

“Amplify contains powerful and important messages for us all” Lord Laming



## **Amplify 2008 – 5/6 August 2008**

### **National consultation events for Care-experienced young people**

I am writing on behalf of A National Voice (ANV) to tell you about this unique opportunity for your authority to be at the forefront of delivering changes for children and young people in Care. ANV is running an event for local authorities in England, to strengthen and build on the work you are already doing by providing opportunities for young people who are already involved in participation. The events will support young people to

- Share examples of good practice
- Develop new skills to involve and empower their peers
- Consult on and identify issues for change
- Increase their personal skills for young adult living

Our Amplify 2002 event was instrumental in making a real difference to the lives of children and young people in Care. For example, as a result of the Amplify 2002 findings, the Government revised guidance to make it easier for young people in Care to take part in overnight stays at friends' houses. Now we want to give even more young people the chance to express their views.

#### **Where and when**

The Amplify 2008 event will take place in August 2008 at Manchester Metropolitan University Alsager Campus, which is near Crewe in Cheshire. We chose this campus for its wonderful facilities and ease of travelling from all parts of England (for example, trains from central London take around 1 hour 45 minutes). There will be two residential events for different age groups:

- **5/6 August 2008 – for 14 to 17 year olds and**

Places are limited to 90 delegates at each event so early booking is advised, places are charged at £320 inc. per young person delegate and £160 inc. per worker delegate – each local authority, ICH or IFP **must provide one worker** to accompany the two young people attending the event (workers will also attend special workshops which could count to PRTL requirement).



[www.anationalvoice.org](http://www.anationalvoice.org)

charity number:  
1120149

"Amplify contains powerful and important messages for us all" Lord Laming



**The event will provide the opportunity for young people to:**

- Take part in workshops and activities where they will learn skills to encourage participation – full programme to be published on line soon (booking confirmation will include details of the Amplify 2008 workshops and timetable)
- Have their voices heard through a range of interactive consultation processes including a Big Brother Diary room
- Meet and relax with other Care-experienced young people and build lasting friendships - interacting in an encouraging, safe and supportive environment

**What we'd like from you**

Invitations are only being sent to Directors of Children's Services in local authorities, IFP Directors and ICH Directors. So we ask you to decide who to pass these details on to, in order to ensure that your authority or region is adequately represented at these prestigious events.

The event is designed for young people who are (in the words of a member of our Young People's Steering Group) **'already a couple of rungs up the participation ladder'**. So please select young people who will obtain maximum benefit from this event both personally and by representing and empowering others, along with a worker with an empowerment/facilitation role, who can network and share good practice to take back skills and knowledge to your authority. Booking forms, Authorisation form and details of responsibilities are available from the Conference Organiser Mandi Hunt.

If you have any queries at all or require booking forms please don't hesitate to get in touch with Mandi Hunt, on 01322 274175 (mandi.hunt@mac.com). We look forward to welcoming young people and workers from your authority to Amplify 2008!

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J Hoyle'.

Jonny Hoyle  
Care Leaver & Chair of A National Voice

This event (so far) is being supported by:

Barnardo's  
NLCAS  
John Lewis

BAAF  
Shaftesbury  
Football Foundation

FCA  
SCIE  
Fostering Network



[www.anationalvoice.org](http://www.anationalvoice.org)

charity number:  
1120149