



Time Banks UK  
Briefing Sheets  
SERIES ONE  
3  
Briefing Sheet No 3  
No More Throw-Away People  
The Co-Production Imperative  
Edgar S. Cahin  
Yes We Can!  
A practical guide  
to time banking  
Time Banks UK  
Available from Time Banks UK  
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Co-production in the voluntary sector needs to shift professional practice, so that they no longer simply categorise people for what they can't do, but start looking for what they can. It also means reforming government and voluntary sector systems that ask nothing of people, except that they should demonstrate constant need in order to access any help or support.

#### HOW CAN THIS HAPPEN?

Current systems forget that, at some point, professional support will end - prisoners released, patients discharged - and do little to provide effective, informal family support systems to hold things together. The objective is to build this support into the neighbourhood, in such a way that it can be accessed safely when the professionals withdraw.

Time Banks have a proven record of involving marginalised groups. They are an infrastructure - but not necessarily the only one - that can allow the voluntary sector to inject co-production into their projects. This means the effects

become more permanent and the beneficiaries are primarily the target groups - not the professional charity workers who are the intermediaries.

Co-production approaches suggest that any grant to a charity should:

- **Include a percentage that can buy rewards, that recognise the effort the target group has put in.**
- **Measure the sustainable involvement of beneficiaries, defined as working alongside the professionals to deliver support, rather than more vague methods such as head counts or consultation.**



Find out more  
Co-Production Briefing Sheet 1  
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Briefing Sheets  
SERIES TWO  
Available soon



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