



Voluntary Action Angus **Weekly Bulletin**

4th April 2025

Voluntary Action  **ANGUS**

Third Sector Interface

This week's content covers:

FORT Demonstration Opportunity
Whole Family Wellbeing Programme Portal Launch
Funding Opportunities
New Angus Medicines Service
Learning Sessions
Volunteering Opportunities
Employment Opportunity

We hope you enjoy reading some of the latest information and updates from the third sector across Angus in this week's Voluntary Action Angus TSI bulletin.



VOLUNTARY ACTION ANGUS

FORT Demo Opportunity - Exploring System Capabilities

We are pleased to confirm that we have now received a selection of dates from Michelle Edgar, FORT Business Development Manager.

As previously discussed, this demonstration offers an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the system's capabilities and evaluate whether further exploration would be beneficial.

If you are interested in attending, please follow the instructions below:

To facilitate the scheduling process, we would appreciate it if you could complete the **Doodle Poll** at your earliest convenience. This will allow us to proceed with the next steps.

<https://doodle.com/group-poll/participate/boX2kGYd>

Launch of the Whole Family Wellbeing Programme Portal

Voluntary Action Angus and Angus Council are pleased to announce the launch of the new Whole Family Wellbeing Programme Portal, which will be hosted on VAA's website. This platform has been developed as a central hub, providing comprehensive information on all aspects of the Whole Family Wellbeing Programme in Angus.

Designed as a dedicated resource for agencies supporting families across Angus, the portal offers exclusive access to key information, including updates on workstreams, funding opportunities, newsletters, and a wide range of resources—all aimed at ensuring agencies remain well-informed and fully supported.

To request access, please follow the link below to submit your request to VAA. Once your login credentials have been issued, you will be able to stay connected and up to date with the progress of the WFWP in Angus.

<https://www.voluntaryactionangus.org.uk/wfwf-welcome/>

TAYSIDE COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL

Employment Opportunity

Tayside Council on Alcohol are currently recruiting an **HR Practitioner** to work at their office in Dundee.

An application form, job description and person specification can be viewed and downloaded [here](#) from the TCA website.

Completed applications should be returned direct by e-mail/post/by hand to Mark Harris, Tayside Council on Alcohol, The Wishart, 50 Constable Street, Dundee DD4 6AD; mark.harris@tca-dundee.com Registered Charity Number SC006511

Please note, the closing date for receipt of applications is **Friday 25 April 2025**. Interviews for this post will be held on Friday 2 May 2025.

Registered Charity Number SC006511

ANGUS INDEPENDENT ADVOCACY

End of Citizen Advocacy Project

Angus Independent Advocacy regret to announce that the Citizen Advocacy Project ended on 28th March 2025 due to a lack of funding. Angus Independent Advocacy would like to extend their sincere thanks to everyone in the community for the support and collaboration throughout the project's duration.

Although the project is concluding, they are actively exploring options to continue this important work in the future and will keep the community informed of any new developments or opportunities.

Ongoing Advocacy Services:

While Citizen Advocacy will no longer be operating, Angus Independent Advocacy will continue to provide essential advocacy services through their other projects.

If you have any questions or need more information, please email enquiries@angusindadvocacy.org or call 01241434413.

ANGUS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

Home Blood Pressure Monitor Calibration Service

This new initiative aims to improve health outcomes, raise awareness about the importance of home blood pressure monitoring and encourage self-management among patients.

NHS Tayside's Medical Physics Department at Ninewells continues to provide this calibration service for practice owned devices. Starting in April 2025, there will be a series of drop-in clinics on offer (two per month over the course of one year) in accessible locations across all towns in Angus which will be delivered by a contacted third party.

Any blood pressure monitors that do not meet accuracy standards will be replaced using a stock that has been allocated from National Services Scotland.

ANGUS
Health & Social Care
Partnership

NHS Tayside
**Charitable
Foundation**
Empowering Health & Wellbeing in Tayside

Williams
MEDICAL

DO YOU...

- HAVE A HOME BLOOD PRESSURE MONITOR?
- WANT TO ENSURE ACCURATE BP READINGS?
- REQUIRE A REPLACEMENT BP MONITOR?

COMING SOON TO A VENUE NEAR YOU..

