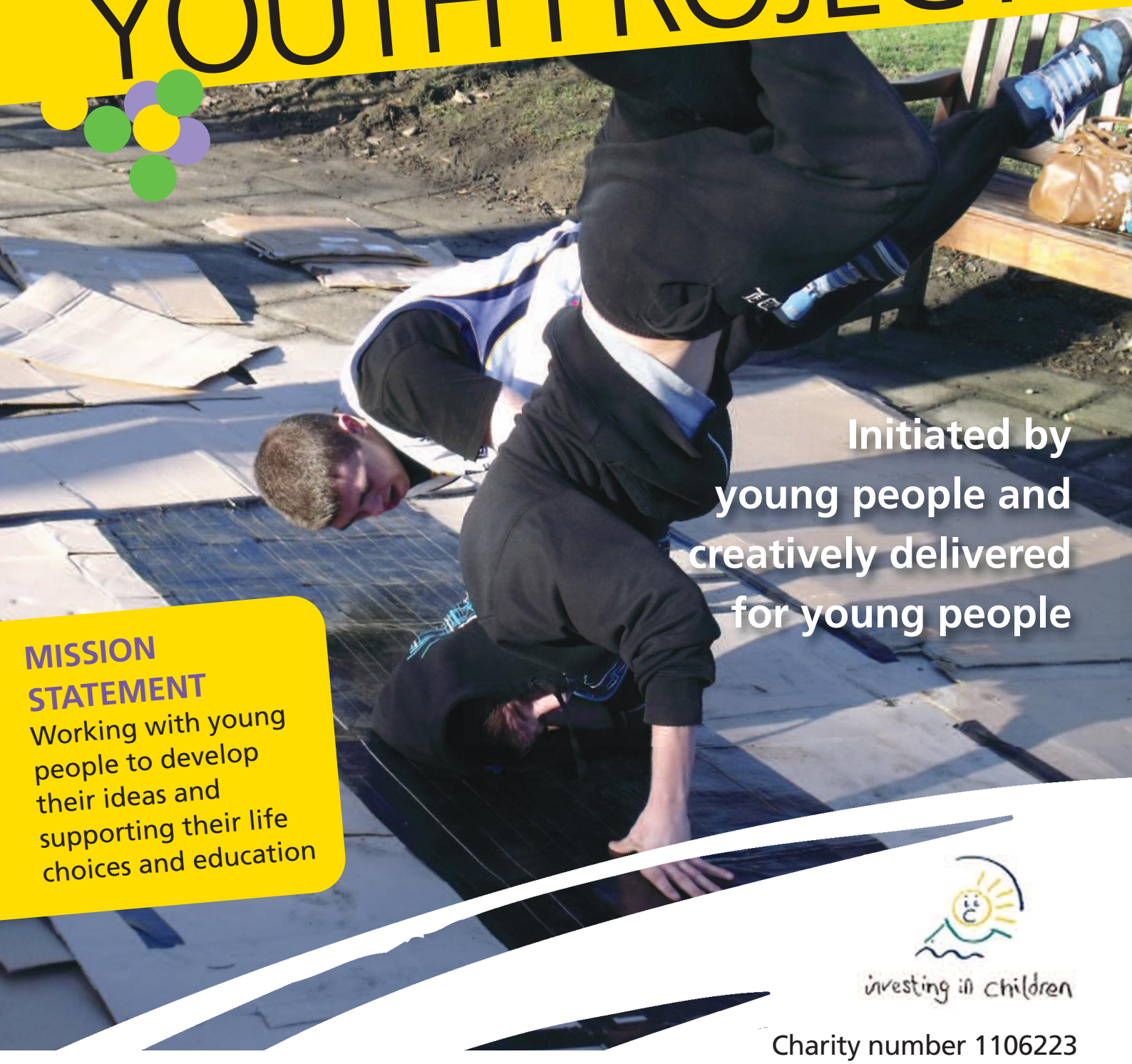
PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT



