MISSION STATEMENT
Working with young people to develop their ideas and supporting their life choices and education
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR

- Successfully delivered detached youth work initiative contacting and building long term lasting relationships with 252 young people (128 Males and 124 females). This resulted in 2,164 interactions throughout the year.
- The Phoenix DYP has been recognised as an Investors in children service in 2010, been awarded the High Sheriffs award for its work and achieved a Fostering Community Spirit award in partnership with Chirton Lodge for its intergenerational work.
- The Meadowell crew helped North Tyneside Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) develop musical ring tones around debt for mobile phones to encourage young people to use the CAB and sort out their debt problems.
- A group of young people attended a European exchange in France called Otesha Taste, looking at food consumption and sustainability.
- A group from Percy Main are successfully developing a new website for the Phoenix DYP. Working alongside a web design company they have invested 30 hours of their time, voluntarily to develop the site.
- The staff team continue to develop the star of success system to measure individuals progress via “Who am I Where am I going” project and assisted the Northern Rock Foundation to develop a system to measure impact and encourage the progress of individuals in the voluntary sector.
- Developed in depth work with men following on from our Risky Business project last year involving the victim and perpetrator of knife crime to develop “it cuts both ways” project. This interactive street drama will look at the myths of carrying knives and the actions and consequences thus helping men to explore how it can affect their lives.
- Involved in bidding and gaining Funding for a regionally funded Generation 2012 project for 2 years to deliver “Urban Alchemy” project in partnership with Northern Detached Youth Agency, Dance City, Northern Stage and The Sage Gateshead.
- Delivered sex factor to young women from Phoenix DYP and Walker YMCA as part of a residential with interactive babies to look at sexual health and teenage pregnancy.
- Due to the success of the Helping hands group and an increase in referrals we have set up a second group to meet the demand.
- 7 young people gained employment and the project spent £12,500 on young person led activities, ideas and projects and helped in setting up 3 community businesses in the area in the past year.

PHOENIX COMMUNITY AND YOUTH FORUM

“The service in the past year from the Phoenix DYP has been excellent. It’s not just the trips and outings they do they are here for you for emotional support and they are here to help and listen to you. They cover a numerous amount of things, one of the greatest things they have achieved this year is helping young people in poverty i.e. gas and electric has been one of the big issues this year, Gregg’s Foundation has been a big help this year with grants to support young people in crisis.”

“Two of the youth forum members were very fortunate to go to the South of France this year to Otesha taste which was about learning how to live sustainably and when a young person came back turned her and her kids lifestyle and diet around. We are now looking at doing a similar project here in the community in partnership with the Cedarwood Trust.”

“The future of the forum is getting to know the local councillors and for them to understand the value of the Phoenix DYP to the local people.”

Youth and Community Forum Member

DETACHED YOUTH WORK

Our long-term investment over the past 6 years of contacting young people on the streets and developing trusting relationships is highlighted in this report.

We have successfully worked with more young people over the past year through a joint bid with North Tyneside Council and ourselves to expand detached youth work through the detached youth initiative. This led to a contract to deliver DYW for North Tyneside Council which was extremely successful with local young people benefiting directly from £22,500 being spent on young person led activities, projects and local business ideas. This in turn indirectly reduced anti-social behaviour in the area and we are currently looking for further funding to continue this invaluable work.
I am a 22 year old man from the Meadowell estate who has been involved with the Phoenix DYP for about 3 years. Within these 3 years I have met new people and have realized that they are here if people need to talk.”

Young Man.

Having a minibus means that people are able to experience things they may not otherwise be able to access. We have had more dads this year wanting to get involved and they are keen to set up and dads and children swimming group.

As well as getting involved with Phoenix DYP with their children the majority of parents also access us for one to one support. It is important that we are able to keep offering a holistic support service as for many of the parents it can, at times, be their main or only source of support. Some of the parents over the last year have found themselves in crisis situations and thanks to grants from Greggs Foundation and Elswick Lodge we have been able to assist and support them with practical solutions at a time of great need.

