

Emerge – a history

Emerge is a joint project between nCounter, a youth evangelism charity in Wootton Bassett) and the West Swindon and the Lydiards Church Partnership. Its aim is to bring the love of God and the Gospel to young people aged 11-18 in West Swindon and the Lydiards. We set it up between Sept 2007 and it began in January 2008 intending to run for 3 years. The two organisations set up a Steering Group, chaired by Julie Scarisbrick, to coordinate its control. Emerge set up a management team involving young people and leaders, for day to day programming and preparation

The project had three parts, that were interlinked

- Outreach to the unchurched
- Exploring faith together
- Maturing and growing in faith

The outreach part was primarily the responsibility of nCounter. It took the form of lunchtime and after school clubs such as the Youth Café; and also music lessons and concerts by the nCounter schools band Collective, and subsequently Hero Next Door.

Explore faith was funded and resourced by the partnership with the assistance and participation from nCounter youth workers. The groups developed out of Café Base West and Phaze, and grew into Remix.

Mature and grow was entirely the responsibility of the WSLCP. This was always expected to develop more slowly and currently takes the form of TGIF.

Resourcing from the WSLCP is £1500 per year, and staffing by volunteers. nCounter had employed Claire Camm as a youth worker some time before emerge was started, and one of her duties was to work for emerge(outreach) from the nCounter side. She also spent some of her time working for the partnerships (explore) side.

Emerge now and future.

Claire intends to leave nCounter on 24th May 2010. Claire would like to be employed by the Partnership to continue her youth work role from June 2010, for 10hrs a week. The after school café, Remix and TGIF would continue unaltered. Workshops at the Base and holiday clubs would stop due to the Base closing.

It is felt that the Partnership will not want to break the links with nCounter as there is still nearly one year of the Emerge agreement left to run. After discussions with Emerge Steering group and Brian Senior, director of nCounter, It was decided that if the Partnership were to employ Claire it would be strictly dependent on nCounter receiving funding from NPower and then passing it over to the Partnership. NPower would fund the Youth café but not Remix. Brian has agreed to this, funding decision expected by the end of March

It is proposed that Claire's contract would be for a one year period. We propose to disband the Steering group and merge it with the existing emerge Management Team. There would need to be a clear line of command and careful thought would need to be given as to who would manage Claire's work in the partnership. It is proposed that the 'Emerge' name will remain for the final year.

There was discussion around taking on a gap year student. The student would need work to occupy them for 40hrs a week. Careforce could provide a student. Some concerns were raised around how much management time that option would take up. An early request has been sent to Careforce. There have been discussions within Staff Team about the options for full utilisation of a youth worker within the Partnership. Brian Senior (nCounter) and Simon Halls (SYFC) have also been approached and might be willing to find use for some of their time.

Emerge proposed budget

INCOME

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Npower (for Youth café) | £6,000.00 | (if agreed, from May 2010) |
| Methodist Youth Action | £2,000.00 | (per annum, 2 years) |
| Monthly donations carried over | £1,140.00 | (these need to be checked) |
| WSLCP current funding | £1,500.00 | |
| Other donations | £500.00 | |
| Funding shortfall | £900.00 | speculative |
| Total | £12,040.00 | |

EXPENDITURE

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--|
| Salary (Project Mgr) | £6,240.00 | (10h p/w @ £12.00 p/h, tax & NI included) |
| Consumables | £2,000.00 | equipment Remix/youthcafe/ Publicity TGIF etc |
| Gap student | £3,800.00 | Likely to be reduced, if shared with Ncounter etc |
| Total | £12,040.00 | |

Actions:

- We propose Partnership Council agrees with the strategy presented.
- We propose that if the NPower funding continues, the Partnership will continue with the existing funding levels for Youth Work
- PC agrees to employ Claire for one year, subject to NPower funding
- We ask PC to appoint a suitable line manager for Claire's EmERGE role.
- PC approves the appointment of a gap student or Careforce youth worker, subject to funding and agreement.

Please discuss and ask questions by email, so we can have a clear Yes/No decision at the first PC meeting.