

The background image shows two young women wearing yellow hoodies with black sleeves, standing behind a market stall. They are smiling and giving thumbs up. The stall has various items, including a box of 'MILK BARS' and a display of colorful candies. The stall is covered by a yellow canopy. The background is a stone wall with a window.

2
YEAR

MOVING ON UP

YOUNG PEOPLE AND EMPLOYMENT GRANTS

PILOT PROGRAMME

YEAR 2 EVALUATION REPORT

South
Yorkshire's
Community
Foundation

Contents

Introduction	1
--------------	---

Pilot Programme Overview	1
Pilot Rationale	2
Financial Overview	3
Pilot Programme Development	4
Programme Development Rationale	4
Community Consultation	4
Pilot Programme Aims and Priorities	5
Programme Timetable	5
Workshops	5

Project Evaluations	
Round 1 - January 2022	6
Round 2 - January 2023	23
Round 3 - September 2023	45

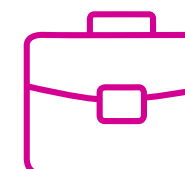
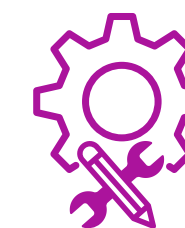
Introduction

This report evaluates the impact of the Moving On Up Pilot Programme: young people and employment grants. Specifically, the report focuses on the outcomes of projects awarded grants in rounds 1, 2, and 3 between January and September 2023.

The report provides in-depth analysis of round 1 and 2 projects, two and one years respectively after funding was received. An overview of round 3 projects is included, with a report on their outcomes planned for one year post-funding.

Programme Overview

- Grants of up to £15,000, up to £5k per year over 3 years, for community organisations addressing unemployment for young people aged 14-30 years, in South Yorkshire.
- Specific focus on projects addressing issues concerning vulnerable and marginalised young individuals.
- Location: South Yorkshire
- Deadline for Applications: 6 October 2021 - Monday 6 December 2021 09:00
- Who could apply:
 - A registered charity
 - A community interest company, or
 - Another constituted community organisation or social enterprise (including companies limited by guarantee, cooperatives and community benefit societies which are strictly not for-profit)
- no requirement regarding ensuring that each region was allocated funding. Application decisions were based on the project, not location.
- Funding required to be spent by the organisation within 36 months of the award.
- SYCF IMPACT Category: Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise



Pilot Rationale

The rationale for the pilot stemmed from findings within the 2021 Vital signs research. In order to respond and support the needs of communities across South Yorkshire, findings from the Vital Signs research were used to identify what issues were most in need of addressing from 2021 to 2023.

This piece of research (completed every 3 years) provided a thought-provoking snapshot into the current facts and priorities that needed to be addressed to increase the strength, resilience and growth of the region. Data was collected through community surveys, consultations and existing statistical data.

Out of ten, the top four priorities for action identified within the report were: Crime and Safety, Disadvantage and Inequality, Mental Health, and Work and the Local Economy. Working with the University of Sheffield the foundation decided to design and develop funding that specifically addressed the category, Work and the Local Economy. Due to this, community consultations and research into this category were conducted in order to further define the specific needs of the community and identify the best approach through which to tackle these needs.

The multiyear themed funding programme resulted from consultations with community organisations, partners, donors, and employers. The pilot programme was designed and adapted based on feedback from community groups and desk-based research, reflecting community input throughout its design, development, and implementation.

Financial Overview

Round 1 - January 2022

Date Approved: 08/02/2022

Total Awarded: £128,772.48 (£143,772.48 including withdrawn)

Number of Groups Awarded: 10

Withdrawn Groups: £15,000 / 1 group

Funded Group	Amount Awarded (3 years)	Location	
Active Futures, Educational Development	£5,000.00	Doncaster	1 Year Funding
Work-Wise Foundation	£14,750.00	Rotherham	
Roundabout Limited	£15,000.00	Sheffield	
The Suit Works Limited	£14,016.00	Sheffield	
Aspiring Communities Together Ltd	£14,352.00	Sheffield	2 Years Funding
Serenity (South Yorkshire) CIC	£13,580.00	Rotherham	
Blend Cook, Eat, Share CIC	£9,216.00	Sheffield	
Together for Sheffield	£14,500.00	Sheffield	
Grow	£13,402.98	Sheffield	Withdrawn
Endeavour Training Limited	£14,955.50	Sheffield	
St Mary's (Bramall Lane) Community Centre	£15,000.00	Sheffield	

Notes

Active Futures - Due to the success of their 1st year of funding, the group no longer required year 2 and 3's funding.

Blend Cook, Eat, Share CIC - The group went into liquidation. They received year 1 and 2 funding in their first year. Year 3 of funding was therefore not allocated.

Round 2 - January 2023

Date Approved: 019/01/2023

Total Awarded: £152,232.41

Number of Groups Awarded: 12

Funded Group	Amount Awarded (3 years)	Location
Goalball UK	£15,000.00	Sheffield
A Mind Apart	£4,819.00	Sheffield
Crossroads Barnsley Ltd	£15,000.00	Barnsley
Flying Futures CIC	£14,857.50	Doncaster
Element Society	£14,989.38	Sheffield
Premier Learning	£14,340.00	Rotherham
The Learning Community Limited	£15,000.00	Rotherham
Shaw Lane Foundation	£13,350.00	Sheffield
Soar Community	£979.56	Sheffield
Jolly Good Communities	£14,897.97	Barnsley
Active Fusion	£14,999.00	Doncaster
Bright Box Makerspace	£14,000.00	Barnsley

Round 3 - September 2023

Date Approved: 21/09/2023

Total Awarded: £18,000

Number of Groups Awarded: 2

Funded Group	Amount Awarded (3 years)	Location
Active Fusion	£12,225.00	Doncaster
Flying Futures CIC	£5,775.00	Doncaster

Total Awarded

A total of £299,004.89 was awarded to 24 groups across the three rounds.

Total Awarded: £299,004.89
Number of Groups Awarded: 24

Development

The multiyear funding Employment and Employability Pilot is a result of various consultations and desk top research with community organisations, partners, donors, and employers. The programme was designed and adapted using feedback from consultations with community groups and desk-top based research.

Programme Development Rationale

- Young unemployment has been an escalating problem in the UK since 2005, with the most recent rises directly attributable to issues of the economy and the pandemic.
- Persistent young unemployment has been embedded in our system over decades.
- Unemployment while young is linked to long-term reductions in wages, increased chances of subsequent periods of unemployment, and poorer health outcomes.
- High levels of young unemployment also have wider social and economic costs. The cost of young unemployment over the next decade has been estimated at £28 billion.
- UK businesses tell us they struggle to recruit young, work-ready staff.
- A generation of young people lost to unemployment means an inadequate talent pool for the needs of our businesses as the economy starts to recover.

Community Consultation

The consultation with community organisations suggests a three-tier approach:

1. **Pre employability skills** – engagement and soft skills development.
2. **Pre employment** – interview techniques, access to support centres, mentoring.
3. **Employment** – offering apprenticeships, kickstart programmes, graduate schemes, employment, work experience.

Consultation Findings

- **Barriers to entry:** Difficulties with inclusion, engagement, skills development, education, and criminal records were identified.
- **Limited opportunities for Black and Minority Ethnic communities:** A lack of sufficient opportunities for these communities was highlighted.
- **Importance of soft skills:** The consultations stressed the importance of developing soft skills like confidence, communication, and positive thinking.
- **Inadequate pre-employment support:** The need for increased pre-employment support, including CV writing, interview practice, and help with travel, food, interview attire, and work clothes, was emphasised.
- **Quality job scarcity:** Ensuring access to high-quality jobs, such as apprenticeships, kickstart programmes, graduate schemes, and work experience opportunities, was deemed crucial.
- **Lack of support for young people with additional needs:** The absence of company-wide strategies to support young people with additional needs was brought to light.
- **Challenges for smaller businesses:** The limitations faced by smaller businesses due to a lack of resources to offer flexibility or support were acknowledged.
- **Limited job options:** Concerns were raised about the prevalence of limited, inflexible, and low-paying jobs (e.g., retail or service). These jobs can be difficult to maintain for those with health issues due to long hours and physical demands.
- **Inadequate apprenticeships:** Discussions highlighted the potential inadequacies of apprenticeship programmes, with concerns about insufficient training, support, and lack of guaranteed permanent positions.
- **Rigid recruitment processes:** The challenges posed by rigid recruitment processes and qualification requirements were discussed. These included the need for prior work experience, lengthy application forms, CVs, and group interviews, which create significant barriers for those with limited education or social anxieties. Additionally, a lack of clarity regarding disclosure requirements in recruitment processes was identified as a further hurdle.
- **Mental health considerations:** Discussions acknowledged the high prevalence of common mental health issues within the 16-25 age group.



Programme Aims and Priorities

The Moving on Up programme focuses on supporting young people by providing pre-employability opportunities and skills through established pathways. The programme adopted a three-tier approach based on community consultation, focusing on pre-employability skills, pre-employment pathways, and employment outcomes.

1. Pre-Employability Skills

Engagement, Soft Skills Development

The prospective projects had to demonstrate that they were reaching those that are furthest away from work: vulnerable, underrepresented and marginalised. They also needed to address at least one of the key priority groups below:

- Young people suffering mental health and isolation issues,
- Young people with a history of drug and alcohol abuse
- Ex-offenders or those at risk of offending
- Young people in/ leaving the care system
- Black, Asian, Minority, Ethnic groups
- Young people suffering inequalities: gender, race, disabilities
- Young people living in workless households
- Geographical areas of high unemployment
- Young people who disproportionately struggle to access work: young carers, LGBTQ+ people, Gypsies and Travellers, young people with special educational needs

Outcomes for young people:

- Improved soft skills
- Engagement into pre-employability activities
- Positive engagement activities
- Increase in future aspirations
- Development of making informed choices

Community intervention outcomes:

- Reduction in anti-social behaviour
- Improved engagement with deprived communities to encourage aspirations into employment
- Reduction of barriers to employment with diverse needs

2. Pre-Employment and Establishing Pathways

Interview Techniques, Access to Support Centres, Mentoring, Skills Training

Within the world of employment, the projects had to demonstrate, one or more of the following:

- Supporting young people to engage with work-ready skills training.
- Supporting young people to engage with employers.
- Supporting young people to engage with work by:
 - Resources e.g., IT
 - Mentoring/job coaching
 - Wellbeing support
 - Individual and peer support

Outcomes for young people:

- Experiences of work
- Increase in skills
- Support with practical advice and help: CV writing, interview practice, travel and work clothes

Community intervention outcomes:

- Better education and employment outcomes
- Improved engagement with deprived communities to encourage aspirations into employment.

3. Pathways to Employment

Offering Apprenticeships, Kickstart Programmes, Graduate Schemes, Employment, Work Experience, Qualifications

The projects had to advance opportunities and support young people around employment, the primary focus being:

- Supporting young people to stay and progress in employment.
- Providing opportunities to support young people engage with employers.

Outcomes for young people:

- Improved work experience
- Greater career aspirations
- High quality and decent jobs
- Long term career prospects
- Qualifications

Community intervention outcomes:

- Better employment outcomes for young people and employers.
- Improved engagement with deprived communities to encourage aspirations for employment.
- Decline in unemployment rate and decline in claimant count.
- Improved local economy.

Programme Timetable

Launch and programme promotion starts	Wednesday 6 October 2021
Call for applications – round 1	Wednesday 6 October 2021
Deadline for all application forms	Monday 6 December (8-week window)

Round 1

Award funding	January 2022
Projects start	February 2022
Final/interim evaluation reports due	February 2023
Final/interim evaluation reports due	February 2024
Final evaluation	March 2025

Round 2

Award funding	January 2023
Projects start	February 2023
Final/interim evaluation reports due	February 2024
Final/interim evaluation reports due	February 2025
Final evaluation	March 2026

Round 3

Award funding	September 2023
Projects start	October 2023
Final/interim evaluation reports due	October 2024
Final/interim evaluation reports due	October 2025
Final evaluation	May 2026



Workshops

In collaboration with the University of Sheffield, a series of three workshops were held to equip successful project teams with evaluation skills. These workshops also provided a platform for open communication, allowing groups to share concerns and receive guidance from the foundation and university representatives.

The workshops, delivered jointly by the foundation and Alexis Foster from the University of Sheffield, took place on March 22nd, 2022, July 12th, 2022, and March 15th, 2023.

- **Workshop 1: Data Collection Fundamentals**
 - Focused on various qualitative and quantitative methods for gathering valuable data.
 - Guided participants in defining desired data, standardized outcome measures, and integrating these into project design and implementation.
- **Workshop 2: Building on the Foundation**
 - Assisted groups in leveraging their initial learning to ensure successful project execution.
- **Workshop 3: Measuring Impact and Presenting Findings**
 - Explored techniques for measuring project impact, designing bespoke participant engagement methods, and presenting data through engaging formats like case studies.
 - Introduced diverse data collection methods beyond traditional surveys.

These workshops empowered project teams with the knowledge and tools to effectively evaluate and improve their projects, ultimately leading to a greater understanding of their impact.



PROJECT EVALUATIONS

Round 1 - Year 2 Evaluation

- 1. TOGETHER FOR SHEFFIELD
- 2. ASPIRING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER
- 3. ENDEAVOUR TRAINING
- 4. GROW
- 5. ROUNABOUT
- 6. SERENITY
- 7. THE SUIT WORKS

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise
Primary Outcome - Increased employability
Secondary Outcome - Improved mental health and wellbeing
Primary Beneficiary - People with mental health issues
Primary Issue - Employment and Labour
Primary Age Group - Young Adults (19 – 25)
Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities
Number Of Beneficiaries - 150
Gender Percentage

- **Male** - 50%
- **Female** - 30%
- **Other** - 20%

Project Area - Sheffield

Charity Overview

Together for Sheffield is a Christian organisation that works with individuals in the local community to address food poverty, unemployment among young people, and debt cycles, irrespective of faith.

Their services include:

- A young adult employment and mentoring scheme that provides a 12-week training course focusing on character development and identity. Participants learn essential skills for future careers, including financial advice, interview preparation, and entrepreneurship guidance. The programme emphasises building social capital and offers personalised mentoring to help participants connect with workplace opportunities.
- Together for Food Provision: Since March 2020, collaborative meetings over Zoom have been held in Sheffield involving local authorities, food aid networks, and businesses to address poverty and associated societal issues, fostering joint ventures and collaboration.