As always the parents and their children have benefited enormously by the support we receive from St John’s Church and St Peter’s Church, Ballydow. This year we have had a joint Christmas party which was attended by 1 Santa, 1 magician, 2 face painters, 148 children and their parents…this was slightly (50%) more children than we’d anticipated but there was enough food and presents to go around so everyone went away happy. We also had a visit to the People’s theatre to see Sleeping Beauty and were visited by the Easter Bunny. None of these would have been possible without our links with the churches so we would like to offer them our thanks. It is a fantastic opportunity to bring different members of the community and congregation together.

“Phoenix DYP has given me and my son opportunities that we wouldn’t have otherwise had”

Young woman, 19

“I have been involved with the Phoenix DYP for the past 3 years and I have realized how much difference the workers have made to the people of the Meadowell. They are willing to listen and help people with the daily struggle of life here. As a young mum in the parents group it has allowed me to meet new people and the children make new friends sharing new experiences together”

Young Mum, Parents Group
PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

LIVING IT LARGE / MEADOWELL MOTORS
This project is mainly accessed by NEET young people on a voluntary basis. They firstly take part in ‘Living it Large,’ a project designed to encourage team work and respect for one another and staff. The groups have also been kayaking, fishing, climbing, bowling and to play snooker over the past year. This project was introduced to combat challenging behaviour at the Meadowell Motors project at the go kart track which resulted in over £500 worth of damaged caused by some difficult young people. Over 20 young people have taken part in these projects over the past year.

“Gets me out and about, helps me with communication skills and gives us something to do instead of taking drugs”. Young Man, 19

This has indirectly reduced motor vehicle crime on the estate over the past 2 years with young people creating a solution to the problem.

Sadly the detached youth initiative fund ran out in March 2010 and due to a reduction in funding from North Tyneside Council YSS partnership, the NEET work with young people has had to be reduced until we can secure additional funding. We would like to thank Kath Leck and Cherie Davidson for all their hard work in supporting and working with Phoenix DYP staff on the above project over the past 2 years and thank the youth service for their support during this period.

“Gets me out of the house, the only time I get out is when I do stuff with the Phoenix DYP”
Young Man, 20

PHOENIX BOOKWORMS
We continue to deliver the bookworm project which enables young parents and their children to borrow books. When they have borrowed 10 books they are able to choose a book to keep for themselves. This has also been beneficial for some dads who do not have their children living with them as they have been able to borrow books so that when their children visit they are able to do some reading with them. We currently have 27 children as ‘bookworms’.

TUTTI FRUITIES
This group of young women have been involved in different aspects of project work including the intergenerational project, urban alchemy taster day and a residential with young women from Walker YMCA where they took part in sex factor looking at sexual health and teenage pregnancy with interactive babies.

“Thanks for making this weekend amazing. All the info and games were amazing”

LINYA CREW
This is a new group of young people we have met during detached work. They have taken part in a few ‘getting to know us’ activities such as bowling, laser quasar and kayaking and are keen to take part in sex factor and Booze factor.

YOUNG PERSON LED PROJECT WORK

EUROPEAN EXCHANGE
The Phoenix DYP was involved in a European exchange to Sisteron, France. Five European countries were involved in the exchange including France, Italy, Portugal, Greece, and Britain. All country’s had prepared working presentations about what sustainable consumption means to them as individual country’s and how this translates into action on the ground in their everyday lives in their respective countries. The Otseha Taste Youth Exchange Group has its own Facebook page.

CHIRTON MAD DOGS
We first met this group during detached work hanging around the pylon, we named them the ‘pylon crew’ but they renamed themselves the ‘Chirton mad dogs’. Having established relationships of trust they said they wanted to set up a bike project ‘strip it down build it up’. The group received funding from the Detached Youth Initiative Fund for BMX bikes and an 8 week course at Tyne Cycles, learning how to strip a bike down and build it back up. Upon evaluation the group said they’d had fun working on the bikes and learning how to fix them as well as learning how to be part of a team and building confidence. The next step for the group is to go on a residential with their bikes.

