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 2012

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

BACKGROUND TO PHOENIX DYP

The Phoenix detached youth project (herein Phoenix DYP) started in February 2004, due to the commitment of the Monument Trust, Tudor Trust, Northern Rock Foundation, St Hilda's Trust and the Diocesan of Newcastle. They all wanted to see youth work continue in the Meadow Well area.

Through hard work over the last eight years, listening and working with local young people on the streets and the community our long term approach is successfully making a difference. This wouldn't have been possible without working in partnership with local people, Trustees, Trust funds and local agencies.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR

- We successfully developed detached youth work contacts and built long term lasting relationships with 268 different young people (150 Males and 118 females) This resulted in 2,767 interactions throughout the year.
- The local community put us forward for the North East Youth Work Awards 2012 hosted by the Regional Youth Work Unit. This was for the 'Most outstanding voluntary sector youth work team in the North East Region', and we were delighted to be the runners up for this award.
- We were thrilled to be awarded £268,000 from the Big Lottery Fund to cover the Project Manager's post and towards running costs from April 2012 for the next 5 years.
- The Phoenix DYP was again recognised for its high standard of work through being an 'Investors in Children' service for 2012 (after service user evaluation process)
- Over 30 young people have been involved in the regional Urban Alchemy Generation 2012 Olympic project; this has allowed us to develop two positive street spaces to allow young people to do urban arts in legal spaces at any time funded by the Legacy Trust.
- The 'Cuts both ways' project has been continued and after two weekends away with perpetrators and victims of knife crime they have designed street discussion cards to help support informal education on actions and consequences of using and carrying knifes.
- Working with Northern Stage to develop the use of theatre to educate groups of young people using drama to explore actions and consequences of knife crime. (Cuts both ways part 2)
- Helping hands has three established groups with a total of 51 young people referred, involved on a one to one basis or as part of a group. We also delivered a 6 week Helping hands course at Norham Community Technology College.
- The Youth Forum continue to volunteer their time to benefit other young people. They celebrated the refurbishment of the projects office base and helped raise the profile of the project.
- We continue working with 56 young people aged 16-25 through our 'Living it large' programme and individual work continues through the 'Who am I? Where am I going?' programme.
- Young people successfully attended a European educational programme in Norway to take part in the 'Catch a fish' programme looking at sustainability and fishing.
- Two young people have been accepted to go to university, 10 into training and 7 into employment. This is in addition to young people we support getting into college.

"We are very pleased to be able to support this excellent project to continue and build upon their crucial work, giving our young people the vital support they need to realise their life chances. BIG's Reaching Communities funding is making a real and positive impact on the lives of vulnerable people ".

James Turner, Big Lottery Fund Head of Region for the North East.

DETACHED YOUTH WORK

Government money which historically would have been used for detached youth work now appears to be being used for social control via hot spotting outreach work and this is sadly being seen by some organisations as detached youth work.

National youth agency commission report guideline standards for Excellency in detached youth work in 2005

This research finds that in many senses detached youth work has lost its way it is more about meeting the needs of young people as defined by adults and policy makers rather than as defined by young people themselves. Simply speaking what drives it now are the needs of adults, not those of young people. There is no clearer example of this than in the context of the antisocial behaviour agenda. Here an off the street mentality recruits detached youth workers to meet the perceived needs of adults in the community, instead of the local young people.

(Graeme Tiffany 2006 PIN document)

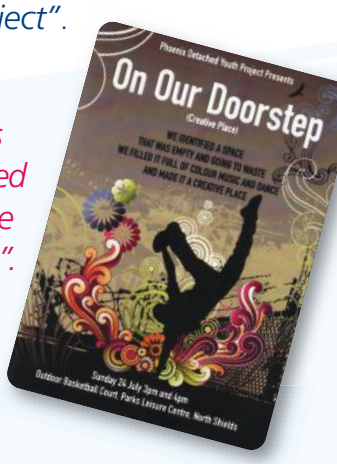
For this reason we have decided to do detached youth work that continues a long term approach with young people on their terms and at their pace building long term relationships and delivering informal education.

