

action in the press!

This month, action has been celebrating our Big Lottery Reaching Communities grant in the local media.

Staff and young people at our Liverpool Gardens learning centre were visited by a photographer from the Worthing Herald this week who took a fabulous picture of them all celebrating our grant.

www.worthingherald.co.uk, shorehamherald.co.uk, littlehamptongazette.co.uk

Donation will mean a better life for vulnerable youngsters

A WORTHING children's charity has been awarded more than £242,000 to help support young people with behavioural issues, learning difficulties and disabilities.

The Liverpool Terrace-based charity, called asphaleia action, will use the money from the Big Lottery Fund's Reaching Communities grant, for its Better Life project, which launches in June.

The project will offer a range of activities aimed at engaging young people, aged between 11 to 19, in learning to help improve their health and emotional wellbeing.

David Cottrell, the charity's chief executive, said: "According to the Department of Health, there are 55,000 to 75,000 children with a moderate or severe learning difficulty or disability in England.

"This money will provide 270 young people across Worthing and Uxbridge, in West London, with tailored support over the next three years, leading to better life outcomes and improved health and wellbeing."

The Better Life project will also attempt to improve social inclusion by helping build stronger communities where young people facing behavioural challenges can feel empowered and equipped with the right skills to face difficulties and seek better opportunities in life.

The charity is also in the process of recruiting two specialist project workers who

will work in secondary schools in Worthing to address young people's disruptive behaviour. They will hold therapeutic one-to-one sessions to tackle their feelings of failure, lack of confidence and frustration caused as a result of not understanding their behaviour.

David added: "We are very excited about starting as this

project, which also gives us a brand new opportunity to work with the parents and carers of these young people and offer them peer support groups with other parents – something we have never done before.

"We cannot wait to start creating a sense of community within our own project."

The charity has been

providing support services to disadvantaged children and young people for 10 years, having formed as a charity in Worthing, in 2000, and launch in Uxbridge in 2004.

As well as Big Lottery funds the charity is also currently funded by Comic Relief.

To find out more, visit www.asphaleia.co.uk



LOTTERY GRANT: Celebrating the donation at asphaleia action in Liverpool Gardens W14208H11

"Appearing in the local press is such a powerful tool for us," explains Jurgita, charity manager. "Not only does it promote our work, it also gives us great opportunities to tell the community what we are doing, how we are helping local young people and how they may be able to benefit from it.

"Young people and staff also love to see their faces in the paper!"

Jurgita was also invited to local radio station Splash FM, to speak about the Better Life Project and the impact it will have on children with learning and behavioural difficulties. The interview was played out during hourly news bulletins all day on Wednesday 6th April.

"Thanks to the Worthing Herald and Splash FM for telling our story – we are so excited about this new project and the potential it has to make a difference – to the lives of so many families in Worthing and Uxbridge," Jurgita concludes.

For more information about the Better Life project please visit www.asphaleia.co.uk or phone Jurgita on 01895 272485.