NORHAMMERS
This group were excited that their YouTube film called ‘pissed and unprotected’ has had 1,200 hits and has been used by Monkseaton High School as part of their Year 9 Health Day. They have also assisted VODA in conducting practitioner led research for the Children’s Workforce Development Council.

‘Before our video we drank a lot with our friends. We realized the risks and stupid behaviour that can be brought out when drunk’
Young person

The group also went on a residential to Alton Towers which was fun and enjoyable, whilst a challenging experience for both staff and themselves.

As a follow on from their last video the Norhammers went on a residential to Kielder to explore the possibility of making another film as a sequel to the last. The storyline continues that the young woman becomes pregnant and the consequences. Watch this space folks! (The area has the highest rate of teenage pregnancy in the borough). The Norhammers are an example of detached youth work repeatedly contacting young people on the streets at 13 years of age and the journey travelled in 3 years using an informal educational process.

“Being with the Phoenix DYP is a really big help as it keeps us off the streets and helps me be a better person” Young Woman, 15
PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

HELPING HANDS
Is an excellent example of a successful partnership with Ella Hallpike and Helen Heslop from Universal Youth and Connexions Service. The group over the last year have participated in a wide range of activities in order to widen their social network, skills and confidence outside of their comfort zones. These have included rock climbing, cultural visit to Edinburgh, cooking and snow tubing.

Due to the demand for the group and an increase in the number of referrals, we have set up a second group. They have been to Beadnell for a residential. The group took responsibility for planning and shopped for all of their food, cooked their own meals and went on a boat trip around the Farne Islands. The time away proved to be extremely beneficial for the group dynamics and has a positive impact on the way in which the group has worked together since.

“Working alongside the Phoenix Detached Youth Work Project has been a path of discovery and creativity opening the doors to young people who traditionally shy away from such projects and activities which strives to develop their social development”.
Ella Hallpike, Personal Adviser, Universal Youth and Connexions service

“Thanks to Helping hands I have had the opportunities to try new things” Young man, 17

“It’s like having a second family”
Young woman, 17

MEADOWELL MUSIC CREW
This group continues to gain a reputation in the field MC’ing and DJ’ing underground music nationally. After encouragement to do the Sage Music Centre the Phoenix You Tube video has now had over 125,000 hits! The group have progressed and linked up with others fundraising music nights to raise money for the Children’s Hospital and Heart Foundation charities which they are very proud of. The group have been approached to be involved in a film documenting the history of MC’ing and DJ mixing in the North East.

“If it wasn’t for the Phoenix DYP myself and 3 mates would not have had the opportunity to better our music skills at the Sage Music Centre Gateshead. As a result of going to the Sage we made 6 videos which were placed on the website You Tube. The videos in which the 4 of us have done have a combined viewing of over half million. It’s through these videos that we got noticed for our talent. The Phoenix is a great place to better yourself and what you do and the things we are doing for ourselves are now proof that the Phoenix DYP works. I would like to say a big thanks to Mike, Sid, Kerry and Becky. Cheers for everything and good luck for the future.” You Young man, 24

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) North Tyneside approached Phoenix DYP to help produce a ring tone for mobile phones to encourage young people to sort out their debt problems and use CAB. They produced a number of ringtones which young people will be able to download from our new website. This group also plan to be involved with the Urban Alchemy project over the next two years.

“The CAB, found the Phoenix detached youth project, to be an invaluable bridge to young people. This is helping CAB to reach out to clients who we do not traditionally appeal to”
Mark Almond, Bureau Director, North Tyneside CAB

INTERRGENERATIONAL WORK
Our partnership with Anchor’s Chilton Lodge retirement housing scheme has continued to be successful and has been acknowledged this year when the partnership won the Fostering Community Spirit category of Anchor Retirement Housing’s Community Awards. The Tenant Participation and Advisory Service (TPAS) also recognised this fantastic work by nominating the partnership for the Best Practice in Youth Involvement in their regional awards, where we were runners up in the regional finals. This saw representatives from both projects go to Manchester for an amazing awards ceremony.

