General funds	7,825
Communities Scotland c/f	21,314
NHS Health Scotland c/f	23,950
NHS Health Scotland monies rec'd 31/3/05	20,000

MEMBERSHIP

- Aberdeen Council of Voluntary Organisations
- Aberdeen Foyer
- Aberdeen Healthy Living Network
- Aberlour Child Care Trust
- Action for Sick Children (Scotland)
- ADD IT UP
- Age Concern Scotland
- Alcohol Counselling Inverness
- Alcohol Counselling Service (Ross-Sutherland)
- Alcohol Focus Scotland
- Alternatives (Dundee Pregnancy Crisis Trust)
- Alternatives Stress Centre
- Alzheimer Scotland – Action on Dementia
- Amica Pregnancy Crisis Centre
- Angus Association of Voluntary Organisations
- Angus Independent Advocacy
- Angus Mental Health Association
- Arthritis Care
- ASH Scotland
- Asthma UK Scotland
- AUGMENT
- Backcare
- Barnardo's (Scotland)
- Barony Housing Association
- Be Well
- Befriender – A Voluntary Action Project
- Befriending Network (Scotland)
- Bethany Christian Trust
- Bipolar Fellowship Scotland
- Blood Pressure Association
- Body Positive Strathclyde
- Body Positive Tayside
- Boots Company PLC, The
- Borders Voluntary Community Care Forum
- Braveheart
- Breast Cancer Care – Scotland
- BRIDGE Council for Voluntary Services
- British Heart Foundation
- British Lung Foundation
- British Red Cross
- Bute Community Care Association
- Butterfly Trust
- C Level
- Caledonia Youth
- Cancer Link Aberdeen & North
- Cancerbacup Scotland
- Care for Carers
- Care for Scotland
- Castle Furniture Ltd
- Castlemilk Stress Centre
- CAVOC
- CCLASP
- Central Carers Association
- Central Fife Association for Mental Health
- Central Scotland Epilepsy Support Service
- CHANGES Community Health Project
- Chest, Heart & Stroke Scotland
- CHEX Community Health Exchange
- Childline Scotland
- Children's Hospice Association Scotland
- Citizens Advice Scotland
- Cobhalt Bharraigh
- Consultation & Advocacy Promotion Service (CAPS), The
- Contact a Family Scotland
- Contact Point – Barony Housing Association
- Contact the Elderly in Scotland
- COSCA
- Counselling Services Scotland
- Couple Counselling Central
- Couple Counselling Scotland
- Crossreach
- CSSAD
- CSV
- CSV-RSVP
- CVS Clackmannanshire
- CVS Falkirk & District
- CVS Fife
- CVS Inverclyde
- CVS Stirling
- CVS West Dunbartonshire
- Deaf Action
- Deaf Connections
- Deafblind Scotland
- Depression Alliance Scotland
- Diabetes UK Scotland
- Dial A Ride
- Down's Syndrome Scotland
- Drumchapel Community Health Action Team
- Dumbarton Area Council on Alcohol
- Dundee Association for Mental Health
- Dundee Voluntary Action Ltd
- East Ayrshire Advocacy Services
- ECAS
- Eczema Scotland
- Edinburgh & Leith Age Concern
- Edinburgh Community Mediation Service
- Edinburgh Cyrenians Trust
- Edinburgh Family Service Unit
- Edinburgh Headway Group
- Edinburgh Tenants Federation
- Edinburgh Voluntary Organizations Council
- ELCAP
- ENERGI
- Energy Action Scotland
- Epilepsy Connections
- Epilepsy Scotland
- Epilepsy West Lothian
- Erskine Hospital
- FAIR Limited
- Falkirk & District Association for Mental Health
- Falkirk Pregnancy Crisis Centre /Crossline Central
- Fast Forward Positive Lifestyles Ltd
- Fibromyalgia Friends Scotland
- Fife Advocacy
- Fife Alcohol Support Service
- Fife Epilepsy Network
- Fife Men Project
- Fife Primary Care NHS Trust, Health Promotion Fife
- Forth Valley Advocacy
- fpa Scotland
- Getting Better Together Project
- Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector
- Glasgow Council on Alcohol
- Glasgow Simon Community
- Gorebridge Health & Regeneration Project
- Greater Glasgow Health Board
- Haddington CAB
- Hamilton District Council for Voluntary Services
- Health in Mind
- Health Opportunities Team
- Healthy Living and Sensory Awareness Project
- Hearts&Minds
- High Blood Pressure Foundation
- Highland Community Care Forum
- HIV Scotland
- Holy Island Project
- Home Link Family Support
- Home-Start
- Home-Start East Fife
- Home-Start Perth
- International Myeloma Foundation (UK)
- Inverclyde Association for Mental Health
- Inverclyde Asthmatic Caring Group
- Isla & Jura Council of Voluntary Service
- K & D Voice
- Lanarkshire Association for Mental Health
- Larkhall Volunteer Group
- LEEP
- Linked Work & Training Trust (Central)
- Lothian Community Health Projects' Forum
- Lothian Primary Care Trust
- M. S. Therapy Centre (Stirling)
- M.E. Support
- M.E.S.H. (M.E. Self Help)
- MacMillan & CAB Partnership, Airdrie CAB
- MacMillan Cancer Relief
- Mearns Healthy Living Network
- Meningitis Association Scotland
- Meningitis Research Foundation
- Mental Health Foundation
- Midlothian Befriending Scheme
- Midlothian Healthy Living Project (HELPP)
- Midlothian Voluntary Action
- Momentum
- Moray Voluntary Service Organisation
- Multiple Sclerosis Society Scotland
- Nari Kallyan Shangho
- National Autistic Society Scotland, The
- National Osteoporosis Society
- NCH Scotland
- NHS Ayrshire & Arran
- North Glasgow Community Food Initiative
- North Lanarkshire North CVS
- OEA
- Open Secret
- Pain Association Scotland
- Pain Concern
- PAMIS
- Parkinson's Disease Society
- Parkinson's Disease Society Dundee & Angus Branch
- Paths for All Partnership
- PENUMBRA
- Phoenix Community Health Project
- Pilmeny Development Project
- Pilton Community Health Project
- Pilton Partnership
- PKAVS Ltd
- Play Scotland
- Positive Voice
- Princess Royal Trust Borders Carers Centre
- Princess Royal Trust Dundee Carers Centre
- Project Ability
- PROP Stress Centre
- PSALV
- Psoriasis Association, The
- Ramblers' Association Scotland
- RCA Trust
- RCN Scotland
- Reachout with Arts in Mind
- Renfrewshire Association for Mental Health
- Right Track
- RNIB Scotland
- RNID Scotland
- Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation
- Royston Stress Centre
- SACRO
- Safe Space
- Sargent Cancer Care for Children
- SCOT-PEP
- Scottish Association for Mental Health
- Scottish Association of Prostate Cancer Support Groups
- Scottish Association of Volunteers Managers
- Scottish Consumer Council
- Scottish Development Centre for Mental Health Services
- Scottish Haemophilia Forum
- Scottish Health Council
- Scottish Institute of Human Relations
- Scottish Motor Neurone Disease Association
- Scottish National Blood Transfusion Association
- Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care
- Scottish Refugee Council
- Scottish Society for Autism, The
- Scottish Spina Bifida Association
- Scottish Sports Association
- Sense Scotland
- Shetland Council for Social Service
- Sikh Sanjog
- Sleep Scotland
- Speakability
- SPOKES (The Lothian Cycle Campaign)
- Stepping Stones for Families
- Stirling & District Association for Mental Health
- Stirling Citizens Advice Bureau
- Stirling Health & Well-Being Alliance
- Sustrans Scotland
- Tak Tent Cancer Support Scotland
- Tayside Healthcare Arts Trust
- Telephone Helplines Association
- The Council for Music in Hospitals
- The Dochas Fund
- The Haven
- The PBC Foundation
- The PF Counselling Service
- Thistle Foundation
- UKPHA (Scotland)
- University of Edinburgh
- Visibility
- Voluntary Action
- Voluntary Action Orkney
- Volunteer Centre – East Ayrshire
- Volunteer Centre Stirling
- Volunteer Development Scotland
- VONEF
- VSA Carers Centre
- Waverley Care
- Well Sorted
- Wellspring (Scotland) Ltd
- Wigtown Council for Voluntary Service
- WISDOM Project, Alzheimer Scotland Action on Dementia
- YWCA Scotland

VHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Philip Bryers, Volunteer Development Scotland, Chair (from May 04)
- Philip Dolan, Scottish Haemophilia Forum (from October 04)
- Angela Donaldson, Arthritis Care in Scotland (from October 04)
- Elizabeth Irvine, Napier University (from October 04)
- Jack Law, Alcohol Focus Scotland (from May 04)
- Stephen Maxwell, SCVO (from October 04)
- Fiona Mitchell, Barnardo's Scotland (from May 04)
- Katie Rae, Royal College of Nursing Scotland (from November 04)
- Tim Street, fpa Scotland (from November 04)
- Margaret Totten, Counselling Services Scotland (from October 04)
- Marjory Burns, Asthma UK Scotland (May to October 04)
- Linda Long, Sense Scotland (May to October 04)
- Alan McGinley, Diabetes UK Scotland (May to October 04)
- Gill Reid, FAIR (May to October 04)

ADVISORS

- George Howie, NHS Health Scotland
- Jane Davies, Scottish Executive Health Department

THE VOLUNTARY HEALTH SCOTLAND TEAM

Our team has continued at five, with three staff members working part-time. Marie Sutherland was replaced by Phil McAndrew towards the end of the year. This past year, the Voluntary Health Scotland team has comprised:

- Helen Tyrrell, Director
- Bill Weir, Partnership Development Officer
- Marie Sutherland, Information Officer (until January 05)
- Phil McAndrew, IT / Information Officer (from February 05)
- Alison Crofts, Senior Administrator
- Lynne Hampson, Administrative Assistant