

Future Hope – Status report

A number of members of our congregation are now actively involved

Last Four Months

- **One-to-one work** – We have continued to gain referrals from the police and local schools. We are now also receiving referrals from the Family Intervention Project run by the Police.
- **Hertfordshire Drug Education Forum** – We are now been approved as members of the DEF, a multi agency expert group on drug education and issues of substance misuse in Hertfordshire. This is an exciting step for us.
- **Volunteers** – Nearly all of the people that went on our training course are now working for FutureHope on the bus or mentoring, and we have also been blessed with an admin assistant one day a week.
- **Funding** – We have received funding from the Co-Operative Community Fund and also from Herts In Trust. As well as donations from local churches.
- **So Hi weekly support group** – After a lengthy consultation period with professionals and young adults our weekly group was launched in October and we have had one young adult attend regularly. We have run the group every Tuesday despite the low attendance as it clearly benefits the young man who comes along.
- **Bus** – The Bus has continued going out to Hartham Common in Term Time, so far this academic year we have seen 403 young people come on. They have been opportunities to really help young people in need eg. a seriously drunk girl got carried onto the bus and we turned it into an emergency room for the ambulance staff to check her out before she went to hospital.
- **Cross Pollinate** – This grant enables us to offer training to youth workers and support projects in other areas including MAPS in Sutton and Harlow Youth Vision (in Harlow). We are also

developing a training course for youth workers.

Next Four Months

- **World of Difference** – One of our current volunteers, Jess Sweeney, has been accepted on the Vodafone World of Difference programme. This means she will work for FutureHope full time for two months paid for by Vodafone - a great opportunity to increase our work with young people.
- **Bus** –The Bus will be going out on a Thursday night in Ware. We plan to start in March and do it on a fortnightly basis. We are also going to be delivering more focussed Drug Education on the bus.
- **Smoking Cessation** – We are hoping to launch some form of Smoking Cessation group to help young people who want to quit smoking.
- **Drug Education Groups** – We are going to be running both of our groups, Dex n' Drugs and Dance n' Drinx in the next four months.
- **So Hi weekly support group** – We are going to continue running this every week as we believe there are more young people out there who can benefit. Hopefully as word gets out and we continue and develop our promotion the group will grow
- **Schools Work** – We have been asked to do an assembly in Presdales and some drug education in Simon Balle. We are also exploring work with Simon Balle around alcohol. Pinewood School for students with Moderate Learning Difficulties has also approached us to do some work around self harm.

Plans for the Future

- **Bus** – We want to use the exterior of the bus as a local art challenge, we would like people to come up with the design for it and the winner gets to put their design on the Bus.