The partnership seeks to establish intergenerational relationships between the older people who live at the scheme and local young people, in order to break down misconceptions and prejudices, share knowledge and experience and improve community relations. This has been hugely successful - anti-social behaviour around the scheme has completely stopped, and many of the young people now count tenants at the scheme as friends. Young people from Phoenix DYP have been meeting with residents for activities such as the crazy golf tournament, cooking and gardening. This is an important piece of work as it breaks down the barriers and perceptions between the generations, and on more than one occasion young people have had their eyes opened at some of the stories of the older generation!

“When we got to know the young people we realized they’re good kids - we have a laugh with them. It’s a great project.”
Tenant Edna Hennett, 75

“This interactive, practical project helped to build worthwhile bridges between generations. Often people in their senior years feel left out and forgotten. Younger people mix with each other and tend not to want to spend time with older folk. The hanging baskets project became a unique platform for two generations to learn from each other.”
Steve Barrigan, Sessional Worker.

“We have now been in partnership with the Phoenix Detached Youth Project since February 2005. We have been involved in numerous projects together and have built an excellent working relationship. It is so good to see both generations enjoying each other’s company and the biggest asset to date is the greater understanding and experience both generations have gained from each other”.
Christine Walker, Scheme Manager, Chirton Lodge
PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

EMPLOYMENT/ DEVELOPING COMMUNITY BUSINESSES
As project manager moving young people into training and employment has never been such a challenge in my 20 years of youth work, so our success in the Meadowell area is a great achievement. We have successfully supported 7 young people into work in the last year. An example of this is that we have given grants to two young men and supported them in developing window cleaning businesses.

“The Phoenix DYP has helped me out in ways the Job Centre and other companies could not and have been there to support me and help me every step of the way with a calm and professional manner that they give to each young person that they help out. I have been well impressed with the support and help they have offered me out of the goodness of their hearts. I can’t thank them enough. I really appreciate all they have done and achieved for me and on my behalf.”
Young Man, 23

WORK WITH WOMEN
We have had an increase in the number of young women accessing the project on a one to one and group basis. We were also fortunate enough to have been able to take four different groups of young women to see the Open Clasp theatre group latest production of Rattle and Roll when they visited the estate. As with all Open Clasp performances and workshops this again proved to be an effective way of dealing with hard hitting and sensitive issues in a thought provoking way. It also proved to be an exciting way of bringing different groups of young women involved in the Phoenix DYP together.

SEXUAL HEALTH AND seX FACTOR
We continue to deliver C Card and in the last few months have started to offer Chlamydia testing. We have seen young people accessing the project just for the sexual health service we can provide and it is important that as a project we can offer services for young people that they may not access elsewhere.

We have also delivered seX Factor this year. This is an informal education programme which provides young people with information and skills including relationships, self esteem, assertiveness, risk taking, contraception, keeping safe, sexting, the law, sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy and subsequent options. This was delivered in a different way this year when young people from Phoenix DYP joined with young people from Walker YMCA for a residential to Bradnell, Northumberland. As part of this residential we also incorporated the use of interactive babies which the children to keep with them at all times from 8pm on Friday night to 11am Sunday morning, this included carrying out all of the tasks, playing crazy golf and going to the shops! The babies were on a 48 hour programme and the babies were set to different programmes so they were all crying at different times. Each baby came with 5 keys so that when the baby cried they had to decide whether to use the attention, feed, nappy change or burp key to use so it would stop crying or if they really couldn’t cope a panic key. We had positive feedback from young people’s evaluations and that they felt it was an effective way of delivering sexual health work.