**Angus Home Blood
Pressure Monitor
Calibration and
Replacement Service**

**LOOK OUT FOR MORE DETAILS TO
FOLLOW.....**

Make your health always your priority.
Participate in this year's exciting activities
and take steps towards a better lifestyle!

THE ARCHIE FOUNDATION

New Bereavement Responders Required

Archie's Child Bereavement Service provides direct support, advice and guidance to children and young people who have lost someone important in their lives. The organisation supports children and young people up to the age of 18 and there is no time limit on when they can become involved with supporting families. They also accept referrals for families who have a loved one going through end of life care. They tailor their service to be bespoke to the needs of the individual child or children within the family. Find out more about [Archie's Child Bereavement Service - Archie](#).

The Archie Foundation is currently looking for new Bereavement Responders to support children in Tayside who have lost a loved one.

Bereavement Responders visit bereaved families, provide emotional support and guidance to children and young adults whilst helping them comprehend their emotions, and utilise a toolbox of activities to aid families in creating and cherishing memories. All Bereavement Responders undergo comprehensive training conducted by their experienced Bereavement team through weekly sessions. They prioritise equipping their responders with the necessary tools and resources to effectively carry out their activities and responsibilities. Rest assured; you will receive thorough support to ensure your readiness for the important work ahead.



The Archie Foundation are looking for...

**Volunteer
Bereavement Responders**

Could you make a difference in your community by supporting bereaved children in your local area.

To receive more information and your induction pack contact us today:

malcolm.stewart@archie.org

Find out more about what volunteering for Archie's Child Bereavement Service is like by checking out [Margaret's Volunteering Journey - Archie](#)

If you would like more information or are interesting in getting involved, please get in touch by e-mailing malcolm.stewart@archie.org or call: 07766 402560.

You can find some Frequently Asked Questions below.

FAQ's

Q: Can the role be done with my 'day job'?

A: Yes, we mainly support the child or young person within their home so it's obviously out with school hours. It's up to the volunteer to arrange a convenient time to visit with the family so they have control over this.

Q: What would be the time commitment?

A: Obviously we have no control as to when we may receive a referral in your area. It's your choice if you are available to progress it. Sometimes one visit with a family will be enough, and for other referrals the engagement may take several weeks. We encourage no more than a fortnightly visit for a period of 45 - 60 mins. This allows the child or young person to process the work you did with them.

Q: How many families would I support at a time?

A: Although some volunteers have the capacity and are happy to help several families at a time, supporting one family at a time is all that's expected.

Continued...

FAQ's Continued...

Q: How far do I have to travel?

A: That is down to the individual volunteer. Some volunteers like to stay in their local community whilst others are happy to travel further. Mileage costs are covered by the charity.

Q: What support do I receive for the volunteer work?

A: Each time a volunteer agrees to support a family they will be offered the mentorship of one of the ACBS committee or an experienced volunteer. This means ongoing consultation as and when required and can be used to plan meetings or to debrief after a meeting.

There is an open invitation to attend an online volunteers get together every six weeks. The meeting may provide further training and guest speakers from other organisations and always provides volunteers with the opportunity to discuss workloads, seek advice and share experiences.

Contact us

To start your application today!

Malcolm Stewart-
malcolm.stewart@archie.org

Archie's Child Bereavement Service



Volunteer with us today!

The Archie Foundation

We're here for you
Supporting Bereaved Children



Who we are

Archie's Child Bereavement Service provides support to bereaved children and young people throughout Grampian, Highlands and Tayside. We believe that if children and young people are provided with the appropriate, information and guidance then they will better manage their grief.

Grampian Child Bereavement Network (GCBN) was formed in 2009 by a group of professionals who identified an unmet need for support for bereaved children and young people in Grampian.

In 2019, GCBN joined The Archie Foundation and is now known as: Archie's Child Bereavement Service (ACBS). ACBS is delivered by professionals, who are skilled and highly experienced in supporting children and families.

"Our volunteer responders are recruited, trained and mentored so they can offer effective support to bereaved families."

Our responder service

ACBS is not a counselling service. We provide direct support, advice and guidance to children and young people who have lost someone important in their lives.

We support children and young people up to the age of 18 and there is no time limit on when we can become involved with supporting families. We also accept referrals for families who have a loved one going through end of life care.

