

**BUILDING
COMMUNITY
CAPACITY
*SWAP SHOP***

SEPT – Southend team.

The Project

- Work in partnership with children's centres provide a venue for parents to swap children's clothing.
- Create a self sustaining event that could eventually be managed by the community.
- Devise a system that was not open to abuse.
- Enable H.V. staff to signpost vulnerable families without stigma.
- Reduce the impact of clothing waste on the environment
- Provide an environment which promotes positive non discriminatory transfer of wealth.

The Process

- Each swapper is encouraged to bring around 10 items or leave them at the collection places.
- Swappers bring clothing that are no longer of use
- Items are graded by a points value
- Swappers are given a points sheet
- Points are converted to clothing

The Points System

SWAP SHOP POINTS GUIDE

 **3 Points**

 **2 Points**

 **1 Point**

SWAP SHOP POINTS SHEET

1 box = 1 point.

Swap till you drop!!!

Why Have Points?

- To prevent abuse
- Level the playing field
- Vulnerable families can be given sheet prior to event
- Sheet can be “bought” with pledge of time

The essential elements

- Swappers
- Clothing
- Volunteers
- Venue

The pilot events

- Summercourt
Children's centre ~
26th Feb *

Milton Hall Primary
School
Summercourt road

- Sunnydays
Children's Centre ~
1st March *

Eastwood Primary
School
Rayleigh Road

Getting the word out

- Education forum
- E-mail information to team
- Links with other agencies

Pleasant Surprises!

- The Local Church Community.

A volunteer force!

- Essex County Council Funding!

£300 to help with
start up costs

A “shop like” feel



Local Services, Local Solutions



Successes

- Homeless mother

Identified by HV for the homeless, with young girl, fled violence and needed clothing. Swap shop was able to help with bundles of clothing.

- Young Girl with eczema

Only had football style shirts as parents couldn't afford more clothing.

Swap shop was able to donate 2 carrier bags of cotton clothing,

Father insisted on donating his last £5 to the children's centre

More Successes

- PEWS team referral

Vulnerable Mother fleeing domestic violence, heavily pregnant, only had the clothes she was standing in. Swap shop donated a bin bag full of neutral baby clothes and even some donate nappies!

- Pregnant mum

One vulnerable mother came to swap shop after being signposted by her HV, worried that she wouldn't have anything for the baby.

we were able to provide her with little girls clothing.

The Handover

- Once established the church volunteers were given the project.

Any Questions?

Thank you for listening



SEPT – Southend Locality Health
Visiting Team.