Grant Usage

The grant contributed towards providing 1:1 mentoring and wellbeing support sessions to young adults at risk of long-term unemployment through the Ascend programme . These individuals also received access to peer-to-peer support and training from a mentor. The mentors advocated for their mentees in their own networks, acting as sounding boards and sources of encouragement and connection to a wider community of support.

- Who: Young people suffering from mental health and social anxiety and isolation.
- Staff: A paid volunteer mentor co-ordinator. Volunteer mentors from across Sheffield.
- Activity: Training and growth through a volunteer mentor network.
- Location: Informal 3rd spaces, phone and online
- Where: Across Sheffield and the surrounding regions.





"Over the past year, Ascend has significantly expanded its influence within the community, building on the foundational work laid in our initial phase. Our dedication to making a meaningful impact has only grown stronger, with our efforts increasingly recognised across the broader community. The data we've collected on young people has deepened our understanding of the persistent and cyclical challenges they face regarding employment attitudes, allowing us to refine and amplify our interventions.

Our partnership with S6 Foodbank has evolved from a promising start to a robust collaboration with The Community Grocery and over 20 employers Sheffield that exemplifies our shared commitment to dignity and opportunity for all. The challenge of insufficient phone credit among our young adults, which initially hindered their participation in the Ascend employability programme, has been addressed with innovative solutions. Thanks to the Foodbank's support, we've distributed pre-loaded SIM cards to over 100 individuals, doubling our reach and enabling more young people to secure employment and connect with potential employers.

This collaboration has deepened, with mutual benefits becoming increasingly evident. Ascend participants not yet ready for paid work have been welcomed as volunteers at the Foodbank, while some Foodbank staff have joined us as mentors. Additionally, Foodbank clients are now referred to Ascend, creating a virtuous circle of support and opportunity. This synergy is gradually reducing the Foodbank's burden as more young adults gain employment.

Our implementation of a comprehensive questionnaire has yielded valuable insights, particularly highlighting the prevalence of joblessness in our participants' households. Now, with a larger cohort, 70% hail from homes without employment, and all were unemployed in the six months prior to joining Ascend. This data underscores the critical need to break this cycle. Through engaging with local employers and encouraging a more diverse recruitment strategy, we're starting to see tangible improvements. Remarkably, 85% of our participants are now employed, with the remaining 15% engaging in volunteer work, marking a significant uplift in outcomes compared to last year.

Our journey over the past two years underscores a story of growth, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to transforming lives. As we look ahead, Ascend is poised to further its impact, breaking down barriers to employment and fostering a more inclusive and supportive community." - **Together for Sheffield**



Ascend Employer Case Study - Jynx
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=InF4PqLopMI>



"X's arrival was memorable, not just for his dishevelled appearance but for the unmistakable determination in his eyes. Despite the visible wear and tear on his clothes and the uneven stubble across his face, it was clear that beneath the surface, X harboured a fierce resolve to overcome his circumstances.

Recognising this, we introduced X to an opportunity for a two-week work experience at Simpkins Sweets, a local confectionery known for inventing the travel sweet tin. This was a chance that required no CV or formal interview, just the willingness to show up and work hard. We emphasised the importance of commitment, making it clear that the opportunity should be seized fully if he was to benefit from it.

X's journey from that initial meeting to where he is now underscores the transformative power of mentoring and targeted support. Thriving in the structured environment of the sweet factory, he not only secured a permanent position but also embarked on a journey of personal and professional growth. Through mentoring, X received guidance and training that went beyond the scope of his job. This support system was instrumental in not only helping him keep his job but also in facilitating his reconciliation with his family and his development into a potential shift leader.

X's progress is a testament to the impact of our mentoring programme. His teeth may still bear the marks of past struggles, but his achievements reflect a brighter, more hopeful future. This case highlights the critical role mentoring plays in unlocking potential and navigating the challenges that come with personal and professional growth. It also serves as a poignant reminder of the countless individuals like X who are hindered by systemic barriers and misconceptions about the value of work experience opportunities.

As we celebrate X's success, we remain cognizant of the broader challenge: dismantling a system that too often fails to recognise the potential in those it deems unfit or unprepared for the workforce. Our anger at this broken system fuels our commitment to advocate for change and to create more pathways for success for individuals like X, whose potential is immense, waiting only for the right support and opportunities to be unleashed." - **Together for Sheffield**





Impact Indicators

Number of people completing training - 60 - Out of the 60 taken through Ascend so far, all have completed work trials/training, mentoring and have had a celebration to mark the end of their time with us. All of their young adults are given a training booklet to help them document and analyse how the training is helping to measure success in the areas listed below.

Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills - 55 - Of candidates have marked improvement. Commented on by mentor, employer and trainers.

Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge - 55 - through a self-evaluation form. They asked young adults to do this at the beginning and end of their time with them.

Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 55

Number of people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities - 15 - They have recently introduced a work experience programme that enables young adults deemed further away from employment to have 2 weeks of work experience before they join their cohort.

Number of people who became self-employed or gained employment - 21

Number of work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities provided - 60

Number of people reporting a reduction of stress, anxiety and/or symptoms of depression - 60 - All young adults reported that their time with them had increased their sense of worth; reduction of stress/anxiety and symptoms of depression. The most commonly given reason for this was that they had regular peer to peer support and a regular and consistent person connected with them to listen and help (mentor).

Number of people reporting improved mental health or wellbeing - 60

Number of people reporting increased resilience and/or self-care - 60 - Where mentoring relationships have been especially strong, the opportunity to discuss some of the harder aspects of resilience and self care have been able to happen. Mentors have helped to facilitate this by accompanying their mentee on shopping trips to improve personal hygiene, checking in with them after the first day on a work trial to encourage resilience in sticking with the opportunity.

Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 60



Aspiring Communities Together

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Increased employability

Secondary Outcome - Increased educational attainment

Primary Beneficiary - Not in education, employment and training (NEET 16 - 24)

Primary Issue - Employment and Labour

Primary Age Group - Young Adults (19 – 25)

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 40

Gender Percentage

- **Male** - 100%

Primary Activity - Multiple activities

Project Area - Doncaster

Charity Overview

Aspiring Communities Together Sheffield (ACT) are a community organisation that deliver services that tackle the persistent social and economic disadvantages, and educational barriers, that BME people face.

ACT Sheffield offers:

- Healthy Living Centre with gym, classes, café, and therapies.
- Adult education with ESOL and basic skills courses.
- Initiative that BME youth in Burngreave/Fir Vale with educational programmes to improve self-esteem, skills, and family involvement, targeting those disconnected from school or engaged in anti-social behavior.
- Muslim Elders Support Project (MESP) for the Elderly: This initiative aims to assist older individuals in accessing the necessary services, resources, and facilities to uphold their independence and enhance their quality of life.
- An Arabic language school provides young people with vital Arabic speaking, reading, and writing skills.
- Fir Vale Preschool for childcare and training access for parents.

Grant Usage

The grant contributed towards paying for qualified youth workers to assist around 40 young BME males through sports sessions. ACT utilised sport as a strategy to engage with 40 BME young people aged between 14 to 24, individuals who predominantly lived in jobless households. Sessions were held twice a week on Fridays and Sundays.

Additionally, the sporting sessions were then followed up by soft skills workshops and focus group sessions at ACT in the Fir Vale Centre, one of the most economically deprived areas of Sheffield.

ACT continues to conduct bi-weekly sessions with young men, taking place on Fridays and Sundays, involving football activities followed by supplementary soft skills workshops and focused group sessions at ACT in the Fir Vale Centre.

The football sessions and workshops each have a duration of one hour. Three youth workers are dedicated to supporting the football sessions, while two additional employment support workers assist during the soft skills workshops.

The workshops cover a range of activities and topics, including confidence building, creative writing/poetry/rap, mindfulness, skill sharing, mental health support, communication, problem-solving, team-working, CV and cover letter development, interview techniques, and the establishment of future career goals.



Impact

The feedback received from ACT’s participants indicated that their programme served as a positive diversionary activity. Football was shown to provide a compelling reason for many individuals to actively engage with their organisation on various levels, particularly in our workshops and focus groups. It facilitated the formation of new friendships and support networks, thereby strengthening the participants' connection with ACT’s services.

To systematically gauge these changes, ACT conducted a series of focused group sessions addressing topics most relevant to the participants. Through these sessions, ACT staff collaboratively developed individualised action plans with small, achievable goals, guided by the participants themselves. Progress towards these goals was recorded on the action plans, and additional support was provided for goals that had not yet been attained.

Initiating their workshops, ACT administered a mental well-being questionnaire to all participants to establish a baseline for attitudes, well-being, and confidence levels. This assessment was repeated at the end of the first year, allowing ACT to evaluate any changes or improvements. Furthermore, an interim questionnaire was administered to assess the ongoing impact. The results consistently demonstrated improvements in the participants' initial well-being scores.

“

“The most significant impact observed is the positive transformation in participants' outlook, well-being, and confidence levels. For some, this transformation has manifested in increased involvement in learning, training, volunteering, or employment.”- ACT

Case Study

X became involved in our project at the age of 18. Having departed from school without academic qualifications and having come to the UK as an asylum seeker, he grappled with a notable lack of confidence, self esteem and language barrier. Through workshop and focus group sessions, however, a positive transformation in his confidence emerged. During a session addressing career aspirations, X expressed a keen interest in pursuing a career in the trades, particularly to become a plumber.

In response, our Information, Advice, and Guidance (IAG) worker referred X to the SCC sector routeways courses and training where he achieved his CSCS card and valuable training on building sites. Since then he has enrolled with Sheffield City College on their plumbing level 1 course.

Impact Indicators

- Number of people completing training** - 10 - supported 10 of the young people to take up training placements with SCC - Opportunities Sheffield - sector routeways - short classroom and work experience based courses.
- Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills** - 36 - evidenced via focus group discussions and well being questionnaires.
- Number of people reporting increased practical skills** - 20 - Individuals now able to do job search and know how to use apps like indeed.
- Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge** - 36 - There was a focus on resilience and confidence building and how to handle difficult situations and 90% of the young men they supported felt that they now had the skills and knowledge to do this.
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work** - 35 - Workshops and continued support from volunteers contributed to the young men feeling that they are now better prepared for work than before.
- Number of people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities** - 10 - Of the school age participants received support in gaining work experience via their volunteers in various local organisations.
- Number of people who became self-employed or gained employment** - 3 - Were supported in finding and gaining part time employment.
- Number of people who gained an accredited qualification** - 2 - Participants who were doing their second year of A levels when they started the project have achieved C or above.
- Number of people who went into further and/or higher education** - 20 - 50% of the young men they supported went on to take college courses after leaving school.
- Number of people whose engagement in education/learning has improved** - 5 - Youths facing potential expulsion were successfully retained in education thanks to the programme's efforts.



Endeavour Training

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Increased employability

Secondary Outcome - Increased educational attainment

Primary Beneficiary - Long-term unemployed

Primary Issue - Education, learning and training

Primary Age Group - Young Adults (19 – 25)

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 5

Gender Percentage

- **Male** - 80%
- **Female** - 20%

Primary Activity - Bridging between projects, and fund supplemental activities

Project Area - Burngreave and surrounding areas in Sheffield

Charity Overview

Endeavour training aims to ensure that all individuals have the opportunities and support to develop skills, knowledge and confidence that will allow them to fulfil their potential and create a positive future. The location of Endeavour is within an area of deprivation, where the need for support is high. We aspire to be at the heart of the community and meet the needs of the people within it, working with valued partner organisations who are trying to achieve similar outcomes. Overall, Endeavours programmes and activities enrich the lives of individuals most in need through education and adventure.



Grant Usage

Before the end of the 2023 summer term, Endeavour Training ran a Street Games project developing coaching skills with young people, and some of these young people volunteered with their youth club, as it was being established. They wanted to continue to work with these young people to further develop their skills, so over the summer holidays they integrated an organised work experience programme into their HAF (Holiday Activity and Food) programme, and extended this provision with selected individuals to supporting their development as young leaders in their youth clubs - for example supporting them gaining online training and certification in various elements of youth work. They have supported 5 young people under the age of 18 thus far, in both Sheffield and Rotherham.

Since the first year of funding, Endeavour Training has launched a project to improve local employability by placing participants in jobs. They are now expanding their Moving On Up programme to help specific participants secure paid employment in the youth work sector.

Their alternative provision was revamped to incorporate dedicated vocational training alongside outdoor education days. These outdoor days offered young people marginalised from mainstream education the chance to pursue personal awards in various outdoor pursuits and potentially even a career path as an outdoor instructor. Leveraging the programme developed through Moving On Up, they can now provide future work experience in outdoor instruction.



Impact

Endeavours launched a work experience programme for young people via their Holiday Activity and Food clubs, benefiting both the youth and children at the clubs. They partnered with organizations like Sheffield City Council and Blackburn Youth Club, as well as local schools and families. Feedback from families indicated the significance of these opportunities for children.

“

“We are looking to move beyond the SPOKES model of feedback to incorporate a more finely graded framework, in the Skills Builder framework. We want to help our young people set more specific targets for their personal development.” - Endeavour

Case Study

One individual, previously disengaged from education, showed improvement through a youth club programme. Despite challenges in post-16 education, they excelled in the youth club. The project helped them become a young leader, complete an online course, and discover an interest in youth work as a future career. The funding will help Endeavour to continue to support this individual and many more through their employment model, developed through SYCF, Moving on Up funding.

“

“We receive feedback from our families through constant text communication. so we understand how much these opportunities mean for the children.” - Endeavour

Impact Indicators

- Number of people completing training - 5
- Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills - 5
- Number of people reporting increased practical skills - 5
- Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge - 5
- Number of work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities provided - 5
- Number of people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities - 5



Grow

EU Sustainability Development Goals



grow

Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Increased employability

Secondary Outcome - Improved mental health and wellbeing

Primary Beneficiary - Long-term unemployed

Primary Issue - Employment and Labour

Primary Age Group - Young Adults (19 – 25)

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 101

Gender Percentage

- **Male** - 55%
- **Female** - 45%

Primary Activity - Workshops

Other Activities - 1:1 support

Project Area - Sheffield



Charity Overview

Grow is a youth development charity that works with young people in Sheffield. Many of the young people that they work with face mental health difficulties that have resulted in social isolation and a lack of engagement in work or training prospects. At Grow they combine coaching with nature based projects to help our trainees combat social isolation, boost their wellbeing and develop employability skills.