Our detached youth work has suffered due to the loss of our part time detached youth worker for 9 months of the past year reducing our staff team to two and this has affected our street work contacts.
Despite this we have had interactions with 235 males and 99 females. Sid Scrase (part time detached worker) has since moved back to Scotland and we would like to take this opportunity to thank him for the work he did. We have now appointed a new detached youth worker and we welcome Luke to the team.

This we believe will continue the key work of contacting new and old contacts on the streets in the coming year. We have successfully developed two positive street spaces for urban art, dance and music on the estates in the past year.

"I have only worked for the Phoenix detached youth project for a short while and in that time I have been amazed by the work that they are doing. The relationships they have with the young people and the community is proof of the great work that has gone on and I am excited to now be part of such an effective project".
Luke Johnston

"We identified a space that was empty and going to waste we filled it full of colour, music and dance and turned it into a creative place".
('On our doorstep' crew created their own lyrics and music.)



Total number of diffreent young people **268**

- Existing males **67**
- Existing females **69**
- New males **83**
- New females **49**

Resulting in **2767** interactions *(Male 1689 - Female 1078)*

- Detached work males **235**
- Detached work females **99**
- Group work males **798***
- Group work females **633***
- One to one work males **656***
- One to one females **346***

* Includes groupwork and one to one work which was street based or in the community e.g. Urban Alchemy

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

YOUNG PERSON LED ACTIVITIES AND GROUP WORK

YOUTH FORUM

The Youth Forum continues to meet on a regular basis to look at the work of the project. One of the achievements of the last year has been their role in the refurbishment of the building. To celebrate the refurbishment the Youth Forum organised a celebration event and invited the Mayor and young Mayor of North Tyneside Council to open the building.

The Youth Forum have a message board and comments box so that any young person can have their say on Phoenix DYP. They have also been successful with publicity for the Phoenix DYP and thanks to support from some students from Northumbria University we have had several positive articles in local newspapers.

EAST HOWDON POSSEE

The East Howdon group are one of our established groups and it has been fantastic to see their continued involvement with the project despite leaving school and their lives taking different paths. Over the last year they have been involved in various things including; seX factor and a residential to Great Tower Scout. The 3 day camping residential was in very wet conditions so it was all credit to them that they didn't let the rain dampen their spirits and enjoyed scary night walks, various outdoor activities including a range of challenging high ropes tasks. All of this was done with plenty of laughter, singing and wacky fashion!

PHOENIX BOOKWORMS

This continues to be popular with children and parents alike as we are able to encourage people to borrow books and alleviate any fears that they may get damaged / chewed. We always say we would rather a book was being 'well loved' than just sitting on a shelf!

"The renovation work carried out is fantastic and it's thanks to young people from Phoenix detached youth project applying to the Youth Action Fund. The five years funding from The Big Lottery will ensure that the excellent work with young people will continue. This project is very important to young people in the area between 13 and 25 years. The funding will give the youth work team the opportunity to carry forward the important detached youth work. They will develop projects that are led by young people from the community carrying on the established programme of work and also initiating new opportunities. It's great that the project will continue to thrive and I wish you all every success for the future

Jade Hope, North Tyneside Young Mayor

THE CHIRTON CREW

This is a new group contacted on the streets. They have done a number of activities such as bowling and urban art.
We will continue to build relationships with this group so that we can develop some project work with them.

"We met the workers on the street and it sounded fun so we thought we'd get involved". Chirton Crew

HOPES AND FEARS PARENTS

Due to the increase in numbers over the last year we now run different groups to cater for the range in ages of the children and this allows us to work with young parents with; babies, children of preschool age and those who are in full time education. Over the last year we have had activities and days out e.g. visits to parks, swimming, farms, beach, sensory room and regular arts and craft sessions. In addition to this we have organised several larger events which has been delivered in partnership with the wider community such as the Christmas party at St Johns Church and a fantastic day at Adventure Valley with Cedarwood parents group. Several of the parents who have been involved with us for a number of years are now taking on more responsibility in developing pieces of work e.g. one of the parents went on a paper lantern making course and then delivered some sessions to the other parents. The lanterns they made were used to decorate St John's Church for the children's Christmas party. The parents and children are also involved with our allotment and getting to know Percy the Carrot on his journey from being a seed to ending up on their plate!