Initiated by young people and creatively delivered for young people

MISSION STATEMENT

Working with young people to develop their ideas and supporting their life choices and education

investing in children

Charity number 1106223

ANNUAL REPORT 2011

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR

- Successfully delivered detached youth work contacting and building long term lasting relationships with 292 young people (138 Males and 154 females). This resulted in 3,204 interactions throughout the year.
- The Phoenix detached youth project has been recognized for its high standard of work through; being an Investors in Children Service for 2011, awarded a High Sheriff Award for what was described as inspirational work by the High Sheriff and being chosen to exhibit our Helping Hands and Tags to Arts projects at the UK Youth Hearing Unheard Voices positive showcase event.
- After consultation with young people, trustees, staff, wider community and other agencies we have evaluated our 2005 – 2010 vision document and produced our vision document for 2011 – 2016.
- The Project has successfully involved young people in the Regional Urban Alchemy Generation 2012 Project, with over forty young people exploring and identifying positive space on the streets to develop urban art via street dance, art and music.
- A group of urban artists raised funding to develop the first legal art wall in North Tyneside in partnership with North Tyneside YMCA and Pink Dot productions. The Tags to Art Project encourages young people to attend the Project and stop tagging that was causing anti-social behaviour.
- The 'Cuts both Ways' Project which works with young male victims and perpetrators of knife crime, around consequences and actions of carrying and using knives continues to be a success. We have rehabilitated one young perpetrator back into the community after returning from prison and successfully facilitated reconciliation with his victim.
- We have continued to work in partnership with the church (Elswick Lodge Trust) and the Greggs Foundation in helping support young parents and individuals suffering poverty and fuel poverty.
- The Helping Hands group have successfully designed and produced a DVD that can be used to promote effective work with vulnerable young people regarding mental health and social anxiety. Additionally, one young person from the group is now about to leave for university studies.
- Young people were invited to present the successful work they had achieved for the Otesha Taste 2009 at a European Convention on sustainability and consumption in Marseille, September 2010.
- The youth forum have welcomed new members and undertaken training on their roles and responsibilities.

DETACHED YOUTH WORK

"Meeting workers through detached youth work means there's less pressure if you are shy as it's easier to meet like that than come to a building" Young Person

As the Army say, you can't beat boots on the ground, and so it is with detached youth work. Effective time spent on the streets having dialogue and listening to young peoples' needs is the reason for the success of the project. The team's 49 years experience between them allows for a well delivered and high quality service over a seven year period in the most deprived area of North Tyneside.

The economic downturn has increased the need for our service, with a massive increase in young people losing their jobs, suffering and causing increased poverty. Our preventative education continues to help reduce anti-social behaviour, whilst working with young people on a voluntary basis to develop young person-led ideas and projects.

PHOENIX DYP YOUTH FORUM

The youth and community forum have undergone a lot of change in the past year due to people moving on and new people starting. The youth forum has looked at a number of issues throughout the year and has been working closely with the website crew and the local community to develop the forum and its network. In the coming year the forum would like to develop an online platform for the community to comment on and shape the provision the project provides.

"Being part of the Youth Forum is an effective way to get points across to young people, the wider community, funders and those in Authority about what young people want. It is also a way to be more involved and to listen to each other as young people and to liaise with the workers about the way in which Phoenix DYP operates.

As there are a lot of new members we have recently been on a team building residential where we were able to learn about the roles and responsibilities of the youth forum and to agree the way in which we will operate".

Young woman

Real Dance Life

A major success this year has been the Urban Alchemy project which has involved and inspired young people to identify seek and reclaim positive street spaces in partnership with those in authority in order to express themselves through the urban arts. We continue to work in partnership with North Tyneside Council's Participation team, and all the agencies involved in the Off Watch programme.

Sadly this year we have had two stabbings on the estate, and this reinforces our resolve to continue to develop our 'Cuts both Ways' project and work with the victims and the perpetrators.

In the last year we have worked in depth with 292 individuals

Total number of contacts **292**

Existing males	82
Existing females	99
New males	56
New females	55

Resulting in **3204** interactions

Detached work males	349
Detached work females	189
Group work males	839
Group work females	699
One to one work males	695
One to one females	433

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

YOUNG PERSON LED ACTIVITIES AND GROUP WORK

LIVING IT LARGE / MEADOW WELL MOTORS

Often the hardest to reach young people take the longest to build voluntary relationships with (e.g. seven years).

Our long term approach to NEET young people inevitably means we are now the main agency working with 16 to 25 year olds in the area. Due to demand we now have four living it large groups involving over 30 young people.

