

funding community involvement and project development. ISBN:1 901974 48 0 £4.95

Contact: Community Development Foundation

Tel: 020 7226 5375. www.cdf.org.uk

Housing Justice Network are a new national voice of Christian action in the field of housing. 'We exist because human dignity is challenged by the lack of decent housing. Our vision is of a society where every person has access to a home that truly meets their needs. We believe that Christians working together can make it happen.' What is the real problem? The reasons are complex, but one thing is sure, there is a desperate shortage of good, affordable housing in the UK. We should all be concerned and everyone can help in some way. Become a part of Housing Justice: make a donation; invite regeneration to work with tenants on your estate; volunteer for a local project; pray for the needs of homeless and badly housed people; get a copy of 'The Trampled Vineyard' to assist your meditations; organise a service or local event on Homelessness Sunday. Get involved!! Contact: **Housing Justice**

Assets for Life is an exciting new resource to stimulate and support community development work. Jointly sponsored by the United Reformed Church, CRCW Development Workers, Church Related Community Work & TOC H. 'Why should your church or community group get involved with improving the quality of life in the local neighbourhood?' The Action Pack is full of ideas, resources, funding opportunities and examples to encourage and enable your church or community group to get involved in the neighbourhood as part of its mission and ministry, or if you're already involved, how to be more effective. There is also a video with inspirational conversations and stories from church & community groups. People talk about the vision and motivation behind the initiatives, the approaches used, their successes and disappointments and the resources that sustain their projects. A good discussion starter. Contact: CRCW. Tel: 020 7916 8653. Email: crcw@urc.org.uk www.urc.org.uk

HOMELESSNESS SUNDAY

Homelessness Hurts –
Help build homes & build lives

ON

Sunday 30 January, 2005

This tells the story of thousands of children and young people throughout the UK whose lives are stunted & damaged by homelessness.

Contact: **Housing Justice** for your resource pack and

GET INVOLVED!

Tools for Regeneration – A holistic approach for faith communities.

This Toolkit is based on the needs of practitioners of faith-based regeneration which is both a theoretical framework and a practical tool. It provides a holistic approach to understanding techniques, skills and responsibilities which will be useful both for beginners and for those with established projects. Faith Based Regeneration Network UK (FbRN). Contact: **Faith Based Regeneration Network UK (FbRN)**

Christian care for families worldwide from the Mothers' Union.

'**Taking children seriously**' is a leaflet that asks: 'Are children enabled to be partners in faith in your church? How do adults listen to children and having listened do they take any notice? Which ministries of children are recognised, and how are they encouraged to exercise them? This leaflet encourages churches to enable children to be partners in faith by encouraging the church community to value the participation of children in worship and celebration.

'**Children & Spirituality**' is a leaflet that explains spirituality and how we experience and relate to God. As adults, the most important thing we can do is listen to children and value what they tell us. Spirituality is not an add-on extra but is already a part of being human and is more than religious education. Get your church or group to think more about how you relate your faith to children.

Contact: **The Mothers' Union** or visit www.themothersunion.org

NEWSLETTERS

Progressive Christianity Network Newsletter

This edition includes 'Worship for Progressive Christians – An Exploration, led by Hugh Dawes and 'The worth of worship' which was the main part of their 'Looking back' conference at St. Deiniol's Library at Hawarden. 'Theology – A tool for transformation' was the keynote talk at the conference in Sheffield where Elizabeth Templeton shared a vision of a truly open Christianity transforming both churches and society. To receive your copy Contact: **Progressive Christianity Network**

OPPORTUNITIES

Centre for the study of Jewish-Christian Relations (CJCR) are offering new bursaries for Clergy on Sabbatical.

This is designed to support study and reflection on aspects of the Jewish-Christian encounter for one to three months between February and June 2005 based in central Cambridge.

Contact: **CJCR, Wesley House, Jesus Lane, Cambridge CB5 8BJ;**
Tel: 01223 741038/48;
email: enquiries@cjcr.cam.ac.uk;
www.cjcr.cam.ac.uk

Wheels for the World – Transforming the lives of disabled people in developing countries. Wheels for the World is the overseas arm of 'Through the Roof', a Christian disability charity, which restores and distributes previously-used wheelchairs and other mobility aids to hundreds of people in developing nations – allowing them a freedom of movement they could only dream about whilst also demonstrating the love of God in a practical way. Prisoners in Parkhurst for instance, find great satisfaction in this work which helps restore their self worth and dignity. They recognised that immobile disabled people are, in a sense, prisoners too. Could you publicise this work in your church? Sponsor a wheelchair, spare parts or a team member? Contact: **Through the Roof**

SMILE IS TRANSFORMING LIVES – Overseas mission opportunities for you and your church. NO AGE LIMIT!

Smile invites you to join a Smile ministry trip – you and your fellow church members can encourage and work with local Christians in their evangelistic and social action projects. Do you have a sabbatical coming up? Why not spend some of your time at the new Smile Centre in Kosovo teaching and training pastors, preaching and enjoying rich fellowship in local churches, distributing humanitarian aid, caring for the widows and the fatherless, studying or simply enjoying mountain walking, now skiing, fishing and relaxing in this beautiful part of God's world. You could also serve longer term.

- Some are called to PRAY for world mission
- Some are called to GIVE to world mission

Some are called to GO – move out of their comfort zone and get stuck into world mission! Could that be you? **You and your church can also help the work of Smile** by collecting Christmas Shoeboxes; Medical Boxes, Knitting & Crochet, gift packs. Please find out what people in the developing world need!

Contact: **SMILE International**

JOURNALS

Go – is the quarterly magazine of Interserve. The latest issue covers projects in Bangladesh, West Asia, Nepal, Lebanon, Mongolia. Mark Laing writes about the implications for mission of the changing nature of world Christianity, and Jeanette Happ introduces some of the people who have spent time in Patan Hospital in Nepal, and much more.

Contact: **Interserve**

Journal of Community Work and Development – this is a twice-yearly, UK-wide journal providing a focus for material relating to community development and community work research, theory, policy and practice across a range of disciplines. ISBN: 0 94791919 73 2
Contact: **Community Development Foundation.**