

4b9

Create a New Venue

Do

Form a new group or community setting that is deliberately inclusive.

Story

‘Two women with learning disabilities wanted to take up yoga. No local groups existed, so the worker found a tutor and a community hall, and put adverts around the neighbourhood. A mixed group of citizens joined and everyone welcomed each other – including the people

with learning disabilities. Nine years later the group is still running. – long after the worker moved to another job.’ (*Burke in Bates and Davis 2004, 196-207*)

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Hints & Hazards

Check that this group does not already exist. Starting a new group can incur costs for buildings, equipment, long-term support for the group, involvement with a management committee and so on. Funding may be available from a variety of sources. Is there another organisation that could join in with planning, funding or running the venue, or that could take over the activity once it was established?

What would be the right ratio of people needing additional support to other members of the public? How do you prevent the group splitting in two?

Sometimes the new venue is created by changing a traditional service. For example, a day centre building might be handed over to the community.

Do check that the community want it before you try and hand it over! Some groups make a transition from being staff-run to self-run.