The groups are made up of some of the most challenging young people in the area who are not working with anyone else on a voluntary basis. The groups have done climbing, mountain biking, bowling, and snooker over the past year. Once young people have successfully taken part in this they can get involved with our Meadow Well Motors project. Meadow Well motors continue to be successfully reducing motor vehicle crime on the estate, and serving young people's need for speed! This is a reward for good teamwork, communication and behaving in public on the Living it Large programme. By establishing these relationships of trust, young people are more likely to engage with us on a one to one basis for our 'Who am I? Where am I going?' programme and use our Star of Success for support with their personal and social development as well as employment, education and training. Doing this whilst watching at the kart track side has proved successful and a creative way of working with difficult young people on issues affecting their personal and social development.

"Phoenix DP has direct involvement with young people themselves, an innovative and can do style of working. It is exactly this sort of project that builds social network and capacity and provides a forum and services for hard to reach young people " 'Dr Dave Tomson'

LIVING IT LARGE IN MY BACK YARD

This project promotes effective use of young people's time in their local environment. The fishing aspect of this has been a fantastic success with 20 young men at the project. The project this year has provided extra opportunity's for these young men to go fishing and due to the high demand we have had to split them into three groups. Some young people have their own rods but for those who don't the project has 15 complete set ups. The young people have had some training on how to set up their rods and tackle. This year we have had regular fishing trips to the quay, Blyth Pier and Seahouses where they have been aboard the fishing boat 'MFV guide me' in order to have the opportunity to do some deep sea fishing off the Farne islands. As well as the sessions they do with the project they now go fishing on the river and at the coast when they are bored, under their own steam. The group would like to develop their idea of building a fishing boat the "S.S. Phoenix Starr" in the coming year.

Over 40 young people have been introduced to kayaking and canoeing on the coast thanks to the range of equipment the project owns. In the coming year young people will be able to gain BCU Paddlepower Certificates from the Phoenix Detached Youth Project.

One group are going on a wilderness trip, Sea Kayaking fifty miles off the Oban and Islands Sea Kayak Trial. This is to raise the issue of the poorest in society paying the most for fuel. Fuel Poverty on the estate is a real issue and the group have agreed to do the trip as a sponsored paddle. All money raised will be used to support local young people in crisis in the winter, with crisis grants of £10 and £20 given out by the Phoenix DYP, to improve young peoples well-being.

"Pre payment meter customers tend to pay premium energy costs compared to other customers" (www.ofgem.gov.uk)

As well as providing young parents and their children with social opportunities many of the parents access the project for one to one support and this year there has been an increase in the number of young women seeking support in regards to domestic violence. As a result of this the issue of domestic violence will be one of the project's developmental areas of work for the coming year. Fuel poverty is another recurring theme impacting on parents and their children and in the coming year a group of young people are taking part in a sponsored kayaking expedition in order to raise funds in order to help those most in need.

As part of our work with parents we have been fortunate to continue receiving a grant from the Elswick Lodge Charity which enables us to support young mums with essential items for their children and some individuals have received grants from The Greggs Foundation and Buttle UK. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all three charities on behalf of all the parents who have benefitted from grants.

HOPE AND FEARS PARENTS GROUPS

38 parents and 50 children (ranging from newborn babies to 8 years olds) have been involved in this group in various capacities this year. Due to the increasing number of young parents and children involved in the group and finite resources we have planned activities which involve minimal costs in order to maximise the number of people who can benefit. Planning trips which don't involve entrance fees and that they could get to on the metro or ferry has also broadened the opportunities available to them as families e.g. Saltwell park, the beach and various museums. The parents organised an excellent Christmas party for their children in partnership with St Johns church, Magic John and Santa which resulted in young parents who hadn't previously been involved with the project coming along and consequently joining the parents group. We would like to thank St Johns church for providing Christmas presents and Easter eggs for the children this year. We have also been involved with the Meadow Well residents group who have provided opportunities for parents and their children to see the 'Wizard of Oz' by a touring theatre company and a Shrove Tuesday event.

TUTTI FRUITTIES

The Tutti fruitties are a well established group of young woman and have been involved in a wide range of projects including a camping and outdoor activities residential in the Lake District, the inter gen project and following on from their residential with young women from Newcastle YMCA last year they have maintained the links and had several sessions with them where they have visited each other's project. We are fortunate that several of the group have recently volunteered to join our youth forum. They will be an asset to the forum as they are committed to Phoenix DYP and the opportunities it can provide for other young people. An example of passion was their enthusiasm to raise funds to renovate the project. They felt so strongly about the condition of the building that they applied to the Young Mayor's fund to improve the facilities and were successful in being awarded £9,500. We are hoping that the building work will be taking place in the very near future. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for taking the time to fundraise in order to benefit everyone involved with Phoenix DYP.