In addition to the social activities we do with young parents and their children we do a lot of one to one support with young parents. Issues such as fuel poverty, debt, mental health and domestic violence are just a few of the areas we have supported parents with. In the last year we have been able to support people buy essential items through the Elswick Lodge Charity, Greggs Foundation and Buttle UK and on behalf of all the young people you have supported, Thank you. We would also like to thank St John's Church for once again helping Santa and the Easter Bunny out.

"Being a single parent on benefits means money is a huge struggle and it can be hard coping with day to day life. The Phoenix DYP help me by giving me one to one support and by making it possible for me to take my kids places they want to go to. It also means I get to socialise with other parents who are struggling too". Gemma

NORHAMMERS

Having worked with this group of young women since meeting them on detached work when they were 13 years old, we are delighted to still have effective relationships with them. Recently one of the group came in to celebrate with us that she has being offered a place at University to do social work. All of the group are either in college or employment.

"I first met Mike and Kerry when I was sat on the streets as a 13yr old with my friends drinking Bella. From that day on the Phoenix DYP has helped me with confidence and showed me I needed to do something with my life because greater things were out there. I wouldn't be where I am today without the Phoenix DYP. They have signed my passport and I am going abroad to work in Spain. Adios! Carneigh, 18 years

WEBSITE

The website crew were approached by North Tyneside Council Art's development team to work with 'Consult & Design' to assist them in developing their Collabor8 website, a website for local artists / urban artists showcase their work. They consulted with young people involved with our Urban Alchemy project and produced a fun promotional video.

"Over the last year the Arts Development service have worked closely with the Phoenix Detached Youth Project on a number of projects including an Urban Art wall in Howdon, designing the collabor8 website and performing at MINT, a showcase event at the Playhouse, Whitley Bay. There is huge creative talent amongst young people in North Tyneside and Phoenix DYP provides a way to help unlock that talent, particularly on the street arts scene. We value our relationship with Phoenix DYP as it allows us to work with some of the most difficult to engage groups of young people in North Tyneside".

Catherine Scott, Arts Development Officer,
North Tyneside Council

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

SUMMER PROGRAMME

Despite being short staffed we delivered a comprehensive summer programme. We use the summer programme as an opportunity to develop relationships with young people in order that we can get to know them better and that they can get a better understanding of what Phoenix DYP can support them with. As well as activities in the daytime e.g. kayaking, fishing on the quayside and at sea we took three groups on residentials. Taking young people away from the estate is a fantastic opportunity for them to have experiences they wouldn't otherwise get and for the majority the only time they ever get to go away. One young person sat on top of a hill over looking Windermere for the sunset and said it was how he imagined Australia to be. He was so in awe of the scenery and lake that he had the whole group walking all the way down to the lake so he could dip his feet in the water. Being away from the estate really gives people the opportunity to think about their lives and for that reason, residential opportunities are priceless.

"I've had such a range of experiences thanks to the Phoenix DYP; like help with getting work, keeping me out of trouble through different trips, I've seen things I'd never seen before or thought I'd see like shooting stars and amazing views".

Carl, 18 years

LIVING IT LARGE IN MY BACK YARD

This has been affected due to reduced staffing, but in the region of 15 young people have been on regular fishing trips at the coast and river. This has led to interest in making fishing weights which took place. Two successful boat fishing trips out to the Farne islands also took place. New sit on top canoes this year have been a great success in introducing over 30 young people to canoeing at the coast in their local environment.

STUNNAZ

This large group of 15-16 year olds have got involved with the Urban Alchemy project, The NTC MINT event at the Whitley Bay Playhouse. They also had an excellent residential to Daleby House, thanks to Adventure Holidays on the sea front having fun sea kayaking and a entertainment night producing fun performance. Thanks to Bryner Ramsey for working in partnership with this group and helping older dancers not at school.