We tailor our service to be bespoke to the needs of the individual child or children within the family.

ACBS have over **60** volunteers across Grampian, Highlands and Tayside.

"We have seen such a change and I know it's definitely been beneficial to him. It's like he's found his peace with things. I really cannot thank you enough!"

-a quote from a mother who's son received our volunteers support.



When a referral is received, from either a professional body such as a school, or from a family direct, one of our area coordinators will discuss our services with the named parent or guardian. If it is felt appropriate and the child is willing to engage with a responder, the coordinator will identify an available volunteer in the general area of the child's home.

Details of the referral are then sent to the volunteer to ascertain if they are willing to provide the necessary support. The decision of whether to accept the referral or not always rests with the volunteer.

WEEKDAY WOW FACTOR

9th April - Birkhill, Dundee

Are you 50+ and interested in staying active and connected? Or do you work with community groups or organisations that support older adults? Then this is for you!

Join in this community event focused on Keeping Active & Connected.

- Wednesday 9th April 2025
- Millenium Hall, Birkhill, Dundee

11:00am - 12:00 noon light brunch
12:00 noon - 1:00pm presentation

This is a great opportunity to meet others, learn and share ideas that help us all live healthier, happier lives together!



The poster is pink with a blue speech bubble logo at the top center containing the text 'WEEKDAY WOW! FACTOR'. To the left of the logo is a blue circle with 'Age 50+' and to the right is a blue circle with 'Free Lunch'. Below the logo, the text reads: 'Muirhead & Birkhill Public Meeting Topic: Keeping Active & Connected 9th April 2025'. A dark pink rounded rectangle contains the schedule: '11am - Noon: Light Brunch' and 'Noon - 1pm: Short presentation & discussion'. Below this, the venue is listed: 'Millenium Hall Birkhill Dundee DD2 5QE'. At the bottom left, contact information is provided: 'Contact us: Email: Weekdaywowfactor@gmail.com Website: weekdaywowfactor.com'. At the bottom right is the logo for 'AHS Tayside Charitable Foundation' with the tagline 'Empowering Health & Wellbeing in Tayside'.



MARIE CURIE

Connect Share and Learn - EASE

Connect, Share, and Learn is an online space where we come together to learn from each other and explore how we can better support those in our community facing dying, death, and bereavement.

You're invited to an EASE Taster Session on **Tuesday, 29th April, 10:00-11:15am**, hosted online via Teams.

EASE (End of Life Aid Skills for Everyone) is a public education course designed to help individuals feel more comfortable and confident supporting family, friends, and community members through issues related to dying, death, and bereavement.

This one-hour taster session will give you an introduction to the EASE course and an idea of what it's like to participate. While you may choose to sign up for the full course afterwards, the taster session itself offers valuable skills that will help you support others in your community. The session will offer you some activity ideas for starting conversations, a first look at planning ahead and some practical suggestions to help you support someone who is dying. More information about EASE is available [here](#).

You can book your place [here](#). A welcome email with the Teams link will be sent to all attendees the day before the session.

UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE

Have Your Say on a New Angus Medicines Service

Community workshops in Forfar and Kirriemuir

- ▶ **Thursday 1st May** 12:30 – 16:30
Kirriemuir Town Hall
- ▶ **Friday 2nd May** 12:30 – 16:30
Reid Hall (Lesser Hall), Forfar

To book your place, or find out more, please email PIMM-PPI@dundee.ac.uk

- ▶ Places limited
- ▶ No experience necessary
- ▶ 18yrs and over
- ▶ Payment for workshop completion (£50)

What is the new medicines service?

Local GP practices will soon be offering some patients the opportunity to have a genetic test to help decide which type and dose will be best when they need a medicine. This is called pharmacogenomic-informed medicines management, or PIMM for short.

What are the workshops for?

Workshops will be running to find out about local preferences and information needs about a new medicines service that will soon be offered by GP practices in Forfar and Kirriemuir.

What will happen during the workshops?

Each workshop will have two parts:

1. Providing information about the new medicine service and asking your views.
2. Help to design information resources, such as leaflets, posters or videos, to explain the service to future patients. Don't worry, professional designers will still be on hand to help and you don't need to have any previous experience of doing this sort of thing.