Grant Usage

The grant funded the 'Grow Partners Initiative' for young people, providing paid work experience in gardening teams to develop employability skills and improve mental well-being. Targeting disadvantaged youth, the programme aims to combat social isolation and mental health issues, integrating nature-based training for positive peer relationships.

Impact Indicators

Number of people completing training - 101 Positive progress in numbers in 2023

Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills - 20% increase in social connection

Number of people reporting increased practical skills - 101

Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge - 101

Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 101

Number of people who became self-employed or gained employment - 75%

Number of people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities - 101

Number of people reporting a reduction of stress, anxiety and/or symptoms of depression - 28% increase as measured by Warwick Edinburgh scale

Number of people reporting improved mental health or wellbeing - 28% increase as measured by Warwick Edinburgh scale

Number of people reporting increased resilience and/or self-care - 28% increase as measured by Warwick Edinburgh scale

Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 28% increase as measured by Warwick Edinburgh scale

Case Study

X was referred to Grow Gardeners by the alternative provision school he attended. The school observed that X was disengaging from education and instead showing a real interest in exploring employment but experienced barriers to this goal. When X joined the programme he was 17 years old but very reliant on his parents to achieve day to day tasks. X's autism and learning disability meant he found navigating instructions, directions and working with others difficult.

At the start of the programme X had to be dropped off and collected by his parents each day and needed a lot of general support. The team worked hard to develop X's confidence and soft skills, this included travel training, sessions around building relationships with others and discussions around developing a more mature relationship with family members.

By month two, X was travelling to and from work independently and was building good relationships with the other trainees. By month four of the programme, X was ready for his next step and successfully applied to join an apprenticeship with a landscape gardening company.

“

“X is still in this role and is thriving. The whole team (and the school) were incredibly inspired by X's commitment to making positive steps and the pace in which he matured and moved forward!” - Grow

Roundabout

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Increased employability

Secondary Outcome - Increased educational attainment

Primary Beneficiary - Homeless people

Primary Issue - Homelessness

Primary Age Group - Young People (13 – 18) / Young Adults (19 – 25)

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 56

Gender Percentage

- **Male** - 46%
- **Female** - 54%

Project Area - Sheffield



Charity Overview

Roundabout is a local youth housing charity in South Yorkshire, offering shelter, support, and life skills to young people aged 16-25 facing homelessness. Their goal is to end youth homelessness by providing quality housing and support services for a brighter future. They provide training, engagement, and empowerment programmes using a strength-based approach to help youth gain independent living skills, aiming to break the cycle of homelessness and promote long-term self-sufficiency.



"I am so grateful for the help I have had," said 'X', [who is now planning on starting her own business] "Life is looking so much better now. I never thought I would be able to do this because of money and my situation but

Roundabout helped me achieve my dream!" - **X**

Grant Usage



<https://www.roundabouthomeless.org/>

The grant contributed towards the salaries of the staff members providing the support services. Through the grant, Roundabout was able to provide bespoke careers support for young people who were homeless or at risk of homelessness, as part of their Homeless Prevention Service.

Their employment and skills officer worked across their organisation on a referral basis, accessible to young people whether they access the City Centre drop-in service, their accommodated in one of their properties or were referred from any other Roundabout's services.

Funded Activities:

- 1-2-1's with YP. Home visits, meeting at other Roundabout sites
- CV's, job search, application forms, support finding college and university courses, supporting YP to appointments with training providers, colleges and universities
- Confidence building with YP
- Meetings with Future builders
- Bursary panel workshops with EYH and potential funders
- Meetings with Fletchers Waste for potential vacancies
- Meeting with Henry Boot re potential employability support and work experience
- Meeting with St Lukes re volunteer roles
- Meeting with social enterprise Blend for volunteer and paid employment
- Meeting Sky housing to discuss apprenticeship positions
- Setting up training course with Whitehead and Booth
- Meeting with Business in the community or potential partnership across Sheffield
- Meeting with HAYS recruitment



Impact

"Our Employment Education and Training worker continues to help the young people we support overcome some of the barriers they face to moving forward positively towards adulthood.

The 1:1 support we give these young people can make a huge difference; having someone who keeps believing in them is so important, whatever their varying needs may be and whatever is going on in their lives. And the more young people we can help into work, education and employment, the better it is not only for them but for the local economy, as well as inspiring other young people to follow in their path.

We monitor young people's progress on our in-house system, which also records their progress in other areas depending on which of Roundabout's services they need based on their circumstances. Having lots of services under the umbrella of our organisation leads to joined up working and better outcomes for our young people." - **Roundabout**

Case Study

X came to roundabout after not getting on with her mum at home. The arguments were getting worse and X was really struggling. She came to Roundabout and was able to gain a place in the future builder's property where she shared with two other young people. X was suffering with her anxiety but despite this she really wanted to be able to find a job. **"I had worked previously and wanted to find work where I would feel comfortable"**

X was put in touch with the EET worker who arranged to go and see her at her home. The EET worker talked with X and looked at what she wanted to do. X's CV was up dated and the EET worker met regularly with X to apply for jobs.

A company got in contact through the Roundabout fundraising team who wanted to give a temporary opportunity to a young person to help them gain skills and experience and the EET worker talked to X about the opportunity. **"Because I have been able to gain experience before this in admin I felt like I would be able to do the job and I was happy to go for it"**

X had the interview and was successful in getting the job. X needed some work clothes so the EET worker told her about the bursary and X was able to get some work clothing ready for when she started as well as a bus pass for the first month. **"Being able to buy some work clothes helped so much. It gave me more confidence in going into a new job. I was also given a travel pass so I could get to work. This really helped me out"**

X was there three months and although it was a temporary role she was able to learn new skills. Once the job had finished the EET worker kept in touch with X and has started helping her again to look for work. **"It's so nice to know that I can continue to get support. It helps knowing that there is someone there to support me in looking for work still and that just because I had a job the support doesn't stop there, It means a lot"**

X has had a couple of interviews and knows that it won't be long until she will be working again. **"I don't know what I would have done without the support, it helps me knowing that I don't have to do this on my own" .**

- Roundabout
- X

Impact Indicators

Number of people completing training - 16

Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills - 22

Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 39 - Their work focuses on empowering young people by building on their existing confidence, skills, and experience.

Number of people who went into further and/or higher education - 4 - One young person has started university in Manchester



EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Increased employability

Secondary Outcome - Improved mental health and wellbeing

Primary Beneficiary - Not in education, employment and training (NEET 16 - 24)

Primary Issue - Education, learning and training

Primary Age Group - Young Adults (19 - 25)

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 6

Gender Percentage

- **Female** - 83%
- **Male** - 17%

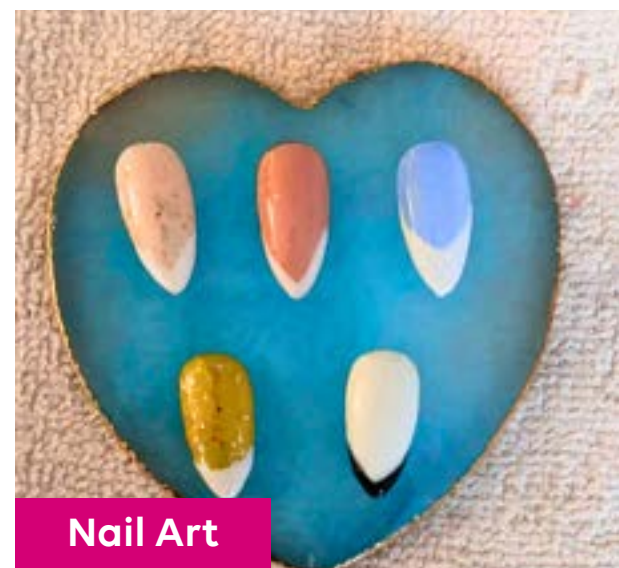
Primary Activity - Multiple activities

Project Area - Across the Dearne, Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham

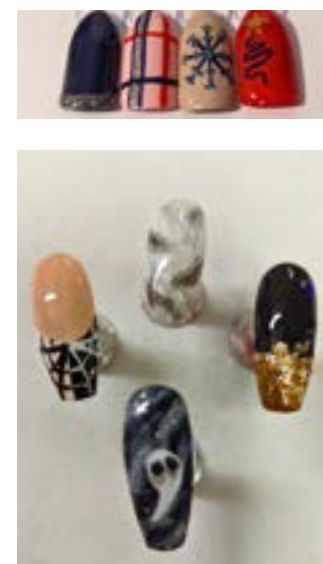


Charity Overview

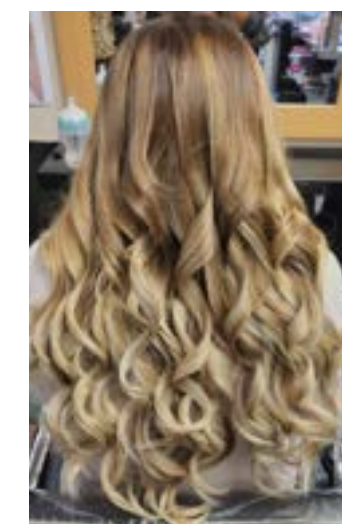
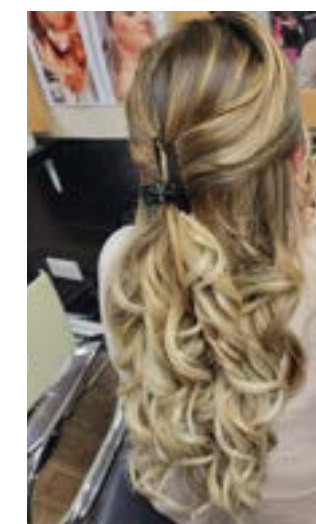
The Serenity project in Dearne, South Yorkshire offers training for young people and adults to enhance skills for employment. The project is located in the Dearne area of South Yorkshire, where many young people face unemployment, low income, reliance on benefits, and challenges with confidence and self-esteem. They assist individuals struggling in traditional college settings by providing personalised support and communication skill improvement in small groups.



Nail Art



Hair Styling



Serenity's beneficiary students were initially unemployed and uncertain about their future. This course has enhanced their soft skills and technical abilities, preparing them for employment. Their critical thinking skills have significantly improved, providing them with achievable goals throughout the programme. Consequently, they have transitioned into volunteering, securing employment, or advancing to higher levels of learning within the hair and beauty industry. Beyond the students, their friends and family in the local community have also benefited. By practicing treatments on them and sharing their experiences at Serenity, the learners have attracted more community members to our training salon. This has supported their mental health and self-care and enhanced their quality of life.

Impact

Serenity provides employment and development support to young people using a grant to acquire subject tutors. The grant funded introductory courses covering skills like making beauty products, workplace safety, and customer service, aiming to progress learners to accredited courses in hair and beauty. Learners gained accreditations and work experience in a salon-based setting. Serenity's qualified tutors, including a NEETS specialist with a BA in working with children and young people, coordinate and deliver the programme across various subjects, teaching and supporting learners and other tutors.

Six dedicated learners successfully completed a Level 1 VTCT Award in Hair and Beauty, an accredited qualification. Their mastered skills include manicures, nail art, shampooing, braiding/twisting, blow drying, setting, and hairdressing. Additionally, they gained crucial knowledge in workplace safety and communication.

Having aced all their tests and practical assessments, these learners are now prepared to tackle higher-level programmes. Their success extends beyond technical skills – the integrated courses in math, English, and CV writing empowered them to excel in these areas as well. All targets were met, and they are now confidently looking towards further education.

Case Study

X went from a negative experience at a large college to flourishing at Serenity in Hair and Beauty. Initially shy, she showed natural talent in the small group setting. She now volunteers at the salon, demonstrating dedication and skills. X's confidence and motivation have been restored, and she looks forward to progressing to a Level 2 Qualification in Hairdressing.

“

“X started the course and was a very quiet girl for the first few weeks not knowing us. With our groups being very small (max 6) she began to come out of her shell showing some real natural flair for the craft. She has now flourished with her skills and communication within the group ,and asked if she could come in voluntary in our working salon to help her more with her skills. She has been working with us here since November 2022 and is now a valuable team member doing anything that is needed within the salon without asking. X has only had one day off since starting the course, and as never let us down with her voluntary days in the salon.

She is now a very happy motivated 16 year old who will make a fantastic Hairdresser. She cannot now wait to progress with us to her level 2 Qualification to become this.

After asking her last week how she felt this has helped her she said **“it is the best decision I have ever made”** and restored her confidence in the learning knowing there are some really good tutors who learn people well and give their time to do this.”

- Serenity



Impact Indicators

Number of people completing training - 4 - Completed a full level 1. 5 completed a health and wellbeing workshop.

Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills - 6

Number of people reporting increased literacy and/or numeracy skills - 6 - Working out product measurement and percentages in both their practical and theory sessions. Assignment work helped with spellings and grammar.

Number of people reporting increased practical skills - 6 - All learners progressed very well and have a more positive outlook from the positive learning experience. All learners have developed new skills that they can use both on themselves and others putting them to good use and progressing.

Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge - 6

Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 6 - All learners reported they were more work ready and would like to move to further training.

Number of people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities - 6 - 2 of the learners were in a salon gaining experience of real salon work on a volunteering basis.

Number of people who became self-employed or gained employment - 1 - Learner moved onto full-time employment.

Number of people reporting a reduction of stress, anxiety and/or symptoms of depression - All learners reported that they were really enjoying their learning and feeling happier with their life and have more purpose in it.

Number of people reporting improved mental health or wellbeing - 6

Number of people reporting increased resilience and/or self-care - 6 - Due to the nature of the course all learners gained skills on how to look after themselves better and taking care of themselves, making sure they give more self care to keep themselves feeling and looking better.

Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 6 - All learners had discussions with each other and their tutor and felt a lot more confident with dealing with both people and in the skills they learnt. They built confidence through engaging in conversations.