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

LINYA CREW

This group of young women were successful in raising money from the Youth Action Fund which enabled them to go on a residential to Great Tower Scout camp. This was the first time they had been camping and despite the lack of hot water and plug sockets they survived! They also budgeted to enable themselves to have two sessions of horse riding which they did at Stepney banks stables. Some of the group enjoyed this so much they are looking into the possibility of becoming volunteers there.

"I don't get out of the house much, being involved with Phoenix DYP gives me something to get excited about".

Young person

PHOENIX BOOKWORMS

We continue to run this scheme to encourage young parents to borrow books to share with their children. They can borrow as many books as they wish and for as long as they need them. When a child has borrowed 10 books they are rewarded with a new book which they can keep. Over the past year we have been fortunate to have had old and new books donated to us by members of the community and our thanks go to them. We currently have 37 bookworms enjoying this aspect of our work.

"Phoenix DYP has helped me out at a time when I was really struggling".

Young person

EAST HOWDON POSSE

Having been involved with Phoenix DYP over a number of years this group continue to be keen in coming together when they can despite the ever increasing commitments they face due to being in their final year at school. They enjoyed a fantastic residential in the Lake District where they camped and participated in a range of outdoor activities and have also been involved in helping East Howdon Community centre develop an arts sculpture with a local artist. We hope that as a group they are still able to come together despite all following different paths over the coming year.

KINGDOM HEARTS

The majority of this group have gained employment and training opportunities over the last year but have still accessed the project for some group activities and one to one support.

"Phoenix DYP is a great place to come, it gives us something positive to do, it's awesome". Young person

NORHAMMERS

This group who enjoyed meeting up as a group of friends on the streets when they were 13 years of age, are a good example of how informal education and Phoenix DYP works. All of the young women have now left school but continue to be involved with the project. Two of the group have gained employment, two have apprenticeships and the others are at college, two of whom are doing performing arts courses. The group have always enjoyed drama and film making and over the year they have had different opportunities to see various plays. They saw Open Clasps 'Blue Giro' which as always was a powerful production incorporating various messages about violence and 'Hamlet the Clown Prince at Northern Stage. The group also had the opportunity to meet several members of staff from Northern Stage and had a behind the scenes tour. They are presently involved with the Urban Alchemy project designing and planning a performance around a journey from violence towards women leading to how positive street space can be used to create kindness and empowerment. They are also finalising their follow on film to 'Pissed and Unprotected'. Their original film is still available to view on You Tube.

"Phoenix DYP makes you think about things in a different way, it's given me a clearer picture of different issues such as smoking and alcohol". Young person

YOUNG PERSON LED PROJECT WORK

HELPING HANDS

The Helping hands group continues to run in partnership with the Universal Connexions and Youth Service and has seen a significant increase in referrals over the last year. 22 young people have been involved in the two groups and there are currently 11 young people on the waiting list for either of the existing groups or a third group which will be established when funding can be secured for additional staff. A further 12 young people have been referred but have since found alternative provision or felt that it is not appropriate for them at this time.

The groups continue to be an effective and valuable opportunity for young people from across North Tyneside to develop their personal, life and social skills and experience opportunities in a safe environment. All of the young people receive additional one to one support in order to meet their personal goals. The group were awarded a small grant from the Youth Action fund and this enabled them to enjoy a programme of activities they had devised in order to challenge themselves outside of their comfort zone e.g. high ropes course, snow tubing and cooking.

The groups meet alternate weeks and several times a year come together for joint activities. The groups have worked together to produce a film about Helping Hands which will be used as a promotional resource for young people considering joining the group. This resulted in them being selected as one of eight groups, out of over thirty who applied to UK Youth as part of their Hearing Unheard Voices North East Positive Showcase Evening which saw young people presenting their work at a celebration event of good practice at the Centre for Life.

"The Helping hands group plugs a major gap between statutory services and young people in crisis. I wished that there were more services like this around the region. Keep up the good work – it means so much to young people and you are a hidden gem".