Who is running the workshops?

The workshops are being run by a team of researchers from the University of Dundee and supported by Angus Health and Social Care Partnership. The lead researcher is Dr Amy Rogers, who is a clinical lecturer at the University of Dundee, School of Medicine.

Interested
in shaping
a new Angus
medicines
service?



Community workshops

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Thursday 1st May 12:30 – 16:30

Reid Hall (Lesser Hall), Forfar
Friday 2nd May 12:30 – 16:30

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- No experience necessary
- 18 years and over
- Payment on completion (£50)

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V2 21 March 2025

Photo by Towfiq barthuiya on Unsplash

KIRRIE CONNECTIONS

Early Stage Dementia Peer Support Sessions

Are you worried about your memory and think you might be developing dementia?

Are you worried about a friend or family member's memory or behaviour changes?

Are you actively supporting someone with dementia?

Nobody should face dementia alone. This Angus wide peer support network aims to bring people together, both those with a diagnosis and carers, to give them an opportunity to have their voices heard and to receive vital support with sustaining their quality of life.

Kirrie Connections have peer support meetings available across Angus in the following locations:

For any further information or advice, please call Debbie on 01575 520150

Every 1 st Tuesday (Starting 4 th March 25)	Arbroath Connections, Russell Square	15.30 – 17.00
Every 1 st Thursday (Starting 6 th March 25)	Brechin Connections, Jars Community Hub	
Every 2 nd Monday (Starting 10 th March 25)	Kirrie Connections, The Roods	
Every 2 nd Friday (Starting 14 th March 25)	Lochside Connections, Strathmore Cricket Club	11.00 – 13.00 13.30 – 15.00 10.00 – 12.00 10.00 – 12.00
Every 3 rd Tuesday (starting 18 th March 25)	Montrose Connections, YMCA building	



SCOTTISH RECOVERY NETWORK

Latest Newsletter

Scottish Recovery Network's latest newsletter is out with some of the featured headlines below.

- Let's Create a Framework for Peer Support in Scotland! – online event: 1 May 2025
- Peer Connects webinar on catch-up: The role of peer support in mental health crisis services

You can access the full newsletter [here](#).



FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

CORRA FOUNDATION - The Way Forward for Families Partnership

From the 13th March 2025, [the Way Forward for Families Partnership](#) (Way Forward) is open to applications, with a total £470,000 of funding available. Way Forward is focused on improving the lives and outcomes for children, young people and families in Scotland who are affected by drugs and alcohol.

Way Forward is designed and delivered in partnership with a Youth Advisory Group and a Steering Group. Together, these bring a wealth of skills and knowledge to the programme. It is funded by Corra Foundation and the Scottish Government, building on over 20 years of work through Partnership Drugs Initiative (PDI).

Young people with lived experience of drugs and alcohol affecting their lives are at the heart of decision making. Their expertise helps ensure the money is spent on what will make a difference to the lives of families.

Applications are invited from partnerships – with a third sector organisation as the lead applicant and one or more partners, one of which must be a public sector body. Partnerships can apply for funding of up to £250,000 over three years and must be match funded by a public sector partner.

Organisations interested in applying to the fund should make contact, by emailing WFFP@corra.scot, to arrange an initial discussion about your project. The closing date for applications is 2pm on **Thursday 8th May 2025**.

HOME-START ANGUS

Volunteers Required

Could you help Home-Start Angus make a difference for local families with young children?

Their next volunteer preparation course is beginning on Thursday 24th April in Arbroath.

For more info: Tel 01241 431131 or email.info@homestartangus.org.uk.

RECRUITING
NOW



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have parenting experience?

We are looking for people with your experience to volunteer for Home-Start Angus where you can:

- Make a difference to the lives of parents and children
- Enhance your well-being
- Access free, high quality training

Next Course of Preparation:

6 consecutive Thursdays from 24th April 2025

9.30am to 1.30pm

in Arbroath

SUBMITTING YOUR CONTENT

Would you like something added to our next bulletin? If so, send your submission to mcinallyh@voluntaryactionangus.org.uk by **5pm** on **Wednesday 8th April**.

CATCH UP WITH OLDER CONTENT

Read our previous bulletins [here](#)

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