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IT ALL ADDS UP

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A CELEBRATION OF 20 YEARS OF EUROPEAN FUNDS IN WESTERN SCOTLAND

PROJECT NAME	Rosemount Women's Computing Programme
PROJECT SPONSOR	Rosemount Lifelong Learning

Background

Rosemount Lifelong Learning (RLL) is a community managed voluntary organisation which aims to reduce poverty by providing quality childcare and lifelong learning opportunities in a supportive community setting. This project, which is targeted at women returners from SIP areas, builds on 11 years' experience of providing ESF funded training & support for women wishing to return to the labour market.

Project Aims and Objectives

By providing support, guidance, core skills and vocational training in growth sectors and occupations, targeted at disadvantaged women SIP residents the project aimed to prepare women to enter male dominated HNC Computing as a route into growth occupational sectors of IT.

The project addressed barriers to social inclusion experienced by women returners by providing:

- personal and social development
- core skills including communications, computing, literacy
- accredited pre-vocational training in computing
- integrated support package including pre-five and after school childcare, training allowance and guidance
- four week work placement in local health promotion or social care organisation
- aftercare support in linked project.

As a consequence, beneficiaries would have raised aspirations with respect to education and employment, a better understanding of the labour market and education and better able to compete for jobs in growth sectors.

Beneficiaries could study at their own pace on a rolling programme, progressing from introductory taster classes onto a 10 month Computing course with options to take further courses in web design, Powerpoint and numeracy; these classes were open to low paid women workers also.

Finance

Funding Partners	Glasgow City Council and Rosemount Lifelong Learning
Total Eligible Costs	£742,865
Total Grant	£334,288
Priority/Measure	Objective 3 Programme 2000-06 - Priority 5: Positive Actions for Companies and Individuals. This measure aimed to address the balance in gender dominated occupations and to allow equal access to employment, training and income earning opportunities.

Project outcomes

The project was very successful in reaching hard to reach beneficiaries. Over 40% of the total number of beneficiaries had no qualifications at the start of the course. 29% were lone parents and 25% were refugees or asylum seekers. More than 40% had been unemployed for more than 3 years.

The project trained 87 beneficiaries from a target of 95 and 83 of these achieved a qualification. The main outcome in terms of progression was a move into education or training as the majority decided to move onto an HNC course at college in order to enter the labour market at a higher level. When the background of poor prior educational experience is considered, this is a remarkable achievement for these beneficiaries. A total of 12 women went into employment at the end of the course and 36 went onto to further education or training.