The Suit Works

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

MPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise
Primary Outcome - Increased employability
Secondary Outcome - Increased educational attainment
Primary Beneficiary - Long-term unemployed
Primary Issue - Employment and Labour
Primary Age Group - Young Adults (19 – 25)
Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities
Number Of Beneficiaries - 265
Gender Percentage

- **Female** - 41%
- **Male** - 57%
- **Other** - 2%

Primary Activity - Core Cost
Other Activities - Project development/planning
Project Area - Sheffield City Reg

Charity Overview

The Suit Works is Sheffield-based charity that helps unemployed people succeed at interviews by building confidence through personal styling and interview coaching. Their unique service supports unemployed individuals of all ages by providing styling sessions and interview-appropriate clothing for job interviews, aiming to break down barriers to employment. This service boosts clients' self-esteem and self-respect. Furthermore, clients receive informal interview skills training covering topics like body language, grooming, managing nerves, and practical skills such as ironing a shirt.



Grant Usage

The grant provided essential funding for The Suit Works' staffing costs, enabling the continuation of vital interview preparation services for unemployed individuals. A portion of the grant supported the CEO's role, which is crucial for a small charity with only two part-time staff members. The additional resources facilitated a five-hour weekly increase in the CEO's capacity, allowing for expanded service delivery and strengthened partnerships.

Impact

The Suit Works initiative aimed to boost referrals among younger individuals (aged 14 - 30) by 25% annually. Their goal was to reach 141 young people, but they actually engaged with 151 individuals in that age group from February 23 to January 24, exceeding the target set.

The grant was also used to support the CEO's salary, allowing the CEO to dedicate extra hours to further building on the progress achieved during the first year of the grant.

- They continued to increase referrals by:
- Increasing engagement and partnership working with referral agencies
 - Improvement of our engagement strategy
 - Increase the amount of events we were able to attend with younger people present
 - Deliver external workshops around interview preparation and presentation



Case Study

X came to the Suit Works as part of The Princes Trust Group. On the day they had around 20 young people present who had all completed the 12 week The Princes Trust Employability programme. They required smart wear for not only job interviews, but for the presentation that they had to delivered at the end of the course.

Whilst X had gained a lot of new skills during the programme, she felt she was still lacking in real confidence that she needed to secure a job role.

Whilst seeming confident on the surface, she confided in the Suit Works that she knew she **"probably wouldn't find anything to wear and probably wouldn't get a job anyway."** She also wasn't prepared for her presentation and speech that she had to make.

“We ensured we had an extended appointment with her that allowed her time to talk through what her plans were and what kind of outfit would make her feel confident .”- **The Suit Works**

“We want individuals to have their personality reflected in their outfit; this is where the confidence comes from!”- **The Suit Works**

“Thank you for seeing the group today. We want to thank you for being so patient with X and X. They have been talking about the experience today and Chloe has even requested to practice her speech with us as she now feels she is able to deliver it. As always, you have worked your magic. Please thank the stylist Susanne who spent the afternoon with her!” - **The Princes Trust**

“Not only was she able to tackle the immediate challenges of taking part in a presentation and job interview. She was also assured that you can be yourself and be in a professional environment. With support from ourselves and The Princes Trust, she is now able to become more financially independent and feels employable. Clients like X are the reason we know our service is so important.” - **The Suit Works**

Impact Indicators

Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - All clients expressed higher confidence levels and were more prepared for their interview and journey into work.

Number of people who became self-employed or gained employment - 93+ - This is the most up to date information to date (many individuals do not reply to further contact requests, or are awaiting further feedback)



Work-Wise Foundation

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Increased employability

Secondary Outcome - Improved economic wellbeing

Primary Beneficiary - Long-term unemployed

Primary Issue - Employment and Labour

Primary Age Group - Children and Young People

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 39

Gender Percentage

- **Female** - 25%
- **Male** - 72%
- **Other** - 3%

Primary Activity - Project development/planning

Other Activities - Partnership/collaboration

Project Area - Rotherham

Charity Overview

The Work-Wise Foundation is a charity in South Yorkshire providing employability skills to young people through events, activities, and programmes. Having delivered over 100,000 experiences since establishment, they support individuals up to age 25 in the Sheffield region with education, training, and other resources.

- Helping youth develop their skills, capacities and capabilities, enabling them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals
- Advancing education and employability
- Relieving unemployment
- Offering recreational activities to enhance the well-being of individuals in need due to various factors like age, disability, or economic circumstances, aiming to improve their quality of life.

Grant Usage

The grant was used towards the delivery of the 'On-Track to Employment' programme which offers employability training to young people and those about to enter the world of work. Young people access to employer-led, employer-designed employability training to improve their understanding about the world of work, gain knowledge of different routeways into work, and develop the essential skills, knowledge, confidence and aptitude to be work-ready.

The programme consists of modular experiential learning, co-delivered with employers. Modules were developed using their employer designed employability framework that aligned to The Gatsby Foundation recommendations for work-ready young people, developing young people's character, skills and knowledge including responsibility, reliability, time-management, resilience, enterprise; critical thinking, problem solving, communication, team working.

Impact

Feedback from students, teachers, and parents consistently indicates that participants significantly enhanced their career readiness. They reported increased confidence, communication, teamwork, and knowledge of apprenticeships and career paths. Direct engagement with employers proved invaluable, providing insights into workplace expectations and the realities of young people in employment. On-site visits, guest speakers, and mock recruitment exercises with HR professionals further enriched the programme's impact.

Feedback stated that the main impacts surrounded:

- Routes of Careers
- CV writing
- Interview skills
- Teamwork
- CV building knowledge
- Body language in job interviews
- The 'elevator' pitch
- health and safety
- How to be successful in interviews



"In terms of partnership and wider stakeholder engagement, it has enabled us to extend our reach and learn from that. We have built a collaboration of local employers who are committed to work with us on a sustainability module of learning. We have developed what could be a new regular award with The High Sheriff's office, a potential annual reoccurring event with The Armed Forces to encourage girls into STEM careers, as well as what we hope will be a growing partnership with REMA to work directly with ethnic minority communities." - Work-Wise Foundation

Impact

The On-Track To Employment pilot programme is expanding, aiming to reach 60 participants by 2024. Work-Wise is developing flexible modules for students, schools, and communities, with plans for further growth and collaboration with Skills Street for broader sector applicability.

Last year, work-Wise initiated a working group to address the lack of resources on jobs and careers in the Green/Sustainable Economy in South Yorkshire. They are developing learning modules for this sector due to the challenge of defining it.

The main risk identified is the lack of skills, ranging from direct jobs in sustainable construction/green energy to sustainability management careers. Collaborations with local and national partners, including events like Green Skills Careers week, aimed to bridge this gap, with over 500 young people attending a workshop at North Star.

“This funding has enabled us to take some risks, try out new things, be bold and be forward thinking as we look towards the final year and how the learning can be delivered in a multi-functional way. A 3 year delivery timeframe makes it possible to go beyond just focusing in activities that are likely to give outcomes to meet funder expectations, it has given us the opportunity to really look to the future, build new partnerships, develop different delivery methodology and future proof the learning to broaden reach and inclusivity.” - **Work-Wise**

Case Study

“Hope this email finds you well – my son, X came to you in the summer on the course and loved it. So much so, he has decided that he wants to do a U turn and do engineering for his career in the future.

Just wanted to say thanks for inviting X onto the course as this has give him an insight into the broader world of work (engineering is something he had never thought about!) and if there is any other future courses, please keep in touch!”- **Attendees Parent**

X has subsequently attended the AMRC Training Centre open evening and is looking to apply there.



Impact Indicators

Number of people completing training - 39

Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills - 39
- Comments include ... –“Building confidence in expressing his choices for the future” “Teamwork, self motivation & Interview/CV awareness” “Teamwork, working in an environment with new people”.

Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge - 39 - Comments include ... “Integration with people from different backgrounds, Importance of first impressions, interview skills” good advice from employers - will use in the future”

Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 39 - 100% said it had helped them feel better prepared for work comments include ...“very helpful and relevant for the real world,” ...“learnt about the business”...“learned about apprenticeship” ... “The scheme has been very useful in terms of understanding



Quotes

Usefulness of Participating:

- “I can't express how useful this experience has been, M has become more motivated to work hard in his studies and feels he has some direction in life. Transformational!”
- “Very useful, our son seems to have got more clarity on career choices & personal preferences on education pathways (apprenticeship). Also, the course has been good for his confidence and social skills.”
- “This has given T a valuable insight into what the future holds in the workforce.”
- “Positive - broadened horizons. New experience, learnt to teamwork and formal presentations.”
- “Very helpful as at J's school, they don't do work experience and for someone with J's needs its good to get a variety of experiences. It has given the him the opportunity to network with employers & students he does not know.”
- “This has been excellent for W to attend as this has given him an insight into engineering & fab work places.”
- “It has helped M to make up his mind regarding proceeding down the apprenticeship route.”
- “This is timed perfectly for R. There are so many opportunities in our area it's important for him to gain experience of them for himself.”

Learning from Participating:

- “To work towards getting a C.V. ready.”
- “An insight on different STEM industry.”
- “Integration with people from different backgrounds.”
- “That there's a great alternative to university. There are fantastic opportunities with apprenticeships.”
- “Building confidence in expressing choices for the future, Teamwork, self motivation & Interview/CV awareness.”
- “Teambuilding and different roles and opportunities within a company.”
- “Problem solving/team building and learning about industry in an interesting way.”
- “Working in groups Learning to write my CV, Making new friends and what's useful looking for a job.”
- “Awareness of world outside school, different progression routes.”

PROJECT EVALUATIONS

Round 2 - Year 1 Evaluation

1. A MIND APART
2. BRIGHT BOX MAKERSPACE
3. CROSSROADS BARNSELY
4. ELEMENT SOCIETY
5. FLYING FUTURES CIC
6. GOALBALL UK
7. JOLLY GOOD COMMUNITIES
8. SHAW LANE FOUNDATION
9. SOAR COMMUNITY
10. THE LEARNING COMMUNITY
11. ACTIVE FUSION

Grant Usage

With funding, A Mind Apart delivered weekly sessions that support 8 young people to achieve the arts award, meet local employers from creative companies and go to find out more about the BETC Performing arts course by seeing a play at Hillsborough college. 6 young people received one to one therapy to support them with their mental health during this process. This work was essential to those young people and all reporting a change in their mood and confidence. They also ran three workshops open to a broad group of 15 young people delivered by local artists offering them a chance to experience different creative arts and meet local artists.

Impact

FAttendees of the weekly classes all noted a minimum 20% improvement on the work readiness scale. A Mind Apart witnessed a 90% attendance rate and 100% achievemnt rate.

Individuals participating in therapy experienced enhanced wellbeing, improved mental health, reduced self-harm, and fewer cidal thoughts.

Feedback - Quotes

"Could have kept going-very healing."

"As soon as I showed up to my first adult acting class at A Mind Apart, I was welcomed and encouraged to participate straight away. The level of teaching and support I've received so far from Dani and her colleagues is unparalleled and it is a truly safe space for building confidence and exploring all aspects of the dramatic arts whatever your needs or background."

"So inclusive' - 'Everyone feels a part of it' - 'Meeting new people in new environments' - 'Expanding your horizons.'"

"X has given me a lot more confidence' - 'So lovely to come every Wednesday...can not be myself and I get to play' - 'Learnt a lot about theatre and theatre practice in general' - 'Made me want to write!'"

"The Mind Apart Adult Workshop was just what I needed to help me find my way back into the acting world. Informative and fun, it left me wanting more!"

"A Mind Apart helps him to both cope with barriers as well as realise his strengths more clearly, It impacts his drama activities in his community."

"I felt confident when I was singing the songs' - 'I felt positive' - 'I like acting and singing' - 'I enjoy working with Dani' 'She is good at what she does!'"

"It's vital!' - 'We've made a difference today' - 'Providing an outlet of expression' - 'So inclusive' 'Everyone feels a part of it' - 'Meeting new people in new environments' - 'Expanding your horizons'

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Secondary Outcome - Improved mental health and wellbeing

Primary Beneficiary - Long-term unemployed

Primary Issue - Employment and Labour

Primary Age Group - Children and Young People

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 22

Gender Percentage

- **Female** - 25%
- **Male** - 72%
- **Other** - 3%

Primary Activity - Project development/planning

Other Activities - Partnership/collaboration

Project Area - Sheffield / Hillsbrough



Charity Overview

Working closely with professionals and teachers, A Mind Apart offers skills training, support and consultancy in using their tried and tested ways of working. Their team is constantly being innovative and engaged in the theatre, arts and education industry; from consultancy to performing and directing. They offer a wide range of skills to all those we work with, whilst making sure we stay current to the needs of the areas we work in.

They collaborate with professionals and educators to provide skills training, support, and consultancy in theatre, arts, and education. Paid services and funded projects aim to improve lives through arts and culture, offering opportunities in performance, education, health, and fitness to make arts and culture more accessible.

Feedback - Quotes



- "I felt I could be Honest."
- "A really structured workshop. You offered lots of safety through the way you contained the space and gave us permission to let go. A really helpful workshop, Thank you!"
- "So valuable... an incredible resource."
- "Very precious to me."
- "The workshop was great and really helped with easing my anxiety about any future. I found that it was very positive and uplifting and when future opportunities arise I feel the workshop will play a part in encouraging me to apply. I don't have any changes to add."
- "Serious, safe and loads of fun."
- "It was a fantastic combination of empowered presence, tender and strong holding, movement, creativity and a sense of shared ownership of a feeling whose force can be terrifying and destructive as it is creative and facilitative."
- "I have every confidence that she enjoys the therapy sessions and that they are beneficial to her emotional regulation."
- "You're a lifeline for young people who don't fit into those designated boxes."