Yvonne Collins, Regional Worker, Young Minds

"It's been a great year for Helping Hands and the partnership between The Phoenix Detached Youth Project & the Connexions Service in North Tyneside is continuing to grow & develop. Making this film put the young people into unfamiliar and new situations but with support from one another & us as workers, they have grown in confidence and are really proud of their achievements. Our close working partnership has helped to create a positive environment in which these young people can flourish & grow". Helen Heslop,, Personal Advisor, Universal Youth and Connexions Service

"Being part of helping hands has opened new doors for me. I am more confidents and I've been able to make friends who I keep in touch with outside of the group". Young person

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

INTERGENERATIONAL WORK

Our work with Chirton Lodge, Anchor Trust sheltered accommodation scheme is an important aspect of our work with the wider community and brings benefits to young and old. Residents have been involved in day trips to Seahouses and Richmond, cooking sessions and our window art project with Tyne and Wear Archive museums. More recently we have worked alongside North Tyneside's Youth Council and had an inter gen games night where young and old joined teams to play pool, darts, cards and use the Wii, and as a result of this success will become the first of many. These opportunities are an excellent way for the different generations to spend time together and look at the common ground they share instead of the difference.

"The staff and young people at the Phoenix DYP have all shown a great empathy towards the older generation here and I think it has brought forward a great respect for the older generation. Also tenants here have realized not all youths are out to get them and they also have changed their attitudes towards the younger generation. After 5 years of working together it would great to say we would have at least another 5 years together". Christine Walker, Scheme Manager, Chirton Lodge, Anchor Trust

WINDOW ART PROJECT

We were fortunate to be approached by Tyne and Wear Archive Museums to develop a piece of Art. After consultation with young people it was agreed to design something for the shop front window which was representative of all of the different aspects of our work. 28 young people from different groups came together to design panels for the window as well as 4 residents from Chirton Lodge, Anchor Trust sheltered accommodation scheme. This was facilitated by Sharon Wilson, an artist who was able to encourage even the most art shy people to have a go and get involved.

WEBSITE CREW

The Phoenix website crew are a group of young men that were contacted whilst out on detached work. These young men said that they had heard of the Phoenix DYP but did not know that much about what we do. The group said they were surprised we did not have a web-site and thought we were missing a "trick" and would be keen to develop one for the project. A year on and the website is fully operational and is run and updated by the group. The website crew have joined forces with the Phoenix DYP youth forum and both groups have recently be on a residential to develop a clear marketing and media strategy for the project. The group also secured funding from the Princes Trust for a new I pad so they can update the website on the move. Visit our website on www.pdyp.org

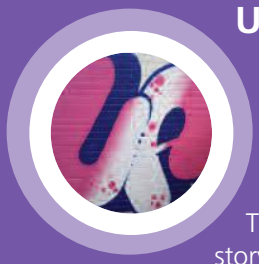
"The Website is good for people who are shy and want to find out more about the work". Young person

"It was a great pleasure for Tyne and Wear Museums to work with NEET groups and others at the Phoenix Detached Youth Project. We enjoyed working with young people to create ideas having looked at some of our collections to produce some great artwork which also expressed the activities and aims of the service through visual art images, thus promoting the opportunities at the Phoenix DYP in a striking and primarily non text based way.

The perspex window display was inspired by stained glass and some of the Bruno Romenelli Glasswork from the Shipley Art Gallery in Gateshead and was a means for participants to learn new skills in order that the sections of the signage were designed and decorated using a coloured transparent vinyl template method. The end result is a compelling, large scale mosaic of individual artworks joined together to form an installation done by the groups for the groups past, present and future".

Sharon Wilson, Tyne and Wear Archive Museums

DEVELOPMENTAL AREAS OF WORK



URBAN ALCHEMY

Over 40 Urban artists contacted via detached youth work have been involved with this exciting project. This regional project involving four other detached youth work projects, Dance City, Sage Gateshead and The Northern Stage has been a great success story. Young people have developed skills and confidence to improve their Urban Art Awareness, not only in their area of Urban Art but exploring other exciting art forms. This has led to large groups trying or performing street dance, urban art and music. Over the last year they have performed at our last open day, Gateshead Bus Station and North Shields Town Centre (Off Watch launch). The main aim of this project is to create areas of positive street space in our localities that are used in agreement with those in authority including the police, Local Authorities and local land/property owners. Groups of young people from the streets have identified street space they want to use, and have now had constructive and supportive meetings with North Tyneside Council who are keen to support an Urban Alchemy event in one of these spaces in July 2011. Creating permanent positive street spaces is one of the young people's actions to achieve in the next five years.

"RDL being involved within the Urban Alchemy has given our dance group a broader scope for opportunities to promote our group and showcase our skills. We started off as a small group dancing for the loss of our good friend Jake Gray who died at the beginning of last year. We began working with the PDYP as a way to handle our responsibilities and financial resources. Since then we have been involved in dance workshops, shows and residential trips."

