

Hackney Refugee Forum



Ali Aksoy,
(left) Chair
of Hackney
Refugee Forum
(HRF) updates
SPARK.

Over 100 people hungry for information on employment and ESOL classes attended our Access to Information for Refugee Week in July.

Little bit about the event - what was special - just very short tho please Ali -or we can cut the bit below about partenrs!

The success of this would not have been possible without the support of our partners: Hackney African Forum, Busoga Association UK, Refugee Workers Cultural Association, African, Support & Project Centre, SPC, HFCC, TCC, SOS Families, International Youth centre, Liberty Supplementary School, London Saz School, AGROFOREP, Halkevi, RENK-ART, African Community School, Zenith Women Association, Find Your Voice, IDMC and mainstream service providers.



Swine Flu: How Hackney's VCS can help

Forty people from across the voluntary and community sector attended a seminar to find out about swine flu. This was organised by HRF, HCVS with City & Hackney Primary Care Trust (CHPCT)'s Public Health department about on Tuesday, 28 July 09 at HCVS.

We showed videos on swine flu then Dr Jose Figueroa, the consultant in Public Health Department of the CHPCT made a presentation about the pandemic and answered questions from the floor. Dr Figueroa told us that the swine flu vaccinations will start in October, with two doses for each person. Priority groups include: people with chronic illnesses and serious health problems, the elderly and children. Following this, everybody will be vaccinated.

But, there is a problem if the virus mutates, as this vaccine will be insufficient.

The main differences in symptoms from ordinary flu is that it starts with a sudden fever with temperatures over 38 degrees and sudden coughing.

There two kinds of antibiotic available from six collection points across Hackney - available from GPs.

VCS role

According to the worst scenario, infection could rise to over 60,000 people, with 14,000 people ill – peaking during one week in mid October 2009.

The VCS has an important role to play, organizations can help by providing Flu Friends to get medication and help for those people fallen ill from their communities. A Flu Friend is someone who doesn't have swine flu. When collecting medication, they must show their own ID as well as that of the patient. That ID includes: a utility bill, passport; a credit or debit card, driving licence, or NHS card.

People can call FLU INFO LINE: 0800 1 513 513 for more details.

Watch out for updates on HCVS Email Information Service or contact Ali directly.

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