Case Study



"X was referred to our services in crisis. He is 19, Autistic and sufferer significant trauma as child, he had no qualifications. He was at risk of cide and currently had not support for him at home. He started by have six sessions of one to one therapy to begin to support him with his mental health, within these sessions he began to explore the cause of his feelings as well as coping mechanism that can support him to manage those emotions, he then attended the weekly sessions where he made friends with one particular participants that has become an essential member of his support network. He has achieved a level 1 arts award and has now began work on his level 2 arts award. He hopes to continue to expand his support network and achieve arts award qualifications until he feels ready to do a BETC at Hillsborough college in Art." - A Mind Apart



Impact Indicators

- Number of people reporting an increase in personal aspirations and goals** - 22 - From this course young people were able to see the different pathways for working in the creative arts as well as have meaning full experience in Hillsborough college supporting them to move forward in their education and training.
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence** - 22 - Whether accessing therapy or attending the classes and workshops all participants reported and increase in confidence and self esteem. "I felt confident when I was singing the songs" - "I felt positive" - "I like acting and singing."
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work** - 8 - All eight participants who attended the weekly sessions successfully completed either a Level 1 or Level 2 Arts Award. Two members continued their studies, achieving the Level 3 qualification. One participant has embarked on a career as an artist, while another has secured a place at college.
- Number of people whose engagement in education/learning has improved** - 22 - Prior to engaging with the services, the young people were NEET, disconnected from education, employment, or training. Through this course, they reconnected with their community, gained confidence, built friendships, and prepared for their next steps in life.
- Number of people reporting a reduction of stress, anxiety and/or symptoms of depression** - 22 - Each session focussed on creative expression, allowing young people to have a place where they could express and release their emotions safely supported them to relieve and reduce feelings of anxiety and depression.
- Number of people reporting improved mental health or wellbeing** - 22 - The art therapist provided one-on-one support to six clients while also facilitating an Art for Wellbeing workshop. The workshop introduced techniques to manage crises and promote overall well-being.
- Number of people reporting increased resilience and/or self-care** - 22
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence** - 22
- Number of people completing training** - 8 - Young people achieved a qualification, accessed employability sessions from local artists and attended Hillsborough for a meaningful experience.
- Number of people reporting increased practical skills** - 22 - A core focus of each session was to enhance participants' skills in a wide range of creative disciplines, including acting, dance, art, music, singing, and writing.
- Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge** - 22 - To foster artistic development, the programme engaged professional actors, directors, artists, singers, art therapists, and managers to deliver sessions designed to expand participants' creative abilities.
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work** - 8
- Number of people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities** - 3 - Three of the participants volunteered in other sessions throughout the course, allowing them to expand their experience.
- Number of people reporting increased confidence in keeping themselves safe** - 15 - Those that attended weekly sessions reported the benefits of having a safe space to come to every week.
- Number of people reporting that they are less likely to commit anti-social behaviour** - 3
- Number of people reporting that they feel safer in their communities** - 22

Bright Box Makerspace

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Secondary Outcome - Increased digital inclusion

Number Of Beneficiaries - 156

Gender Percentage

- **Female** - 40%
- **Male** - 60%

Project Area - Barnsley



Charity Overview

Brightbox is a social enterprise that provides hyperlocal learning opportunities to individuals facing educational or economic challenges. They aim to improve access to skills, employment, and inclusion by collaborating with communities to create makerspaces tailored to local needs and strengths.

Their makerspaces are community spaces promoting skill-sharing and industry access through various tools like paper, pens, 3D printers, and laser cutters. They aim to connect people, provide learning opportunities, and advocate for community inclusion in industries.

Led by a board and senior leadership team with lived experience, they champion a community-driven approach. Partnering with libraries and local organisations, they've established an impressive network of 70 pop-up makerspaces, impacting over 10,000 individuals. This initiative emphasises creativity and cultural access, empowering communities to build skills.

Grant Usage

Funding supported Bright Box Makerspace's programmees that offer young people opportunities to learn skills and meet role models in tech, engineering, and creative sectors through careers days, pop-up makerspaces, and volunteer opportunities.

- **Careers days:** Career days connect young people with industry mentors to explore career options. Mentors share their experiences, encouraging active participation and honest discussions. Schools report improved career understanding and exposure to positive role models.
- **Pop-up makerspaces:** Pop-up makerspaces offer youth skill-building opportunities like coding, engineering, and construction. They partner with libraries and community spaces to provide career exploration with industry-experienced mentors.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** They offer volunteer opportunities for career exposure, training, and support in different areas like programme delivery and fundraising. Volunteers receive references, certificates, and wrap-around support from a network of over 40 organisations.

Funded Activities:

- 3 careers days reaching 106 people. These were delivered at: Barnsley DMC Makerlab, online, and at Rotherham College. Careers days supported young people to ask questions about working in industry and learn about the pop-up makerspaces and volunteer opportunities were available.
- 6 pop-up makerspaces reaching 43 people in community venues including an outdoor community garden, Barnsley Makerlab and a local gallery. Pop-up makerspaces gave the young people an opportunity to learn new skills, meet people working in industry and increase their employability.
- 7 volunteer work placement opportunities where young people supported workshops for others. Volunteers were trained to support delivery and supported with their employability.

“ Case Study

“Through this programme, we have supported 7 volunteers so far. One of the volunteers we supported, X, begun working with us to help deliver workshops to younger children. X is currently in education and this was her first experience volunteering. When X first started working with us, she had never worked with children before. The workshops we had planned aimed to support children with arts and science activities. X felt nervous about supporting the workshops because she hadn't done it before.

We provided X with training on the content of the workshops and worked with her to identify areas she wanted to feel more confident with. We encouraged her to lead small portions of the workshops, to build her confidence, with a topic she already felt comfortable with (the activities varied from creating postcards to creating robots). We had Brightbox staff supporting her, so that she could step away from leading whenever she felt she needed to. With some support and encouragement, X flourished as an activity leader. She loved working with the children and by the end of the series of workshops, she has decided that she is going to look for work in a school.” - **Bright Box Makerspace**



Impact

Through this programme, the group wanted to create a pathway of support that encouraged young people to:

- Learn new skills
- Increase their confidence
- Increase their employability

They worked with young people, to provide a mixture of careers days, pop-up makerspaces and volunteering opportunities.

Careers days:

The project diversified career exploration opportunities through three dedicated events: a digital careers day at Barnsley DMC, an online session focused on creative industries, and a separate session specifically for college students interested in creative careers. In total, 106 young people participated. The careers days introduced young people to people working in industry, providing insight into jobs and an opportunity for young people to have their questions answered. Young people had access to:

- A qualified female engineer and CEO.
- A qualified female architect working in the third sector.
- A Project Manager working in the creative industries.
- A Marketing Manager working in the third sector.

Young people explored potential career paths and learned about the support available to enhance their job prospects. Four out of seven volunteers who participated had previously attended a careers event with the group.

Pop-up makerspaces:

They ran 6 pop-up makerspaces this year, supporting 43 people to learn new skills and increase their confidence. Topics varied depending on the young people and the skills they wanted to learn, covering:

- Building and delivering presentations
- Digital skills and careers
- Practical skills including carpentry and bricklaying
- Creative skills
- Problem solving

Workshops were led by people working in industry who have similar lived experience to participants. Participants told them that the workshops helped them to be more confident and learn new skills.

Volunteer work placements:

Each volunteer was supported with training, confidence building and career aspirations. After working with the group, one of the volunteers secured permanent employment with themselves, and another volunteer secured a place on a teacher training course.

One volunteer told them:

"I worked with Brightbox to get some experience. I have to say I really enjoyed it. The staff, all of them, were lovely and kind. I learned new skills and met new people, it was a great experience for me. I would do it again definitely."

Impact Indicators

Number of people reporting an increase in personal aspirations and goals - 5 - This programme supported 7 volunteers – 5 of which said they had an increase in personal aspirations and goals (71%)

Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 14 - They worked with 50 people on this part of the programme and received responses from 32% of participants, through either surveys or 121s. 14 participants reported increased confidence (88% of respondents).

Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 126 - They received responses from 127 participants, with 126 saying they felt better prepared for work (99%).

Number of people who report improved digital literacy - 12 - They ran 2 pop-up makerspaces focussed on improving digital literacy and supported 3 volunteers to improve their digital literacy. These aspects of the programme reached 12 people, with 100% reporting an increase in digital skills.

Number of people who report increased use of online resources - 12 - They supported 12 people to increase their use of online resources, using 121s and focus groups to measure this outcome. 100% of participants reported increased use of online resources.

Funding Overview

The funding enabled Crossroads Barnsley to expand its work to proactively engage young people interested in care careers. This initiative targeted young individuals without existing connections to the organisation's service users.

The eight-session course culminated in six accredited care certificates and two additional transferable qualifications: safeguarding and first aid. While the first aid certificate didn't meet workplace standards, it provided a solid foundation and enhanced job prospects. The care-focused curriculum prepared participants for secure, fulfilling careers in a sector experiencing high demand.

“ Impact

“We have devised and developed a bespoke series of awareness raising and sessions. A sample is attached.

This course has run four times during the year. As outlined in our application it is adapted from the one we use to support home carers. The frequency has been increased due to your funding. However, we have to report that the numbers attending, from the target cohort, have been low. This is addressed in both our financial reporting and learning responses, both below.

In our application we noted 160,000 vacancies in the sector when measured on a national basis. We are consoled that there still remains 152,000 vacancies. Our consolation is solely drawn from the fact that recruitment remains a challenge across the UK. We are not alone in having difficulty in attracting people to even explore the sector. We remain highly concerned that the vacancy rate remains high and that supermarket wages are higher than that we can offer.” - Crossroads Barnsley



EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Increased employability

Secondary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Primary Issue - Employment and Labour

Number Of Beneficiaries - 10

Gender Percentage

- **Male** - 40%
- **Female** - 60%

Project Area - Barnsley

CROSSROADS
Caring
for
Carers
Barnsley

Charity Overview

Crossroads Barnsley is a respected charity established in 1993, providing support services to carers and those they care for in Barnsley. Governed by passionate Trustees, they offer over 25 years of experience in giving carers a break through in-home support. The charity reaches nearly half a million carers annually, offering quality services regardless of age or condition, aiming to alleviate carers' stresses. They support spousal carers dealing with dementia/alzheimer's by providing tablets for IT access, promoting connections, offering self-help forums, continuous assistance, home care, and support for households eligible for funded care from Barnsley MBC.



EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Secondary Outcome - Increased employability

Primary Issue - Employment and Labour

Primary Age Group - Teenagers (e.g. 13 -18 years)

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 8

Gender Percentage

- **Male** - 75%
- **Other** - 25%

Primary Activity - Workshop

Other Activities - 1:1 support

Project Area - Sheffield

Charity Overview

Element Society, a Sheffield-based non-profit organisation, supports youth in achieving their goals by offering safe spaces, empowerment programmes, and workshops. They aim to inspire positive change, raise aspirations, and foster community role models. Since 2013, they have empowered nearly 5,500 young people. Additionally, they run Make Dough, a social enterprise pizza takeaway providing training and job opportunities for local youth, with a focus on fair wages and reinvestment in business growth or youth services.

The organisation empowers young people by offering safe environments and programmes designed to foster ambition and future success. Their social enterprise, Make Dough, is a pizza takeaway that provides artisan pizza, professional training, and employment opportunities to local youth. The business caters to lunchtime customers, offers outside catering, and contributes to the local night-time economy.

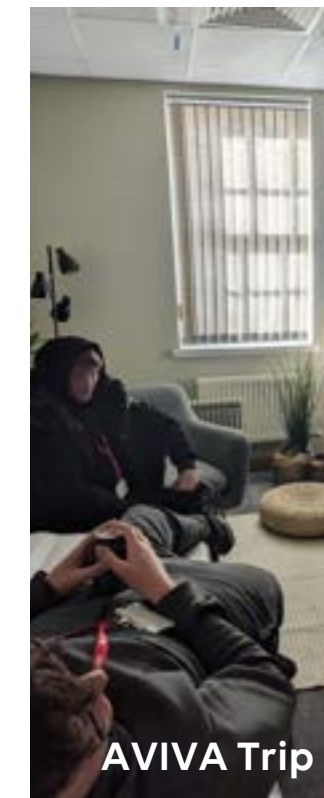
“... I feel better prepared for interviews now, and I think I might want to go into security.” - **Attendee**
 “... you're so easy to talk to.” - **Attendee**

Element Society sought funding for a pre-employability skills programme for young people aged 16 - 19, targeting those not in education, employment, or training (NEET) or in mandatory college courses.

Developed in partnership with Plusnet, their Sheffield programme specifically targets hard-to-reach youth, providing them with interactive work-related experiences to overcome disadvantages.

Delivery Break down:

- 1. Targeted engagement of 10 young people. This will include youth outreach, engagement with key stakeholders (youth organisations, statutory education providers, the youth justice service, SYP community teams and use of Elements existing databases of young people.
- 2. Developing soft skills - verbal communication, body language, suspending assumptions, overcoming nerves and imposter syndrome.
- 3. Site tour of Plusnet followed by Q&A with staff members (Senior, Middle and Junior staffing team). The site tour element of our work is pivotal in increasing aspiration. Many of the young people they work with have had little interaction with big employers. By providing young people with the opportunity to go behind the scenes in a workplace, followed by the opportunity of talking to staff members, we believe aspirations will be increased, and barriers will be broken down.
- 4. The final step in their delivery programme is to introduce young people to the variety of support available to them on the next steps of their journey. This will be done in the form of a one to one IAG meeting with tailored information to meet the young person's needs.



Grant Usage



“On 02/02/24, young people were taken on a tour of Sheffield Hallam University in collaboration with the Higher Education Progression Partnership. On this date, young people had a workshop on achieving and setting realistic goals in a lecture theatre at Hallam. Many of them noted that they had not been to a university before. This day enabled them to picture themselves as a Higher Education student and discuss whether that would be good for their individual career projection.

On 08/02/24, we escorted young people on a tour through Sheffield City Council’s building - City Hall. This was a great experience for the young people as they could see in person where debates happen and experience what it would be like to sit where MPs sit.

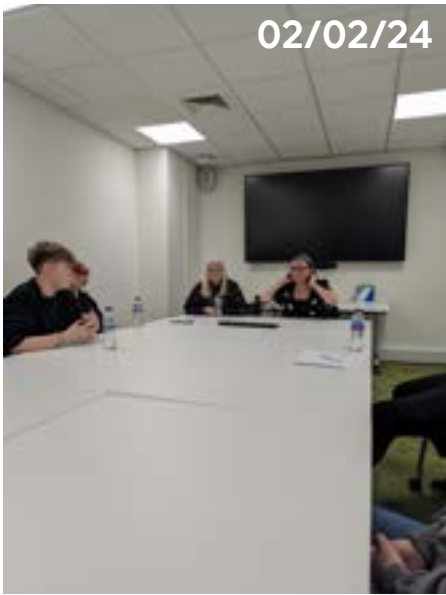
On 29/02/24, we had a session teaching young people how to behave in an interview setting and helping them develop examples of what to say. Later that day, we visited Hallam for mock interviews with the Facilities Management team. They gave the young people a real-world experience of what it would be like to be in a formal interview. This was eye-opening for them as many had never been in a formal interview setting.

