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**Be part of Family Friendly Belfast**

Family Friendly Belfast has been developed by Belfast Strategic Partnership to work with families, community groups, voluntary and statutory organisations and businesses to ensure that:

**“Belfast is a city where families feel they are welcome and safe.”**

We wish to promote affordable, family friendly activities across the city that are accessible and welcoming to all families. We would like to invite organisations to showcase a diverse range of family friendly initiatives across the city, for families from all backgrounds and locations, to be held between 1 November 2016 and 31 March 2017.

Belfast Strategic Partnership has a small amount of financial assistance available to support these family friendly events. This funding is one-off and available during this financial year only and up to a maximum of £500 per event.

We welcome ideas which involve collaboration, making the best use of shared organisational experience and creativity, and ensuring the best reach and impact for families.

**Submit an idea for an event!**

We want to enable as wide a range of organisations as possible to contribute to Family Friendly Belfast. We will look at every idea submitted with a view to endorsing it under Family Friendly Belfast, and we will promote all events through our website and other media.

All you have to do is complete the attached Family Friendly Belfast Event Submission Form and send us your ideas as soon as possible – **the final deadline is 5 pm on Friday 21 October 2016**.

**What are we looking for?**

We have two main themes, **Connectivity** and **Food**. We welcome ideas for events that promote families doing things together, doings things that they would not usually have the opportunity to do, going to and discovering parts of Belfast that they may not have been to before, and creating opportunities for families to enjoy food together, through experiences that are healthy, fun and sustainable.

**Guidelines on the Themes**

**Connectivity**

**We are asking organisations to organise and deliver creative and innovative events on the theme of connectivity which will:**

* Promote connections and connectedness across all areas of the city and/ or the city centre
* Promote active travel by encouraging walking, cycling and public transport for families.

**Food**

**We are asking organisations to organise and deliver creative and innovative events on the theme of food which will:**

* Promote fresh, local and sustainable food and help address barriers to healthy eating
* Promote healthy eating for families and recognise the importance of eating together and/ or sharing meal times
* Give people an opportunity to become familiar with a wider selection of foods.

**Who can apply?**

We welcome ideas from a wide range of organisations such as community groups, schools and colleges, arts organisations, businesses and cultural groups.

As the funding available is limited, and we wish to support as broad a range of activities as possible, **we will consider supporting up to a maximum of £500 per event**; requests will only be considered for one-off costs including venue hire, transport, promotion, hospitality and logistical support for running events.

**Please list details of your request for financial costs on the Family Friendly Belfast Events Submission Form.**

**What should you bear in mind?**

* Events should be as creative and imaginative as possible
* Events should promote fun based activities and be aimed at families
* Events should encourage families to try out new activities together
* Events should be fully accessible and every effort should be made to cater for the special needs of attendees
* Events must take place within Belfast City Council area between 1 November 2016 and 31 March 2017
* Event organisers must take responsibility for all relevant insurances, licences and health and safety requirements
* The support of event organisers in publicising and promoting their particular event(s) on any print materials, social media and websites available would be appreciated
* We will provide feedback and evaluation processes for use at each event and your responses will be collated into an evaluation report.

**How do you get involved?**

You can apply by completing the Family Friendly Belfast Events Submission Form. Please note that the closing date is **Friday 21 October 2016**. A panel will review submissions and final decisions will be made by the end of October.

If you are interested in attending a short, informal session on how we might facilitate linkages to support your event or to develop your ideas, then please contact Jacqui Frazer at Jacqueline.frazer@bhdu.org by **Friday 30 September** (a provisional date of the morning of 6 October has been set aside for this session).

**More information**

If you would like more information on any aspect of Family Friendly Belfast, please email Jacqui Frazer at Jacqueline.frazer@bhdu.org or telephone 028 9050 2073.

For more information on Belfast Strategic Partnership and our other areas of work, please visit our website: [www.makinglifebettertogether.com](http://www.makinglifebettertogether.com)

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