

If you work in the community - then **Community** is your union

To join call  **Community** on **0800 389 6332**

The **Social & Community Care, Voluntary Sector & Housing Workers' (SCVH) Combined Branches** of **Community Union** is the specialist trade union body for anyone working for a Social Care agency, voluntary organisation, Housing Association or any agency providing community care services in Yorkshire and Humberside, Greater Manchester and Lancashire.

The **Community Union** combined branches are run by and for people working in the Social Care, Voluntary and Community and Social Housing Sector. The branch officers are people who have worked in this sector for many years, know the kind of problems confronting workers and are experienced in dealing with the issues faced by employees across the sector. Whether you are a Care Assistant in a residential home or a Housing Support worker; whether you are an Admin Worker or a Social Worker; whether you work for a big national charity or a local Community Association, **Community Union** will give you the same priority we give all our members - **top priority**. Defending our members is what all our branch and regional officers are trained for (we call our full-time-officers "*Campaign Managers*" because campaigning for our members is what they do).

This sector is facing enormous changes and upheavals and no-one, from the smallest local voluntary group to the largest Housing Association, is immune from the pressures on services and jobs. The assault on public services, the wage-freezes and wage-cuts, the risk of redundancies and the threat to pensions schemes (where they exist at all) will have just as great an effect in the Voluntary Sector as in the statutory public services. Community Care providers who rely on contracts or individual client funding from the state (including independent care-homes) will also face pressures to cut costs. Wages are often the largest single cost-component and therefore top of the hit-list.

No trade union can guarantee to save every job if the money to pay wages is not there. However, **Community Union** is committed to fighting for jobs and services. We don't just ensure that every member gets their legal and contractual rights at work, we also campaign alongside community organisations and voluntary agencies to protect the vitally important services provided by the Voluntary and Community Sector. **Community Union** is not just about representation in the workplace (although we make sure that every member gets representation when they need it) – we are also about **Community Unionism** which seeks to combine the efforts of trade unionists with local community activists and campaigns.

**We are the Community Union. Why not join us today?**

For more information about the **SCVH Combined Branches** of **Community Union** or to ask for a union representative to talk to staff at your workplace, call the Secretary on **01482 474131**.

You can also e-mail the *Combined Branches* at: [communityunion@offbeat.karoo.co.uk](mailto:communityunion@offbeat.karoo.co.uk)

**You can join by 'phone by calling our Member Service Centre on 0800 389 6332**

or join on-line at [www.community-tu.org/](http://www.community-tu.org/)