

# FAMILY MATTERS YORK

Five years developing relationship education  
across York

presented by

**Robin Watson** – Co-ordinator

**Rob Askew** – Chairman of the Trustees

# How we began

- A group of concerned couples
- Two city meetings
- Early mornings!
- A launch: June 2000



# Setting up the Structures

- Family Matters York
- Strap Line

## 3 Priorities:

- Marriage Preparation
- Life Skills
- Parenting

# Marriage Preparation

- FOCCUS
- The Register Office
- Churches
- Mentor Couples



# Parenting

- Posters
- Positive Parenting
- One Stop Tasters
- Courses
- Schools, Churches and Community



# Funding

- Core funding (LCD and DfES)
- Other funding
- Office base in the city centre
- Staff
- Equipment

# The Voluntary Sector – partners!

- CVS and NYFVO
- Other groups and charities
- Networking



# Local Flexibility

- Bite Size
- Sure Start
- Special local events

eg City Learning Festival

Wedding Fairs

Workplace education promotions



# Developments: MONEY

## Developing Courses

- “Making ends meet”
- Students
- Family Learning
- Prison workshops

## Training

- Family Mentors
- York CAB
- Budget Counsellors



# Developments: Couple Relationships

- Register Office
- FOCCUS on-line
- Baby Shock
- HTB Marriage Course
- Couples in Crisis



# Developments Parenting

- Time out for Dads
- Special Needs
- 2 more posters



# Developments - Prisons

2003

- Pilot at Askham Grange Women's Prison

2005

- North East Region development



# Publicity

## General

- Minster FM and BBC Radio York
- Yorkshire Evening Press

## Marriage Preparation

- Trevor McDonald ITV

## The Marriage Course

- Radio 2 John Peel Home Truths

## Baby Shock

- Woman's Hour
- Nursing Standard
- Tyne Tees TV

# Strategy days

- Reflection

- vision
- aims
- strategy eg. new strap line
- objectives

- Forward planning

- choosing what to do and what not to do



# Latest Project – hot off the press!

Evaluate - informing choice

First initiative with children



# ***Relationship Skills for Life***

