

for 2010-2011 for its Community Chest grants programme.

Voluntary Action Fund operates a number of funding programmes furthering the legacy of grass roots grant making and robust practice it has established over the last 28 years aimed at promoting the inclusion of those most excluded within their communities. Its Community Chest programme aims to help improve local communities and the lives of people most in need. Applications are welcomed from small community and not-for-profit groups who can apply for a small grant up to £1,000 to fund general activities or a specific project.

Each year the Voluntary Action Fund targets different regions throughout Scotland - this year it particularly welcomes applications from groups based within North Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire and West Dunbartonshire. But as well as funding groups in the target geographical areas, the Voluntary Action Fund is especially keen to hear from groups who work with **disability** or **health related** issues, provide **childcare** or whose beneficiaries face **exclusion** due to their ethnicity, disability gender or sexual orientation.

Applications for the Community Chest programme are welcome throughout the year, with the next deadline being **31st December 2009**. Groups wishing to apply for a Community Chest grant can download an application form and guidance notes from the VAF website at www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk . Alternatively call 01383 620780.