"LIVING IT LARGE AND MEADOW WELL MOTORS"

This continues to be an effective way of working with hard to reach marginalized young people 16-25 years (NEET – Not in education, employment or training) in the past year we have worked with young people to raise self esteem and confidence in young people as well as behaving in public and work in a team. This year we have worked in partnership with the North Tyneside Council's sports development team. Thanks to their creativity and ability to 'think outside of the box' they have enabled young people to benefit from a wide range of sports and activities. Individuals have also been able to progress on to the Meadow Well motors (Go karting Project). Thanks to Owen Pugh who have funded the project. Through 'Meadowell motors' they gain skills in relating to the staff, public and managing and maintaining resources.

"We are pleased and proud to have been able to work with the Phoenix Detached Youth Project, and are absolutely delighted to congratulate them both on the refurbishment of their property and on being awarded lottery funding for five years. This project is truly embedded in the community, and being so, is able to identify the precise needs of even very small groups of people whose lives it is able to transform by the appropriate blend of help, support, discipline and inspiration.
The absence of any dogma or sociological theme is refreshing. Instead, the Phoenix Project uses sound common sense and a practical approach based on simple principles to deliver impressive, even transformational results.

The project provides a place where young people with some of the most troubled backgrounds can engage with activities which demonstrate the importance of discipline and respect; respect not just for others but also for themselves.

For many, it will be the first time they encounter inspiration which helps them aspire to improve their own prospects, thus empowering them to take control of their own lives, turning them from being victims of circumstances into positive contributors to the community and indeed the economy".

John R Dickson, Group Chairman,
Owen Pugh Holdings Ltd

YOUNG PERSON LED PROJECT WORK

HELPING HANDS

Helping hands is a substantial part of the work of Phoenix DYP and is a fantastic example of what can be achieved through working in partnership. The group work and one to one work is delivered in partnership with Ella Hallpike and Helen Heslop from Universal Youth and Connexions service. The focus of the group is to improve young people's wellbeing, skills and opportunities. Due to an increase in demand in the last year we have three Helping Hands groups which meet on a fortnightly basis and everyone receives additional one to one support.

Young people have focused on the branding and promotion of Helping Hands and as part of this designed a logo. This logo has been used on the promotional materials which the group have designed themselves and includes; leaflets, DVD, bags and hoodies. To recognise the work of the groups we had a celebration event in February where we officially launched our new resources. This event was opened and supported by Yvonne Collins from the national charity Young Minds. This was a great opportunity for young people, agencies and professionals to come together and celebrate the work of young people involved in Helping Hands.

In addition to the group work sessions young people have identified and taken part in a wide range of activities from; art projects, cooking, sport activities and a 3 day camping residential. All of which were activities that challenged participants in some way and enabled them to develop and learn new skills.

"Everywhere I've been before has preached at me and told me what to do, how to do it and never listened to me. When I came to Helping hands I was surprised that we sat as a group, listened to each other and did things that were relevant to me".

Annie, 16 years

"Helping hands has made me feel like I fit in for the first time in my life, I really appreciate that".

Young person

We were also approached by Norham Community Technology College to deliver a six week Helping Hands course to students.

"Norham found the facilitation of a Helping Hands group on site to have a number of benefits: It gave our students an opportunity to discuss any sensitive issues they may have with someone that wasn't a member of staff. Having skilled staff that are knowledgeable about health issues enabled the students to participate in informed discussions. The students were enthusiastic about attending the weekly sessions and even those who were at first reluctant to attend, enjoyed taking part".

Lyndsey Pilling, Lead Family Support Worker

To conclude a busy and successful year the group were delighted to be awarded one of the top awards at the Tyne and Wear High Sheriff awards ceremony at St James Park.

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

INTERGENERATIONAL WORK

The link between young and old remains a positive part of our work. The increase in age and mobility of those we have known for a while has meant that we are limited in terms of taking residents from Chirton Lodge out with young people so we continue to have games nights where young people from Phoenix DYP meet with elderly residents. Two of the young parents were delighted to be given cardigans for their children that one lady had kindly knitted and donated to the project.