On 04/03/24, young people were set an enterprise challenge in the morning and went on a trip to Aviva in the afternoon. The young people were asked to design a marketing campaign for one of three objects in the morning session. They then had to pitch this idea to the room, where staff gave feedback on what went well and how to improve for next time. The Aviva trip followed nicely from this as they spoke about how they pitch and sell their insurance. Young people got an insight into what it would be like to work for a big insurance company, which is something they wouldn’t be able to accomplish without this project.

On 07/03/24, a member of Element staff went into Forge Valley Academy to provide their last session on reflection, skills and values. This session wrapped up the programme nicely and fed well into the 1-1 support sessions throughout the day. The 1-1 sessions allowed the students to give feedback on the programme and discuss what they may want for their career moving forward and how Element Society can help support them in the future.” - **Element Society**

Case Study

X started the programme feeling shy but gained confidence over sessions. They shared their identity and career aspirations, from construction to therapy, expressing concerns about academic capability. Staff offered reassurance and guidance, leading to increased self-awareness and consideration of future paths. The programme was highly beneficial for X, highlighting the importance of such support for youth.



Impact Indicators

- Number of people on the pathway to self employment** - 2 - One student, keen on media, aspired to launch their own YouTube channel. Through the final enterprise workshop and a visit to Aviva, they gained valuable insights into personal and brand marketing. Another student expressed interest in establishing their own construction business.
- Number of people reporting an increase in personal aspirations and goals** - 1 - Two participants who were initially quite shy emerged from the programme with significantly improved confidence. Previously reluctant to speak, they progressed to delivering product pitches to the group. One participant, visibly nervous during a mock interview at Hallam University, successfully answered questions with support. This marked a substantial improvement from their initial reticence.
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence** - 3 - Two notably shy participants overcame their initial reluctance to speak, progressing from silence in the first session to confidently pitching products to the group. During a mock interview at Hallam University, one participant, visibly nervous, successfully answered questions with support. This represented significant progress compared to their earlier self-doubt.
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work** - 8 - All that provided feedback said they benefitted highly from the interview sessions at Hallam and felt better prepared for the working world
- Number of people whose engagement in education/learning has improved** - 1 - One participant expressed a determination to improve their school attendance despite finding it challenging. They recognised the importance of better preparing themselves for the future.
- Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge** - 8 - All knowledge indicators evaluation stars completed by students went up after the programme
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work** - 8 - All students feel better prepared for work and interviews.
- Number of people reporting increased confidence in keeping themselves safe** - 8
- Number of people reporting that they are less likely to commit anti-social behaviour** - 8 - All young people reported feeling connected to their community and felt empowered to make more positive life choices as a result of being engage din our programme

Impact

- “This grant has made a difference to young people in Sheffield as they would not have had the opportunity to experience and learn about other careers without this programme
- Throughout the programme, we asked young people for their feedback on the day, and in every part, they expressed that they really enjoyed learning about new roles. When we visited Facilities Management in Hallam, one of our young people expressed an interest in applying for a job in Security later in his career. Another has since expressed interest in working for companies like Aviva after our tour, as they valued the working environment. Another has said they decided to work in an office space like Aviva, which isn't what they want, and that they would feel more comfortable in a practical setting. That is what this programme has been about - giving young people the opportunity to see into the working world and understand it won't be like school forever - **Element Society**

Flying Futures CIC

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Secondary Outcome - Improved mental health and wellbeing

Project Area - Thorne, Moorends, Stainforth (Doncaster)

Primary Age Group - Teenagers (e.g. 13 - 18 years)

Number Of Beneficiaries - 17

Gender Percentage

- **Male** - 60%
- **Female** - 30%
- **Other** - 10%

Charity Overview

Flying Futures is a non-profit Community Interest Company in Yorkshire that implements social programmes using sports, mentoring, training, and employment initiatives for children and young people aged 5-25. They are youth-led, with programmes like Active Leaders, Holiday Activities, Mental Health & Wellbeing support, and Alternative Provision for youth who are at risk of becoming NEET or are NEET. They aim to support vulnerable individuals in society by providing opportunities for personal and community development in deprived areas, making a significant difference to those in need.



Grant Usage

Leveraging funding, Flying Futures CIC empowered 17 young people at risk of NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training) through 20 interactive sessions. These sessions focused on employability, leadership, confidence building, and career development, equipping participants with transferable skills for career progression.

These activities included;

- **Leadership accreditation:** The assist young individuals in acquiring skills in event management, communication, active listening, and resilience. to improve their employability by offering valuable experiences that can be highlighted in job applications.
- **First Aid Qualification:** To enhance skills like problem-solving, initiative, and performing under pressure, desired by employers.
- **Adrenaline-fueled Activities:** To build life skills, confidence, and resilience through encouraging youth to step out of their comfort zone through watersports, rock climbing, problem solving, and other activities. Engaging in activities that foster teamwork, communication, and problem-solving strategies.
- **Mental Health Support:** Continuous support for young people, including coping strategies for challenges like setbacks, rejection, and learning from mistakes.
- **Employability support:** Engaging in sessions on career paths, CV building, interview skills, professionalism, teamwork, skills development, industry speakers, and visits.

Other Additional Activities:

- **Breakfast bulletin** - This regular activity let young people engage in current affairs and express their thoughts and feelings, making them feel listened to, empowered, and more aware of the world around them.
- **Social media and online presence** - Sessions were delivered to youth on social media importance, exploring different platforms and online presence.
- **Intro to Politics** - The session educated young people on the relevance of politics in their lives, emphasising the importance of having a voice and participating in decision-making through interactive activities.
- **Money management and finance** - They provided an interactive session on personal finances and project delivery, focusing on how young people can manage them effectively.



Impact

The programme had a positive impact on participants, improving skills and employability. It has led to increased engagement, confidence, and community involvement, with some continuing to volunteer.

“The impact to those who have been involved has been invaluable with all participants demonstrating positive impact. We have seen this in both measurable and immeasurable impacts with development of softer/life skills elements too which is clear to see, and also clear in feedback from referee's who put the young people forward. For example, the attainment and behavioural impact made by these students out of the setting we provide has increased hugely, which is onwardly developing their employability levels. As the sessions have developed, we see clearly the engagement and confidence levels grow in the sessions we are providing. In turn this is positively affecting individuals and the wider communities they are a part of. For example, a number of participants are continuing their involvement with alternative programmes through means of volunteering which have come off the back of engaging in this support.” - **Flying Futures CIC**

Case Study

X, a year 10 male student in Thorne, faced behavioural challenges at school, risking exclusion and becoming NEET. His disruptive behaviour and low engagement led to concerns about his future. Participating in the Active Leaders programme helped him develop skills like confidence and teamwork, reducing violence and increasing engagement. Through 1-1 chats addressing his anger, X's focus in school improved. He thrived in small group sessions, becoming a leader and motivating others. X excelled in discussions about current events, demonstrating dedication by waking up early to watch the news. He also shone in the "Dragons Den" challenge, showcasing skills learned in the programme: leadership, communication, and resilience. By the end of the programme, X showed improved patience, reduced aggression, and better articulation of emotions. His positive changes were noted by peers, school, and his mother, reflecting his intelligence being used effectively.

Teacher Testimony

“X is a different student. He is having positive interactions daily with staff and students alike and there are no incidents of misbehaviour at all at social time. X seems to have matured a great deal and is looking at his education now with more of a focus on his long term career aspirations. As you can see from the figures above during his time with Flying Futures, X received no exclusions, no seclusions, 100% attendance and a reduced figure of 2 detentions. Flying Futures have helped X mature.”

Parent Testimony

“X gets up in the morning and no longer grabs for his phone instantly – he now gets up and over breakfast he is watching the news so he is gemmed up on current affairs for the morning debate. X has thoroughly enjoyed his time with Flying Futures and I would like to thank them for their time and guidance for X.”

X Testimony

“I enjoyed the Flying Futures programme and talk to school, family and friends about my experiences. I feel more focussed and clearer on what I want to do with my career and know that I need to get involved to make it happen.”



Impact Indicators

- Number of people on the pathway to self employment - 9
- Number of people reporting an increase in personal aspirations and goals - 17
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 14
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 17
- Number of people whose engagement in education/learning has improved - 17
- Number of people reporting a reduction of stress, anxiety and/or symptoms of depression - 15
- Number of people reporting improved mental health or wellbeing - 13
- Number of people reporting increased resilience and/or self-care - 14
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 15
- Number of people completing training - 17
- Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills - 15
- Number of people reporting increased literacy and/or numeracy skills - 8
- Number of people reporting increased practical skills - 13
- Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge - 17
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 14
- Number of people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities - 6
- Number of people who became self-employed or gained employment - 7
- Number of work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities provided - 8
- Number of people reporting a sense of pride in their local area - 12
- Number of people reporting an increased awareness and understanding of other cultures - 5
- Number of people reporting that they feel able to have a say in the decisions that affect them - 17
- Number of people reporting that they feel an increased sense of belonging in their community - 14

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Increased employability

Secondary Outcome - Improved physical health and wellbeing

Primary Issue - Employment and Labour

Primary Age Group - Young Adults (e.g. 19 - 25 years)

Number Of Beneficiaries - 8

Gender Percentage

- **Male** - 60%
- **Female** - 40%

Project Area - South Yorkshire

Charity Overview

Goalball UK is the UK's governing body for the Paralympic sport of goalball and are proud to be a registered charity with a mission to develop and promote goalball for people with visual impairments at all levels. They aim to develop and promote goalball, provide support to players, coaches, and clubs, and promote inclusivity in sports. The organisation introduces goalball to new players, partners with others to increase its visibility, and hosts competitions. Goalball is a unique team sport accessible to all, originally created for visually impaired individuals to rehabilitate after WWII, played globally at various levels. Goalball is an exciting Paralympic, indoor, 3-side team sport, of attack and defend – with a unique twist!



The sport also enables community cohesion with sighted people able to be part of playing and training. Siblings, family and friends can provide practical and emotional support simply by wearing eye shades, allowing them to truly appreciate the unique challenges faced by the players.



Caleb

Impact



“Through the grant we have been able to begin to offer and support within our services and in-house opportunities to learn, develop and aspire. We have set fully accessible roles within our competition and event formats, academy and talent programme only recruit those dedicated and afford progress options even outside playing, for the first time our in-house opportunities include shadowing events management, annual work placements and fundraising support volunteering roles.” - Goalball UK

22 young people secured volunteering or work placement opportunities across the UK. Eight of these placements were created directly by the grant funding.

- x1 School/college work placement
- x1 Trialling in-house Blind/VI volunteer fundraising support role in partnership with Galloways
- x1 Competition Event Management shadowing opportunity
- x9 Youth Forum members experiencing leadership skills, planning, organising and delivering 'Climb Snowdon 23' fundraiser, delivering summer camps in 2024 and an ultimate goal for one to be opted onto the Board of trustees
- x1 Event Fundraising
- x4 Competition Delivery
- x5 Residential Academy Leadership & Aspirational skills

Case Study



“Chris has been blind from birth and began playing goalball a few years ago and progressed quickly from talent and then selected to represent GB. He was not picked last year for the IBSA World Games and instead of complaining he began volunteering for us to support our grassroots community delivery and schools work, he attended the World Games as a runner for the GB Team proudly wearing the GB shirt. He tackled the issue of his fitness by securing a job at his local leisure centre as a part-time PT instructor, mentored the academy students and to top it all off he organised a charity fundraiser for Goalball UK within the leisure centre.” - Goalball UK



Chris

Impact Indicators

- Number of people completing training** - 4 - Attended Academy training camps - competition, meditation, nutrition and elite performance.
- Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills** - 8
- Number of people reporting increased practical skills** - 8
- Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge** - 8
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work** - 8 - Better prepared for life.
- Number of people who became self-employed or gained employment** - 1 - Part-time PT at local leisure centre.
- Number of work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities provided** - 8 - x1 X had her school work placement with GBUK. x2 Youth Forum Members learned about committee, leadership, team work, planning and fundraising. x3 Academy students learned all about aspiring to be Paralympic athletes / coaches. x2 GB players fundraising, PR ambassador
- Number of people reporting improved physical health or wellbeing** - 8 - All participants play goalball, with some aiming for the GB team. As such, they emphasise the crucial role of fitness in their development.
- Number of people reporting improvements in their diet to be more healthy and balanced** - 3 - Academy students have sessions on food nutrition, performance and cooking healthy meals.
- Number of people reporting that they are more physically active** - 8 - All aspire to play well and attendance at club training sessions and competitions motivates them.
- Number of people reporting a reduction of stress, anxiety and/or symptoms of depression** - 8
- Number of people reporting improved mental health or wellbeing** - 8
- Number of people reporting increased resilience and/or self-care** - 8
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence** - 8
- Number of people on the pathway to self employment** - 1 -X is a trained deep tissue masseuse, currently unemployed but is a full time dad.
- Number of people reporting an increase in personal aspirations and goals** - 8 - Over 80% of our members in a recent survey expressed an interest in developing team support and coaching roles.
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence** - 8



Jolly Good Communities

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Secondary Outcome - Improved mental health and wellbeing

Primary Issue - Education, learning and training

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 24

Gender Percentage

- **Female** - 70%
- **Male** - 20%
- **Other** - 10%

Primary Activity - Multiple activities

Project Area - Barnsley



Charity Overview

Jolly Good Communities brings people together to organise community events, support volunteers, and empower communities. They consult locals for event ideas to enhance cohesion and reduce isolation. Their work includes various training opportunities and partnerships with different groups. Events range from small family gatherings to large-scale activities, funded to provide opportunities for disadvantaged families. Their aim is to improve well-being through community interaction, outdoor activities, and exploring local heritage. The organisation strives to offer diverse experiences, build confidence, and promote self-esteem through participation in projects and events.

Grant Usage

The organisation collaborated with Jolly Youth, a youth group for 11-16 year-olds, focusing on well-being through arts, crafts, awareness sessions, and event planning. Funding supported targeted training in event management skills like first aid and marketing, as well as soft skills development including team-building and problem-solving activities.