Young person

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

MENTAL HEALTH

This is an area of work where we have seen a dramatic increase and CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service) continue to refer young people to us with a diverse range of needs. Due to the current demand we have a waiting list of young people needing one to one and group support.

The young people involved in this aspect of our work have different levels of need and our flexible approach enables all young people to work to the goals that are relevant to them. For some young people this could be using public transport, eating in public or attending college. An example of the difference this support can make to young people is evident through one young woman who had only left the house over the previous two years to attend medical appointments and wouldn't even consider leaving the house unaccompanied. After 18 months of group and one to one support she has moved out of the area and has her own tenancy, something she wouldn't even allow herself to dream about when she was first involved with the project. We are delighted that this aspect of our work has been recognised and included as part of the North Tyneside Mental Health Promotion Action plan.

"The organization works with groups of young people which our organization is unable to do at present. This is essential in adolescent development. The organization also supports young people whom may not wish to access mental health services but have significant need. Many of our young people benefit from the work undertaken by the Phoenix detached youth project particularly in boosting their self esteem and confidence. By using the skills of the workers we have been able to discharge some young people from our service at an earlier point than what would have been envisaged".

Anna Cousins, Consultant Psychiatrist

"I used to think everyone was looking at me, I was very self conscious but now I don't really care".

Young person

SEXUAL HEALTH

As part of our work in regards to young people's health we continue to offer the C Card scheme and Chlamydia testing. Although we are a small project, in comparison to a lot of other organisations who offer these services, we were thrilled to be recognised for our work and were awarded third place for most C card interventions within the voluntary youth sector in North Tyneside. We continue to offer the seX factor programme and recently one of the young parents has volunteered to help with these sessions so that she can share her experience of being a young single parent with other young people.

'WHO AM I? WHERE AM I GOING?' - CRISIS ONE TO ONE WORK

This individually focused programme is effective once trusting relationships have been established between a youth worker and young people on a voluntary basis. Over the last year we have seen an increase in the number of young people coming to us for one to one support. The range of issues we have supported young people with continue to be diverse, but debt and violence have been two of the main issues facing young people. This year there have been some young people in extreme crisis and for some the support may be 'there and then' for example; finding accommodation for someone at 4pm, on a day when it is snowing heavily and who has nowhere to stay that night or a mother and son sleeping on the floor due to having no beds. For other young people it is regular long term support for example; a young person who is an inpatient on a psychiatric ward or someone who is experiencing domestic violence but may not feel they are in a position to leave at that moment in time. For many of the young people we work with they have little if any support from others.

We use our 'Star of Success' to record young people's goals and to chart their journey in achieving them. This method of recording soft outcomes was recognised as an example of good practice when the project was invited to deliver a workshop at a Northern Rock Foundation 'Meeting Soft Outcomes' conference for the voluntary sector (November 2010). This was well received, with a young person using the system assisting a member of staff in presenting it. As a result of this we were also approached by the Big Lottery to deliver training to their grant holders but we were unable to due to previous commitments. The success in working with some of the most marginalized young people has been exciting, with 75% of young people accessing the programme being between the ages of 19 and 25 years.

CUTS BOTH WAYS PROJECT

The relevance and importance of this project is highlighted by hearing of two further stabbings in the past year. In one instance we were again able to work with one of the victims, supporting him and his partner in coming to terms with the experience. Northern Stage continued to involve young people from the project in discussions to explore actions, reasons why and how they felt they needed to carry and use knives. This is leading to their continued involvement in helping to develop the creation of their production of Cuts Both Ways.

" Mike and his team at Phoenix DYP are pioneering new ways to reach some of the hardest to work with young people in the region. The Cuts Both Ways project is a great example of how the team have used theatrical workshop techniques to make young men examine the consequences of knife crime, violent and aggressive behaviour and how those consequences not only effect their lives but the lives of people around them. " Steve Lamb, Northern Stage

We were fortunate to be offered Daleby House in Beadnell through Adventure Holidays for the group to have a residential experience. We successfully took a group of young people away to explore and look at redesigning our street based work further. This led to a number of useful ideas from young people to create negative discussion cards leading to positive fun cards as a way of working on the streets in practice.

The success of working with the victim and perpetrator allowed the young man who perpetrated the assault to return to the estate after four years in prison and understand the actions and consequences of knife crime, whilst reassuring the victim that the conflict was over. Our work behind the scenes allowed them both to be able to cope and reconcile and move on at peace with each other.

