

# INVITATION TO BUSINESS EVENT

**The Hope Project Wellingborough, the Northamptonshire REACH Team and The Mallows Company** invite you to attend a **Local Business Information Event** on:

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2013**  
**12pm – 2pm**

## Make a difference to the local community...

Please come along to learn how your business can benefit from their inspiring work with the unemployed and the local community – how you can have access to staff endorsed by them at no cost to you.

- Meet local people, hear their life stories - the difficulty they have faced in searching for work and how determined they are to change their lives around and the major part having a job has played.
- Hear about a Community Interest Company that are helping the long term unemployed, including the disabled and ex-offenders, to rebuild their lives and help the environment at the same time.
- Discuss the possibility of offering local people work experience opportunities, learn more about the Wage Incentive Scheme, Traineeships and Apprenticeships.

## Strengthen your CSR agenda...

In addition, you can strengthen your CSR agenda and have a positive social impact.

- Hear from Christopher Stacey, from UNLOCK – The National Association of Reformed Offenders and REACH, detail employment, risk assessment and offence disclosure procedures and advice to dispel the myths about employing people with convictions.

## Meet other like-minded local businesses...

- Refreshments while you network.
- Unleash your social energy!
- Find out what other local businesses are doing to help the local community

*We would also like to invite the Recruitment Agencies that you may use to supply temporary, contract or permanent staff. Please let us know your Recruitment contacts so we may invite them, or kindly pass this invitation on to them and let us know.*

## Hope Project Wellingborough – dealing with deprivation and anti-social behaviour

The Hemmingwell Estate in Wellingborough was previously one of the top 8% most deprived areas in the county of Northamptonshire, a breeding ground for vandalism, drug taking and anti-social behaviour.

Thanks to the Hope Project the Hemmingwell Estate now has a modern Community and Skills Centre offering a variety of training courses, mentors, Careers Information, Advice & Guidance, Family Support services a youth drop-in centre and the chance to take up a new hobby or just interact with fellow community members.

In just 3 years, it has made a remarkable impact on the community it serves and provided a community focal point that the Hemmingwell Estate was previously lacking.

The community cafe known as “The Well” provides a warm and welcoming meeting place on the estate for old and young alike and the pre-school provides a safe environment for young children to begin their development.

The Hope Project has attracted local and national recognition for the work it does within the community – it previously received The Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service, the MBE for volunteer groups - yet everything is done on a shoestring budget.

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The HOPE project operates under the auspices of the new life church trust (registered charity 288001). The project provides services to individuals or families regardless of age, race, creed, religious belief, sexuality or ability.

The project was founded in 1997 and over the years has established and delivered facilities and services to the community including; community café and an OFSTED approved pre-school, as well as family support services team and a community and skills centre qualified to deliver qualifications.

## REACH Project – Employ With Conviction

REACH - Regional EmployAbility Challenge - is a Probation-led project co-funded by NOMS and ESF. REACH works with people with convictions to help them to find sustained employment. As part of this work, REACH supports employers to recruit people with convictions. The Mallows Company work with Northamptonshire Probation delivering support to the REACH project.

Our experience and expertise can help employers to develop fair and inclusive practices that enable them to employ with conviction.

### **Did you know?**

- Having a conviction isn’t as rare as you might think

- There are currently around 9.2 million people on the Police National Computer
- 1 in 3 men by the age of 53 have a criminal record

### Experiences of employers tend to be positive

- 87% of employers report that people with convictions perform as well or better than those with no convictions
- 79% of employers believe their experience of employing people with convictions is no different to those without
- 47% of employers report that people with convictions stay with them for 3 years+
- Only 6% of employers report a negative experience of employing people with convictions

### Employers have found that working with the REACH team has brought a range of benefits, including:

- Reduced employer recruitment costs through support in identifying suitable candidates
- Safer and more effective recruitment practices
- Well-prepared candidates as a result of relevant pre-employment training
- Recognition of their commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility, diversity and equality

**The Hope Project Wellingborough**, the **Northamptonshire REACH Team** and **The Mallows Company** look forward to seeing you at their Information Event on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2013  
12pm – 2pm at:

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 • **The Hope Project Wellingborough**  
 • **Hemmingwell Community & Skills Centre**  
 • **127 Nest Farm Crescent**  
 • **Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, NN8 4TU**  
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**RSVP: Alison Kelly, The Mallows Company, 01933 664437**  
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Please share invitation with colleagues and professional contacts.

[www.hopeprojectwellingborough.co.uk](http://www.hopeprojectwellingborough.co.uk)

[www.rachelmallows.com](http://www.rachelmallows.com)



Kind Regards

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