Impact



<https://www.facebook.com/jollygoodcommunities/>



"Our group of young people have had an amazing 12 months. We've gained new members and met young people who only came to a few sessions but still enjoyed it. Since the end of this interim report we have developed a video of the young volunteers supporting at the community events and what they get from it. This has been shared on social media and we already have 2 new people attending this week. Their confidence flourishes the more they push themselves. The wider community benefits from seeing young people doing something positive for themselves and out in the community. Our young people have gained valuable life skills and real life work experience that will help them in later life.

Since starting the project we focused our first year on building relationships with young people and developing a programme to support young people with their wellbeing. This gave young people an opportunity to build their confidence and explore ways in which they already support their wellbeing and other ideas to further help them. The group worked with a designer to develop a series of badges and develop a work book which is due to be completed ready for the summer.

In terms of developing soft skills we have worked on our communication skills and team work through our team building sessions by playing team games, volunteering, cooking and scarecrow building. We expressed ourselves through arts and crafts. Kept fit through sports and dancefit, which some of them did not want to join in with but asked to take part again next time.

In terms of specific skills and qualifications the young people have worked to complete a first Aid qualification and would like to learn about food hygiene so they can prepare afternoon teas for the community. The additional sessions have allowed us to gain a few extra members and hope by advertising what we are up to we will continue to grow the group. They are currently learning about the environment and want to go litter picking, take part in tree planting and work on the community allotments now the weather is improving.

We're really looking forward to the second part of this project. The group would like to take part in food hygiene training so they can run some afternoon teas with the elderly, learn about food waste and upcycling, learn sign language, they even mentioned taking part in a junior driving lessons and reading train timetables. We feel like now we have a 7 badged programme and suggested activities from our group of young people that we can continue to improve their soft skills, life skills and get them feeling more confident about entering into the work place." - **Jolly Good Communities**



First Aid Training

Case Study



"One of our members who is now 18 has been involved in the group since the start. She's been in foster care for many years and has moderate learning difficulties. We have noticed that she has become more confident generally with life, in the group setting and when volunteering at events. When she first started she was rather quiet and felt different to others. Knowing the group accepted her for who she and knowing she has the support and care from our adult leaders, she has grown in confidence and even became other peoples cheerleaders. Encouraging others and trying to make them feel better in difficult situations. She chose to study childcare at college and has applied for an apprenticeship at Barnsley hospital. Due to her interest with children we encouraged her to help on the children's activities and supports us when running family days and craft sessions. Now she is 18 she will be leaving home and due to move into independent living soon. This worries us but I'm hoping with the support from us, her friends and her foster family that she will face this challenge just like all her others. We will continue to work with her and teach her as many life skills as we can. The group have already asked if they can learn about paying bills and applying for jobs."

- Jolly Good Communities

Quotes - Beneficiaries



- "Helped me decide about going into childcare by helping at family events."
- "I talk more now and I'm more confident."
- "Feel like I could go get a job after becoming more confident."
- "Nice knowing older kids at secondary school, helped us settle in and feel comfortable"
- "Safe space to share opinions, it's very chilled and relaxed and I like that it's on a Friday after a busy week at school"
- "Volunteering out in the community has made me feel more confident when talking to strangers."
- "Get to know people the more I come to these sessions."
- "Accepted each others opinions when working as a team."



Dancefit



Impact Indicators

- Number of people reporting an increase in personal aspirations and goals - 8
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 13
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 8
- Number of people whose engagement in education/learning has improved - 6
- Number of people reporting a reduction of stress, anxiety and/or symptoms of depression - 7
- Number of people reporting improved mental health or wellbeing - 7
- Number of people reporting increased resilience and/or self-care - 5
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 14
- Number of people completing training - 17
- Number of people reporting increased practical skills - 17
- Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge - 15
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 10
- Number of people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities - 16
- Number of work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities provided - 25
- Number of people reporting a sense of pride in their local area - 10
- Number of people reporting an increased awareness and understanding of other cultures - 6
- Number of people reporting that they feel able to have a say in the decisions that affect them - 10
- Number of people reporting that they feel an increased sense of belonging in their community - 10



Gardening at the community allotments





First Aid Training



Preparing for upcoming events



Scarecrow Building



Dodgeball



Supporting at community events



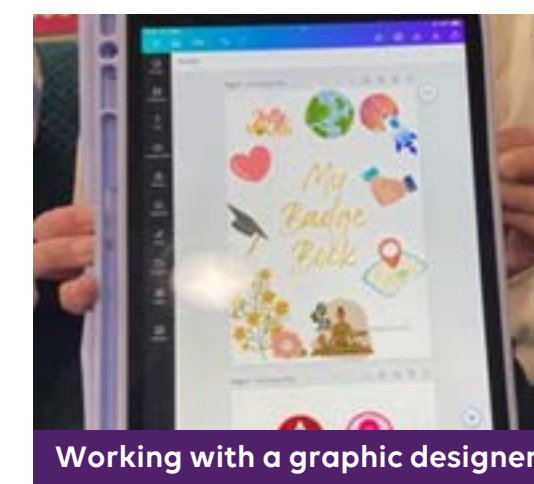
Team Skills



Arts and Crafts



Mental Health Session



Working with a graphic designer

Grant Usage

They conducted a 12-week Employability Project for young adults with learning disabilities, focusing on practical outdoor activities like planting, painting, and sports. The group contributed to creating the Shaw Lane Sensory Garden and enjoyed various sports activities. The courses focused on soft skills in various roles like service, bar work, and gardening in addition to topics on work ethic, sales, and customer service. Participants could engage in community activities and volunteer opportunities, with potential for paid work at the club. Some group members participated in the Older People's Activity Drop-in, engaging in activities like bingo, quizzes, and conversations with older individuals. Shaw Lane Foundation also purchased gardening and painting equipment, clothing, and PPE for safety. After 12 weeks, they organised a celebration event to thank participants and award certificates.

They delivered a 12 week Work skills/ Employability Project for young adults with a learning disability. The course was mainly practical in nature, and much of the time was spent outdoors. Each week participants were engaged in activities including: Planting, weeding, erecting fence panels, painting, cleaning, watering plants, preparing the venue for weddings and other functions. The group was heavily involved in the installation of the Shaw Lane Sensory Garden, creating a space for children and disabled people to visit. The group also spent time accessing the sports facilities, playing Football, cricket, crown green bowling and table tennis.

Additionally, some members of the group attended the Older People's Activity Drop in, where they joined in with bingo, quizzes, and chatted to the older people. They bought gardening and painting equipment, clothing and PPE to ensure that the tasks were carried out safely. At the end of the 12 weeks they held a celebration event to thank the participants for their efforts, and to award their certificates.

Impact

Participants at Shaw Lane Sports Club learned and practised skills at their own pace, fostering a supportive environment. They contributed to the Sensory Garden, leading to discussions about a Community Cafe run by adults with disabilities. The club is inclusive, hosting events and projects for disabled individuals. Regular discussions and feedback capture progress, shared through photos and videos on social media.



EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Increased employability

Secondary Outcome - Improved mental health and wellbeing

Primary Beneficiary - Not in education, employment and training (NEET 16 - 24)

Primary Issue - Education, learning and training

Primary Age Group - Young Adults (19 - 25)

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 20

Gender Percentage

- **Female** - 50%
- **Male** - 50%

Primary Activity - Multiple activities

Project Area - Barnsley



Charity Overview

Shaw Lane Foundation, offers sport and social activities for various groups in Barnsley, focusing on physical and mental health improvement. Projects include social activities for older people, those with disabilities, and families, along with links to resident sports clubs. Located in a deprived area, recent initiatives include a social drop-in for isolated elders, social prescribing for mental health, and work skills for adults with learning disabilities.



Impact



“Through the grant we have been able to begin to offer and support within our services and in-house opportunities to learn, develop and aspire. We have set fully accessible roles within our competition and event formats, academy and talent programme only recruit those dedicated and afford progress options even outside playing, for the first time our in-house opportunities include shadowing events management, annual work placements and fundraising support volunteering roles.” - Shaw Lane Foundation

22 young people have taken on volunteering / work placement opportunities from across the UK as a result of us putting pen to paper for your grant. 8 have been directly involved as a result of the grant.

- x1 School/college work placement
- x1 Trialling in-house Blind/VI volunteer fundraising support role in partnership with Galloways
- x1 Competition Event Management shadowing opportunity
- x9 Youth Forum members experiencing leadership skills, planning, organising and delivering 'Climb Snowdon 23' fundraiser, delivering summer camps in 2024 and an ultimate goal for one to be opted onto the Board of trustees
- x1 Event Fundraising
- x4 Competition Delivery
- x5 Residential Academy Leadership & Aspirational skills



Case Study



“X is a participant aged 19. He has Anxiety and Tourette's syndrome. His Anxiety results in hair loss, which has in the past resulted in lack of confidence, and bullying. X does however have very good "People skills". He is chatty and friendly. He is an enthusiastic train-spotter, whose ambition is to be a platform announcer. As part of the course he took the opportunity to join in with the Older People's group. He would regularly sit with them and chat to them, taking part in activities. X was welcomed by the group, and his confidence soared. He regularly acted as "Bingo Caller" for the group, offering his own wit and charm to proceedings. We saw that attending this course enabled him to be successful, and feel valued, doing activities he enjoyed. ” - Shaw Lane Foundation

Impact Indicators

- Number of people completing training - 19
- Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills - 19
- Number of people reporting increased practical skills - 4 - 4 people attended a "Multiply" Session which involved the group focusing on the numeracy skills involved in the planting activity.
- Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge - 19
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 16 - Three participants indicated that they only feel ready for volunteering as opposed to work.
- Number of people who became self-employed or gained employment - 3 - Many of the group were moving on to college
- Number of work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities provided - 6 - Several members of the group invited back to volunteer at Shaw Lane in September.
- Number of people reporting a reduction of stress, anxiety and/or symptoms of depression - 5
- Number of people reporting improved mental health or wellbeing - 13
- Number of people reporting increased resilience and/or self-care - 4
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 18



EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Improved economic wellbeing

Secondary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Primary Beneficiary - Not in education, employment and training (NEET 16 - 24)

Primary Issue - Education, learning and training

Number Of Beneficiaries - 10

Gender Percentage

- **Female** - 90%
- **Male** - 10%

Primary Activity - Multiple activities

Project Area - North Sheffield



Charity Overview

SOAR is a charity focused on community regeneration, providing health, well-being, and employability services. They work with GP surgeries and community partners, offering a social prescribing service and employing various coaches and workers. Established in 2004, they continue the regeneration process in North Sheffield since the Southey Owlerton Regeneration programme ended in 2006. The organisation's aims to improve health and economic well-being, supporting local community organisations, managing social assets, and being sustainable and innovative. Their services aim to enhance social capital, social cohesion, and individual outcomes such as confidence and employment opportunities.



Funding enabled the development and delivery of a four-week, four-session course designed to boost confidence, wellbeing, and financial literacy. Participants attended interactive, two-hour face-to-face sessions in small groups. The sessions are outlined below:

- 1. Introduction and Confidence Building workshop – growth mindset, hopes/aspirations, overcoming barriers - delivered by their training lead
- 2. Money management – income & expenditure, budgeting & meal planning, debt reduction - delivered by a welfare coach
- 3. Health and Wellbeing - healthy lifestyle session, food and mood, exercise and available support - delivered by a wellbeing coach
- 4. Employment and training – better off calculations, referrals, plans and progression, volunteering opportunities, mindset change. - delivered by an employment coach.

Session facilitators brought specialised skills and knowledge to the programme, employing engaging and interactive training methods. To encourage attendance, participants earned credits toward a gift voucher for each completed session. Vouchers increased incrementally, with a maximum of £20 for completing the entire course.



Case Study

“One individual was struggling to budget and was in debt , through the course and support they have started to take the first steps to try and control their budgeting and addressing their debt. They have taken action to get help with their health and started to look at ways they can improve their skills to help get them employment in the future.” - **Soar Community**



The Learning Community

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Increased employability

Secondary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Primary Age Group - Young Adults (19 – 25)

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 35

Gender Percentage

- **Female** - 40%
- **Male** - 60%

Primary Activity - 1:1 support

Project Area - Rotherham



Charity Overview

The Learning Community, established in 2003, supports disadvantaged individuals in personal development in Dinnington, South Yorkshire, and surrounding areas. They offer vital support to remove barriers and aid progression towards a better life. Originally a Training Provider, they now function as a Community Hub, delivering apprenticeships and support recognised and respected in the community.

Support services include:

- Employability Skills Development
- Personal Development
- Digital/IT Training
- Confidence and Motivation
- Access to Free online Maths and English tuition
- Food In Crisis parcels and Community Fridge access
- Loan of IT equipment
- Walking Group



Grant Usage

Funding was used to enhance individuals' life, employability, education, and entrepreneurial skills through various activities and sessions.

Impact

During their first year of delivery they supported 35 individuals, each receiving between 4 and 16 hours support. They also delivered both 1:1 sessions and group workshops each lasting between 1.5 and 3 hours, delivered

Pre Employment Training Development support - To help young people explore and secure employment or volunteering opportunities, including apprenticeships, full-time or part-time jobs, and voluntary placements.

Confidence and Motivation workshops - To reduce anxiety and increase motivation and goal setting, wellness walks, community allotment activities, and life skills development sessions were offered.

Cooking classes to expand cooking skills - Participants learned to prepare affordable, healthy meals, earned a Food Hygiene for All certificate, and received a starter kit to practice cooking at home.

Breaking Barriers workshops - Metal sculpting workshops that encouraged creativity and pushed participants outside their comfort zones by creating objects from recycled metal.

A Place of Your Own sessions - Participants learnt about tenant responsibilities and developing effective budgeting skills to manage income and expenses independently.

Created pathways to online learning - The Sessions offered support in Maths, English, and CSCS to upgrade or refresh qualifications, enhancing job prospects. We provided digital devices and a quiet learning environment to facilitate online studies.

Exploring further education - Participants explored further education options at both mainstream and SEND colleges in Rotherham and Sheffield.

Mindfulness sessions - Participants focused on self-care, developing coping mechanisms, and building tools for managing personal well-being.

Resilience sessions - This session focused on building resilience by helping participants accept life challenges, turn setbacks into opportunities, and overcome isolation and obstacles.