The young people have successfully received a grant from North Tyneside Young Mayor's Fund to develop the work further, via North Tyneside council's participation team.

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

EUROPEAN PROGRAMME

This year we celebrated five years of work on a European level. The projects young people have participated in have had a positive impact both in Europe and in their local community. As a follow on from the Otesha Taste France exchange in 2009 the Phoenix DYP young people were invited to present their idea of an "Otesha learning garden" at a European convention on sustainable consumption in Marseille, September 2010. The young people considered this a huge accolade for their project. The young people were presenting next to Fairtrade and were one of only three groups to be asked out of 18 European countries to present their project.

The Otesha learning garden is currently being developed from a piece of unwanted allotment space a few minutes walk from our office base. This learning garden is being developed by young people to raise awareness of sustainable consumption. The Phoenix DYP would like to thank the European Union and the Euro Med network for their continued support in the delivery of these valuable cultural exchanges.

TAGS TO ART

This is a group for urban artists involved in tagging and causing anti social art works on the streets to access legal wall space to paint. The group is a partnership between Phoenix DYP, Pinkdot productions and North Tyneside Y.M.C.A. A logo designed by the group was chosen to be the official logo for Urban Alchemy. This group were also chosen to present their film at the UK Youth Hearing Unheard Voices North East Roadshow as an example of good practice.

"I first become aware of the project when I saw the minibus driving past and I was keen to get involved so I gave the Phoenix DYP a call and I ended up volunteering. I love being a part of the project and helping out whenever I can. It is great to be part of the team helping to make a difference and I have met lots of great young people" Jane, Volunteer

"Being part of a group with Phoenix DYP is something I enjoy, it gives me a break and is something to do. It also helps keep me out of trouble. In some settings I have a problem with my temper but not when I am with people from Phoenix DYP as I am not pressured into doing anything I don't want to." Young person

"Being a social work student on placement with Phoenix DYP was an invaluable experience. The staff are really approachable. friendly and extremely innovative and creative which provided endless learning opportunities and new knowledge and skills, not to mention the young people who made my time at PDYP a fun learning environment. Thank you PDYP!!!"

Jo Jackson, Social work student

CHALLENGING AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR AMONGST YOUNG PEOPLE

Aggression and violence has always been an issue in the area we work but over the last year we have seen an increase in the number of young people who are coming forward and discussing it within their one to one sessions. As a project we feel we have a responsibility to highlight and challenge this issue with young people who are potentially the next generation of victims and perpetrators. Some young people feel so strongly about their past experiences and how they can be used to influence others that they have volunteered to work alongside us to identify innovative, creative and effective ways in which we can informally educated young people about the issue, making young people aware of their rights, choices and consequences.

EMPLOYMENT

This has been a difficult year, with young people who have been working since they were 16 years of age asking for help and experiencing unemployment. This is a heart-breaking situation for young people generally, borne out by our interactions with young people over the year increasing from 2,164 to 3,204.

There have still been some success stories, such as one young man who we have worked with for seven years coming back from a European exchange in France and gaining a full time job at SITA.

" I was a participant within a European convention on sustainability where I presented the idea of our Otesha Learning Garden. I found this a huge challenge as I was presenting alongside Fairtrade. This experience definitely helped me secure my job at SITA". Young person

INVESTORS IN YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD (LOCAL BUSINESS)

We are delighted to present this year's award to local business Consult & Design International for their support and time invested in helping the website crew develop their website.

"I have been with the Phoenix DYP for over two years now. The volunteering I've been doing with the project is detached work, activities and helping the team out when ever they need me to give them a helping hand! I have learned more about youth work and being part of a team. It has also given me the confidence to make positive changes in my own life and this year I have gained employment"

Peter, Volunteer

FUNDING

Since our Annual report last year we have been successful in gaining funding from Tudor Trust for three years and Lloyds TSB Foundation for two years. In the current economic climate this has been welcome news. As always fundraising is an ongoing necessity and we are hoping that some of the bids we have recently submitted will be successful. We have also joined the Local giving scheme being run by The Community Foundation. This will enable people to make an online donation to the project, with donations being accepted from £1 - £1,000. For more information or to make a donation visit www.localgiving.com/pdyp

VISION DOCUMENTS

The previous vision document covered the period from 2005 – 2010. Consultation was held with young people, staff, trustees, other agencies and professionals to evaluate the last five years of the project and to shape the vision for the next five years. We have just had our vision document for 2011 – 2016 printed and we are excited about developing and delivering the work of Phoenix DYP over the next five years. It also includes the Projects new strapline *"Initiated by young people and creatively delivered for young people"*.