We were also able to take 10 residents and some young people to a pantomime. As it was a weekday matinee performance we were the only non primary school group there and also the only group not to get a mention so the cast improvised and referred to us at the 'over 80's naked hang gliding group'…this certainly raised a smile on our groups faces and everyone else at the theatre!

"I always find the staff at the Phoenix DYP are very helpful and friendly and the younger generation are friendly and respectful to the older generation, the tenants at Chirton Lodge now have a much better opinion of our younger generation. We always enjoy our games night, and we have a lot of fun, also the trips out and the theatre trips, these make a nice change for the residents that go on them. Mike and Becky always give their all and nothing ever seems to be bother to them in all they do. I do hope we continue working with them and we do hope it will continue for many years to come as everyone here does enjoy their company, and we all sincerely hope they have continued success in all that they do and long may it continue".

Ella Hannant, Resident at Chirton Lodge

FUEL POVERTY CAMPAIGN PADDLE OBAN 2011

An older group decided to do a wildness sea kayaking paddle in Oban on the west coast of Scotland; they had an experience in storm conditions! (small twisters coming up the lochs). They raised money through sponsorship and donations to support families and individuals suffering fuel poverty. Thanks to R W Mann Trust who funded this residential and three other residentials for 35 local young people.

seX FACTOR

seX factor is an informal education programme about sexual health and relationships. It uses a wide range of activities in order to promote discussion and learning on a variety of topics. This year one of the young mums who had completed a Terrence Higgins course called 'Will you? Won't you?' taught by The Community Entrepreneurs, volunteered to deliver the course as well. This was a fantastic opportunity for everyone as she introduced new ideas and proved to be a good experience for her to put her knowledge to good use. Other young parents also wrote case studies of their lives so they could share their experiences of being young parents.

"I wanted to help other young people and it helped improve my confidence in delivering sessions to young people"

Vicky, young mum

CATCH A FISH - NORWAY EUROPEAN VISIT

Some of the young people who have volunteered their time in helping the Phoenix DYP were selected to go on the trip. Four young people from the Youth Forum and the 'Cuts both ways' (actions and consequences of knife crime project) went as a thank you for the time spent developing ideas or working for the benefit of young people at the project. They had the opportunity to work with young people from other European countries around the issue of sustainable fishing and the environment.

As part of this they spent three days in a wooden cabin with no electricity or running water and were privileged to watch sea eagles catching fish.

"It was an amazing experience; it made me appreciate what I've got at home. It was good to work as a team with young people from other countries and try new food".

Gail, 18 years

DEVELOPMENTAL AREAS OF WORK

URBAN ALCHEMY GENERATION 2012 OLYMPIC PROJECT

(CREATIVE STREET SPACE)

Urban Alchemy is part of NE-Generation and funded by Legacy Trust UK, an independent charity set up to create a lasting cultural and sporting legacy from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games across the UK. Over 30 young people have been involved in identifying and developing two disused areas of street space into creative positive places. In July 2011 the first ever outdoor music event was planned by local young people. This was called 'On our doorstep'. The event told the story of the Meadow Well riots and how things became better and the celebration of positive urban art space today. Over 70 local people turned up to the event and this was opened by North Tyneside Mayor Linda Arkley.

RDL dance troop have been a big part of Urban Alchemy. This group is a mixture of older and younger dancers, who have been involved in the Urban Alchemy Project, rolling out lino and dancing in the basket ball court at The Parks (positive street space). They kindly produced their own routine to perform at the Sage Gateshead to help young people from the Avenues Project raise money for their new youth centre.

We would like to thank the staff at the Parks for their support, encouragement and enthusiasm towards local young people

"Through the Phoenix DYP we've achieved many goals amongst these are performances like 'On our doorstep' at the Parks sports centre, The Sage, Gateshead, Whitley Bay Playhouse and several flash mobs. This has done a lot for developing our skills and confidence. We feel we have achieved more than we could have on our own. Through the work we've done we've had the opportunity to attend 'Breakin' convention 12' in Edinburgh, this is something we wouldn't have had the chance to do without the Phoenix". RDL dance troop

The lasting legacy funded by The Legacy Trust UK will make an incredible long term difference to local young people. The freedom to use creative outdoor space on the streets creates positive places for young people to meet and share their culture through urban arts, where young people themselves can then go and spend time on the streets as and when they want.