“Been really educational and would love to come with group again and have the bumps (prosthetic pregnancy bumps)”

“Thank you for a fantastic weekend. It’s been fab, the people are all funny and the staff have been fab! Want to come again!!! HINT HINT!!”

Sarah Warren
Project Manager - Newcastle YMCA

This is not the first time that I have been involved with Phoenix Detached Youth Project and I am familiar with its work through the Northern Detached Work Forum. The Project is able to form strong working relationships with many hard to reach young people with complex needs, living on and around the Meadowell estate. It offers support and opportunities to those who need it most. I have a great deal of professional admiration for what the staff team at the Project has achieved and continues to achieve and hope that it remains part of the community for many years to come.”

DEVELOPMENTAL AREAS OF WORK

URBAN ALCHEMY GENERATION
2012 FUNDED PROJECT
Phoenix DYP is one of six detached projects from the North East involved in this exciting project. The aim of Urban Alchemy plans to proactively reclaim outdoor space on the streets for young people and to challenge the negative public perception of young people by promoting young peoples culture, imagination and aspirations.

“An ambitious bold and exciting project that embraces a wide partnership with potential to reach for and make a real difference’ Legacy Trust UK/Lottery Fund.

Around 80 young people (Urban Artists) are involved with this project from the Phoenix DYP.

“We set our group up in memory of our friend Jay, we want to bring Urban dance and Crip walking to the area and show the Police and the rest of the community that we aren’t all hoodies wanting to create a nuisance”
Young Man, 18

PIMP MY BIKE
This bike repair service continues to offer a local service to young people with over fifty people getting their bikes fixed this year.

CEDARWOOD LANDSCAPES
This gardening project provides an example of the challenges and issues faced by young people. Whilst operating successfully for the past year, due to personal difficulties faced by some of the group members the project had to end. We are now working closely with Cedarwood Trust to look at ways of developing this valuable project and getting it back up and running for the future with other young people.

INVESTORS IN YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD (LOCAL BUSINESSES)
We are delighted to present this year’s award to a local Meadowell businesswoman Ken Downie for his support to the Cedarwood Landscapes project and for offering work experience to one of our young dads in his painting and decorating company.
WHO AM I WHERE AM I GOING – CRISIS ONE TO ONE WORK

Who am I where am I going has been running now for two years and has proved an invaluable support network for some of the most vulnerable young people the project works with. The programme has had a steady up take and this has seen the project develop relationships with young people that are shaped by their own needs. The crisis one to one support we offer is a significant part of the work of Phoenix DYP and this year we have supported young people in crisis with domestic violence, debt, housing, mental health issues, extreme isolation, drug addiction and as victims of crime. For many young people the support they are able to receive from others may be their main source of support.

“If it wasn’t for the Phoenix DYP I wouldn’t have anyone else to help me”
Young Man, 18

“It is absolutely brilliant because the staff are very supportive and you can talk to them about anything”
Young Woman, 16

RALEIGH INTERNATIONAL

The Phoenix DYP assisted a young man in fundraising to go on an expedition to Costa Rica to help a village to install a water purification system. This young man took part in a three-stage expedition, environmental, community and adventure in which he spent 3 weeks on each phase.

BOOZE FACTOR

We have continued to develop this as a resource and are excited about getting it published so that more young people can benefit from this programme.

‘IT CUTS BOTH WAYS’ – WORK WITH MEN

This innovative project has been funded by Northumbria Police participatory budget in partnership with Northern Stage to develop educational projects around the consequences and myths of knife crime. Through building a relationship with two people who were the victim and perpetuator of a knife crime incident we have been able to enable them to think about actions and consequences through role play scenarios designed by them looking at choices. We are now due to start piloting the project out onto the streets with young people. The young person in prison is keen to work with Northern Stage on his return to the estate in developing a theatre education production as part of his rehabilitation back into the community.

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy”
Martin Luther King
PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

I have worked with Phoenix detached youth project on several occasions over the last couple of years. What I value is their total commitment to treating young people seriously and with respect AND endlessly trying to find creative ways to give young people opportunities to make choices that will help them get where they want to go in their lives.

