



*European Communities
Commission
Press Release*

*20 Kensington Palace Gardens
London W8 4QQ
Telephone: 01-727 8090*

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HELPING RECOVERED ALCOHOLICS BACK TO WORK

£15,000 Social Fund Grant to London Project

The European Community's Social Fund has made a grant of £15 000 for a pilot scheme to help the training of recovered alcoholics. The work is being done by the Alcoholics Recovery Project in London. The grant covers about 25 per cent of the total cost of the one-year scheme, which is entitled the Programme for New Careers.

The purpose of Social Fund pilot schemes is to explore the possibility of new types of training or sectors where training could be developed in the future under the general Social Fund provisions. The homeless alcoholic population of the United Kingdom is reckoned to number 15-20 000 and there could be scope for developing more effective means of rehabilitating recovered alcoholics for return to open employment.

The aim of this scheme is to provide paid full-time employment with training for men and women who have been unemployed for at least a year primarily as a result of alcoholism. The eight participants in this pilot project will train as social workers with alcoholics, so using their experience as clients to help others still trying to overcome the problems of alcoholism.

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