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

At the core of the work at Phoenix DYP the priorities are to enable young people to inform the development of services and to develop their own ideas, hopes, aspirations and awareness so that they can grow and move forwards in their lives.

Anne Morran, Programme Director,
Community and Youth Work Dept,
Durham University

Phoenix Detached Youth Project is inclusive and targets the harder to reach young people from the local community.

Anne Taylor,
Youth Participation Officer,
North Tyneside Council

WHAT OTHER

I have always been impressed by the wide range of work that the staff at the Phoenix Detached Youth Project develop with young people. They are able to respond very creatively to the issues affecting young people on the estate and always have new and fresh ideas. They do some very effective work in many areas and are able to support and be there for young people at times of greatest need.
The staff team are well respected within the field and offer support to other workers in the area.

Sarah Warren, Project manager –
Newcastle YMCA

The Phoenix DYP serves an area much in need of this kind of work, but the difference with the Phoenix DYP is their approach – the young people come first in everything they do and that is something very rare these days. We have never worked on such a participatory project and have loved every minute. Congratulations on your successes with funding – long may it continue.

Adam Hill, Operations Manager, Consult and Design International

It is the individual support the project offers to the most disadvantaged which has a dramatic impact on their lives and families not only for this generation but subsequent ones as well. Long may you continue.

Andy Goulding, Senior Area YCL Gateshead West area IYSS

Phoenix Detached Youth Project works in particular with young people that many other organizations find difficult to engage with over a number of years.

Felicity Shoesmith, Lead Officer,
North Tyneside Community and
Voluntary Sector

Phoenix DYP is unique in that it develops trust with young people on the street. It makes links with the community, it reaches and supports the most vulnerable young people, for example NEET young people. Its intergenerational work challenges prejudices toward young people and provides positive images of young people in the community. Phoenix DYP supports new parents, supports young people into employment and provides invaluable individual support to young people on a range of issues such as poverty and debt, alcohol, mental health and sexual health. Phoenix DYP empowers young people in the community by encouraging young people-led activities and by using their ideas to develop projects. The work of Phoenix DYP contributes to lower levels of anti-social behaviour and improves community relations. I hope Phoenix DYP attracts funding to keep up its wealth of projects over the next 5 years.

Dave Miller, Health Promotion Specialist
(Children, Young People and Mental Health)

AGENCIES SAID

The Phoenix DYP is a much-needed asset to the local community. The valuable service it offers to the local young people is first class. All staff are focused and give 100%. It's not just about a job to them it's about caring and helping. We've totally enjoyed working with Phoenix DYP over the years. It's a completely different kind of organization to what we normally deal with but a breath of fresh air! You are all doing a great job at Phoenix DYP. I hope we can continue to work together on future projects. Good luck in securing future funding and keep that vision alive! Donimo Creative

The trustees were impressed with the range and scope of PDYP's work – they were particularly interested to hear more about the in-depth one-to-one work you do with particularly vulnerable young people and were pleased that you are able to support this group up to the age of 25. They liked the positive, encouraging and 'can do' ethos of the whole project and the way in which young people take a real lead in setting its direction.

All in all, the trustees thought that the Phoenix DYP was a responsive, energetic and imaginative youth project and were keen to provide some flexible support over what might be a challenging few years.

Nicky Lapin, The Tudor Trust

Thank you to everyone who supports the Phoenix Detached Youth Project and especially our funders:

Northern Rock Foundation
Tudor Trust
Henry Smith's Charity
Greggs Foundation
Lloyds TSB Foundation
Community Foundation
Chapman Fund
NE Generation
Tyne and Wear High Sheriff Award
Elswick Lodge Charity
North Tyneside Council YAF
John D Fund
Consult and Design International

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

14 Front Street, Chirton, North Shields, NE29 7QW

(0191) 258 5806 phoenix_dyp@yahoo.co.uk

PROJECT MANAGER
Mike Burgess

DETACHED YOUTH WORKER
Becky Rowe

PART-TIME DETACHED YOUTH WORKER
Sid Scrase

VOLUNTEERS
Peter Craig
Natasha Amos
Jane Mason

www.pdyp.org

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PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

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