Dr D Tomson FRCGP

What really impressed me about Phoenix DYP is that, although a large number of young people access the Project, helping an individual to progress in their life is always to the fore in their thinking.

Jim Mackison, Community Foundation

The Northern Rock Foundation supports Phoenix Detached Youth Project because it works in a thoughtful way with some of the City's most disadvantaged young people. The support offered is effective in developing self-confidence and raising aspirations.

Penny Vowles, Programme Manager, Northern Rock Foundation

Phoenix Youth Project is an innovative Young Peoples Organisation where offer of: help and support to young people, giving them the opportunity to live, work and contribute to their local community is at the forefront. We believe that The Phoenix Detached Youth Project have been invaluable in affecting change and providing opportunity in the community of North Shields. The YMCA is proud to be a partner with the Phoenix DYP in so many worthwhile activities and opportunities provided.

Dean Titterton, Chief Executive Officer, YMCA North Tyneside

Mobex North East congratulates the Phoenix Detached Youth Project for the work it does with young people enabling them to develop personal and social skills. We are happy to provide support through positive outdoor activities that compliment the work taking place within the project.

Danny Gilchrist, Project Director, Mobex North East

In our last financial year North Shields has seen a reduction of over 10% in anti social behaviour and significant reductions in all categories of crime. This collaborative approach between agencies has produced a number of successful initiatives. The Phoenix DYP have played a pivotal role in this particularly through detached youth work and creatively involving young people in diversionary activities in the local area.


Working with Phoenix Detached Youth Project has always been a great pleasure. The project's initiatives are aspiring and innovative, and one can observe great results of young people becoming more creative, active and mindful individuals as well as thoughtful about their community. On behalf of North Tyneside VODA, I would like to thank the workers for all their valuable cooperation. We are happy to work in partnership in the near future.

Evelina Savickaite, Media Worker, North Tyneside VODA

The staff and young people from Phoenix Detached Youth Project have continued to work really hard to help to raise awareness that looking after your sexual health is just as important as physical and emotional health. They have come up with innovative ways of working with young people to do this, including their recent residential which included ‘The Sex Factor’. They are always really willing to be involved in working together with other partners to improve the wellbeing of local young people.

Jane Cook, Health Promotion Specialist Sexual Health

It's refreshing to see the Phoenix DYP putting so much hard work back into the community by working with young people on the estate. I can see a difference in attitudes from young people, they are being taught to be respectful and responsible.

Mrs Tasleem Akhtar, local shopkeeper

I regularly work with PDYP who provide placements for the Northumbria University social work programmes. The students develop the range of skills, knowledge and values required to work with disadvantaged young people to assist them to achieve positive outcomes. The students benefit from the experienced staff team who assist them to understand the essential nature of voluntary sector provision. Students report the value of the work undertaken by the team and recognise that many young people struggle to make contact with statutory provision.

Jeannine Hughes, Northumbria University Practice Learning Co-ordinator

Phoenix Detached Youth Project continues to support residents of the Riverside and Chirton area to come together to challenge stereotyping of young people and improve opportunities. They have developed many different and innovative approaches working with CAB to record phone ring tunes on reducing debt and providing activities for young people.

Felicity Shoesmith Community and Voluntary Sector Lead Officer North Tyneside Council
Thank you to everyone who supports the Phoenix Detached Youth Project and especially our funders:

Northern Rock Foundation
Henry Smiths Charity
Northumbria Police Authority
Greggs Foundation
North Tyneside Council
Christ’s Hospital in Sherburn
Community Foundation
St Peter’s Church, Balkwell

Church Urban Fund
Chapman Fund
Tyne and Wear High Sheriff Award
John D Fund
Elswick Lodge Charity
C & D Consult and Design International
North Tyneside Integrated Youth Support Service

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

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More detailed information will be available shortly at
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and on Facebook