Impact

They created fruitful relations and worked in partnership with a number of providers to include:

- The Workwise Foundation
- JCP
- Working Win
- RUSH House
- Casting Innovations
- Better Today
- Community Hubs

They received referrals from:

- JCP
- Working Win
- Community Connectors
- Those attending our Hub
- NHS Link Workers
- GP Surgeries
- Self referrals after seeing adverts on Social Media, attending Events, our Website, Leaflets and Word of Mouth
- Early Help Practitioners



Feedback from community members, participants, families, and support providers highlighted significant improvements in quality of life, abilities, motivation, and goal-setting within the group.

Case Study

“

“X Came to live in England from Ghana in February 2023 to live with his Partner. The relationship quickly broke down - we had met with X during the breakup stage before it was finalised. We offered CV Development support, Interview Techniques, Job Search - both paid and volunteering opportunities in preparation for the Right To Remain Status being approved.

During our intervention we also identified LGBT+ Groups table to this individual's circumstances and within geographic reach to reduce social isolation as well societal rejection.

X was moved from one Borough to another before settling back in Rotherham, during which our support continued.

After months of homelessness, deprivation, personal heartache and isolation, low level self worth, confidence and aspiration X has now not only secured a paid role at CAB but also a voluntary role at City of Sanctuary where his vast lived experience and historical profession capacity is a great asset to both organisations upon X gaining the Right To Remain Status. He has been an immense pleasure to work with and support despite personal challenges, barriers and hurdles being experienced and faced. He is a prime example of why we do what we do!” - **The Learning Community**

Impact Indicators

Number of people completing training - 30

Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills - 26

Number of people reporting increased literacy and/or numeracy skills - 11

Number of people reporting increased practical skills - 28

Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge - 32

Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 27

Number of people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities - 8

Number of people who became self-employed or gained employment - 3

Number of work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities provided - 2

Number of people reporting an increase in personal aspirations and goals - 22

Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 26

Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 27

Number of people whose engagement in education/learning has improved - 30

Number of people reporting a reduction of stress, anxiety and/or symptoms of depression - 25

Number of people reporting improved mental health or wellbeing - 26

Number of people reporting increased resilience and/or self-care - 18

Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 26

Number of people reporting a reduction in debt - 15

Number of people reporting a reduction in reliance on benefits - 11

Number of people reporting increased income levels as a result of advice/support provided - 3



Active Fusion have made significant strides in delivering a transition support programme tailored for disadvantaged young people (YP), particularly those not in employment, education, or training (NEET). Since the inception of their project in Spring 2023, they co-designed and implemented a comprehensive 12-week intervention programme, specifically tailored to meet the diverse needs of each young person referred to their project. This personalised approach helped them understand the participants' holistic needs, enhancing engagement and progress.

Key activities funded included weekly face-to-face sessions at various business locations like EE, enhancing confidence, self-esteem, and well-being through sports and physical activities led by AF Coaches and Mentors. Employability skills development remained a central focus, with participants guided through an employability skills matrix to equip them with essential life skills necessary for a successful transition into further education, training, or employment.

This year they have worked with multiple groups (not the planned two groups in the application) of YP across a 4-month cycle of activity. Throughout this period, participants engaged in a variety of activities, including group and one-on-one sessions, creative thinking exercises, reflective practices, and leadership training. These activities were facilitated through an action based co-learning approach, supported by training and workshops utilising frameworks such as the "I Can Lead" and Sports Leaders framework.

Funding supported partnerships with Doncaster College, Doncaster Chamber, and local charity partners like Stride to provide support services such as CV writing, application form assistance, career exploration, and interview preparation for young people. The sessions aimed to meet the needs and aspirations of the youth, enhancing their chances for future employment opportunities like traineeships, apprenticeships, and entry-level jobs. Active involvement of stakeholders like education providers, social workers, and employers ensured comprehensive support for young people (YP), empowering them with tailored assistance for their transition into adulthood.

Funding created a safe space for young people (YP) to engage in sports, helping educators and employers understand their vocational, social, emotional, and mental health needs. Their programme focused on both group activities and individual support, including peer coaching, reflective practices, and purposeful sports leadership activities. Participants, including those with attachment difficulties and trauma, benefitted from opportunities for growth, trust-building, and emotional challenge management in a supportive environment.



EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Secondary Outcome - Improved physical health and wellbeing

Primary Age Group - Teenagers (e.g. 13-18 years)

Primary Ethnicity - All Ethnicities

Number Of Beneficiaries - 33

Gender Percentage

- **Male** - 86%
- **Female** - 14%

Primary Activity - Workshop

Other Activities - 1:1 support

Project Area - South Doncaster



Charity Overview

Active Fusion is a charity that collaborates with other organisations, coaches, and young people to deliver sports and physical activities to children and young people. They offer physical education programmes to support high-quality physical activity for all children and young people, place-based change through participating in sports and physical activities, and leadership development. Active Fusion aims to improve the physical health, mental wellbeing, and social mobility of children and young people and advocate for the power of physical education in young lives. They have impacted over 25,000 children and young people annually and worked with over 85,000 children and young people from deprived communities in the last three years.



Impact



The coaching staff used a person-centred approach with young people in the programme, who had a keen interest in physical activities and sports but lacked leadership and employability skills.

68% of participants showed moderate progress in self-assessment and skill observations, with 32% making progress in most areas except for participation, engagement, and idea generation. 20% of young people took proactive steps towards further education, courses, employment, or training with support from the coaching team. For those who did not pursue higher education immediately, a career exploration process was initiated on a 1:1 basis. Factors impacting skill development progress extended beyond the control of young professionals, especially those with additional needs, leading to varying individual progress.

YP focused on personal interests and skills, turning ideas into plans to impress classmates, boosting confidence. Documenting growth in self-belief and confidence, highlighting positive effects on skill development. Young participants gained vital sports leadership skills and life skills like communication and resilience, with 68% showing growth in essential life skills. They learned to plan sessions, ensure safety, and understand health and fitness importance. Participants showed improved understanding of fair play, officials' roles, rules, and regulations, beneficial for education and employment.

The person-centred programme enhanced young people's life and work skills through leadership, personal development, and sports experience. This led to increased confidence, competence, and understanding of concepts like fair play and responsibility, shaping them into capable leaders ready for personal success and community impact.

Over the year, three internships were offered, providing hands-on experience and valuable skills working with Active Fusion coaches in sports education and wellbeing. Throughout a project, a young participant expressed interest in working in a school environment. They were offered an apprenticeship with Active Fusion to continue their leadership journey. After completing a project, the participant successfully secured a 14-month apprenticeship and will enroll in a Level 2 Community Activator course.

Case Study



"X, 16 years old, joined Active Fusion's Fusion Transition Project after leaving school, feeling lost. The programme offers leadership, employability skills, and sports qualifications for disengaged youth. With mentorship from Coach Tea, X discovered his leadership skills and pursued education in sports journalism. Tea's support and tailored guidance empowered X to apply for college and explore career paths. X's journey showcases the transformative impact of mentorship and tailored support in shaping young lives, with opportunities for volunteering and continued growth ahead." - Active Fusion

. "I would like to say a massive thankyou Tea, X's confidence has grown so much these past couple of months and all I can say is thank you! I have also been trying to get him to apply for a collage for agers and you have been there to help him through and now we have got him to apply I am beyond happy. I just want micky to be happy and I believe you are helping him so much." X's Mother - This testimonial reflects the tangible difference mentorship and tailored support can make in shaping young minds.

Impact Indicators

- Number of people completing training - 33
- Number of people reporting increased interpersonal (social, communication and relationship) skills - 21
- Number of people reporting increased practical skills - 21
- Number of people reporting increased skills and knowledge - 33
- Number of people reporting that they feel better prepared for work - 21
- Number of people taking up work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities - 11
- Number of people who became self-employed or gained employment - 1
- Number of work or volunteer placement/experience opportunities provided - 11
- Number of people who achieved a vocational qualification - 21
- Number of people who gained an accredited qualification - 21
- Number of people who went into further and/or higher education - 31
- Number of people whose engagement in education/learning has improved - 21
- Number of people reporting an increase in personal aspirations and goals - 21
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 33
- Number of people reporting increased self-esteem and confidence - 21
- Number of people whose engagement in education/learning has improved - 20
- Number of people reporting improved physical health or wellbeing - 33
- Number of people reporting that they are more physically active - 20
- Number of people completing training - 33



PROJECT ALLOCATION OVERVIEW

Round 3 - Grant Overview

A full overview will be available in next years evaluation document, due to the recent allocation of funding.

1. ACTIVE FUSION
2. FLYING FUTURES

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Secondary Outcome - Improved physical health and wellbeing

Project Area - South Doncaster

Charity Overview

Active Fusion is a charity that collaborates with other organisations, coaches, and young people to deliver sports and physical activities to children and young people. They offer physical education programmes to support high-quality physical activity for all children and young people, place-based change through participating in sports and physical activities, and leadership development. Active Fusion aims to improve the physical health, mental wellbeing, and social mobility of children and young people and advocate for the power of physical education in young lives. They have impacted over 25,000 children and young people annually and worked with over 85,000 children and young people from deprived communities in the last three years.

Funded Project

Funding will be used to support the groups Fusion Community Services through children and young people participating in diversionary sports and physical activities. They coach children and young people to take a lead in local projects that unlock their social capital and skills for life and work. They work in collaboration with Young People and local communities focusing on those most disadvantaged and in need of their support, offering free opportunities right on their doorstep.

Fusion Communities Service Solution - They offer a bespoke solution locally through two key service initiatives:

1. Fusion Youth - Fusion Youth uses sport and physical activity to motivate and engage children most in need to lead positive lifestyle changes.

This work targets children and young people age 7-12 and 13-16. Fusion Youth is a programme designed to tackle the inactivity of CYP at the heart of the community. To do this they provide a Community Activator Coach in communities most in need to get children and young people moving across South Yorkshire.

Fusion Youth activities are sports-based sessions tailored to meet the needs of young people, offering a variety of sports like football, basketball, yoga, and street-based activities. The informal sports sessions enhance communication, teamwork, and relationship skills. The Community Coaching team offers diverse sports activities to children, boosting confidence, motivation, and long-term physical activity habits.

2. Fusion Community Leaders - Community Leaders develops skills for work and life, supporting YP to volunteer to lead change as Sports Leaders. Many of their Community Leaders go on to volunteer and lead session such as Fusion Youth provision and/or other ventures in their local community to drive local change.

By providing disadvantaged young people with new skills and opportunities, their Community Leaders programme helps to create a positive cycle of involvement, attainment and youth leadership at the heart of children's communities.

Funding supports a programme empowering young people and local organizations to address social issues through sports and physical activity. Youth-led initiatives are developed and delivered locally. Training covers a wide range of sports, from traditional ball games to dance and fitness. Participants first experience activities first-hand before learning to design, plan, and lead sessions, including behaviour management and adapting to diverse participant needs.

Community Leaders work in locations, and with groups, where engagement in physical activity is low – where social issues, such as poor physical and mental wellbeing, poverty, low attainment in education and high levels of unemployment, are seen.

Working with local providers, Active Fusion trains YP aged 13-18 to take a lead through their Fusion Leaders model. YP form a Fusion Leaders Team, helping to steer and develop emerging activity with local supporting adults.

Community Leaders complete a Sports Leaders qualification as part of the programme, with qualifications offering pathways to progress into employment through a Community Sport Health Apprenticeship Programme or through wider employment routes longer term. You can see some of the

EU Sustainability Development Goals



Impact and Outcomes

IMPACT Category - Improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise

Primary Outcome - Improved aspirations for the future

Secondary Outcome - Improved mental health and wellbeing

Project Area - Thorne, Moorends, Stainforth (Doncaster)

Charity Overview

Flying Futures is a non-profit Community Interest Company in Yorkshire that implements social programmes using sports, mentoring, training, and employment initiatives for children and young people aged 5-25. They are youth-led, with programmes like Active Leaders, Holiday Activities, Mental Health & Wellbeing support, and Alternative Provision for youth who are at risk of becoming NEET or are NEET. They aim to support vulnerable individuals in society by providing opportunities for personal and community development in deprived areas, making a significant difference to those in need.



This funding will be used to increase the capacity of their existing provision, to enable them to offer the programme to more young people throughout the next year.

Flying Futures' Positive Employability programme guides youth through leadership, mental health, employability, and confidence-building, increasing their aspirations and skills for work success. The programme also focuses on resilience, leadership, and real-life experience to help them succeed in their chosen pathways.

The programme consists of:

Leadership

Young people in a leadership programme learn leadership skills and teamwork to lead projects in their community. They design and lead a social action or event, gaining hands-on experience in project management. The programme focuses on collaboration with local stakeholders and culminates in a Leadership qualification.

Health and Wellbeing

This part of the programme focuses on health and well-being, offering activities like yoga, pilates, mindfulness, mental health awareness, mental health first aid, and body image. These activities aim to empower young individuals to enhance their mental well-being and develop an understanding of others.

Enterprise and Employability

Young people engage in employability sessions covering CV writing, interview techniques, job search, public speaking, and enterprise. They design a business or social enterprise, present their ideas Dragon's Den style, and receive feedback from a panel. This experience encompasses various aspects of the working world like finances, marketing, and networking.

Aspiration and Careers

Young people will engage in a careers fair with professionals using a unique approach to spark interest in various career paths. The event will introduce familiar and unfamiliar industries, with careers advisors present. Additionally, trips and work experience opportunities will be organised to broaden young people's exposure to different industries.



President

Professor Dame Hilary Chapman DBE RN
H.M. Lord-Lieutenant of South Yorkshire

Chair

Professor Chris Booth-Mayblin

Chief Executive

Ruth E Willis MCIH FRSA

Address

South Yorkshire's Community Foundation Ltd
The Campus
Pack Horse Lane
High Green
Sheffield
S35 3HY

Telephone

0114 261 5144

Michelle Dickinson: Head of Philanthropy and Programmes

E-mail

MDickinson@sycf.org.uk

Website

www.sycf.org.uk

Social media

X @SYCF1986

f @SYCF1986

ig /sy_community_foundation

in /company/south-yorkshire-community-foundation



Report By:

Rachael Farrell
Philanthropy Coordinator
0114 242 4605
rfarrell@sycf.org.uk