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

WHO AM I? WHERE AM I GOING?

Young people are encouraged on a voluntary basis to work on an individual process to use our 'Star of Success to look at who they are and where they are going. 36 young people are currently engaged in this programme, 29 of these are 19 years or older. Issues we support young people with include; housing, employment, relationships, mental health, debt, violence, offending behaviour, sexual health and constructive use of time.

"I have worked with Mike for the past 2 years now and in this time I have gained a lot of trust and respect for everything he has helped me achieve. When I first met Mike we would go on activities such as bowling and go karting which helped us both get to know each other. I had just been released from prison when I first met Mike and we had one to one sessions as I needed help and his support to make sure I never went back to prison.

He has helped me change my attitude towards many things such as youth workers themselves as all I thought about them was that they were just trying to interfere in people's lives and wanting to know everyone's business.

He has also helped me realise what is important and who I need in my life and to listen to the people who want to help me instead of following the people who were bringing me down.

I have done a project with Mike about 'Who am I? Where am I going?' which involved making a star chart with 5 points. On these 5 points I chose things I wanted to achieve in the near future and Mike helped and encouraged me to achieve them. This resulted in me getting a new home and job but unfortunately I got laid off due to insufficient work.

Recently I got myself back into trouble and ended up in a stolen car which resulted in me being arrested and sent to court. I told Mike about it and he was upset by this as I had done so well with my progress with the Phoenix DYP. He went on to do a programme about actions and consequences which made me realise where I was going wrong and how I could fix it. He then wrote me a character reference for when I had to appear in court. I was expecting to be electronically tagged, fined and carry out community service but thanks to Mike's character reference I only had to pay a small fine. The Judges were all impressed with the work, help and support I'd had from Mike and even told me, 'If I was you, I'd thank Mike'. I don't know where I'd be or what I'd be doing right now if it wasn't for Mike and everyone at the Phoenix DYP and I can't thank them enough for everything they have done for me. Now I can see a much brighter, happier future for myself and couldn't have asked him to do any more for me, Thanks Mike ☺". Mark, 21 years

"When I first came here I didn't really know anyone but Becky and Mike made me feel comfortable and made it easy for me to talk to them and when there's other young people in they have encouraged me to socialise with them. They have helped me when I came out of jail, with my finances, and now I've come off drugs they are finding me positive things to do with my time to keep me occupied. I am a very private person and find it very difficult to talk to family and friends, because of the trust and confidentiality I have been able to tell Becky things I haven't told anyone else before".
Young person, 22 years.

URBAN ART POSITIVE ART WALL (TAGS TO ART)

This group have stopped tagging and causing damage illegally tagging, because they have created a solution by getting involved in helping develop legal approved art space in North Tyneside. Permission has been granted to develop the first approved art wall in North Tyneside and is for the local people to use with young people from the Phoenix DYP, Norham Community College and Percy Main Primary school.

"Negative to positive. There was no where to go and young people were causing crime. A group of local young artists wanted to learn how to spray paint and wanted to do it legally but there was no where to go so they approached myself and then we went into the Phoenix DYP.
The Phoenix were more then happy to try and help the young people help create a legal wall. After a short period we got an area to use at the Parks sport centre and it has been extremely good for the young people to be able to practice what they love to do. It has also helped to reduce them from causing antisocial behaviour.
The Phoenix and the young people have worked so hard for this to happen and it's been a very successful job well done".

Nick Chambers of Pinkdot productions urban artist.

CUTS BOTH WAYS PROJECT

This has been an exciting and challenging piece of issue based youth work, involving victims and perpetrators of knife crime. Once we had piloted our first street group work idea lots of unseen issues arose. We have had to explore why young men were using knives to attack people they knew, when under the influence of alcohol or drugs. With the help of Mobex North East we used gorge jumping with a twist, blindfolding young people leading then to the edge of the jump and at the last minute taking the blindfold off with minimum instructions. This they thought was crazy but initiated discussion on risky behaviour and that this is what they do if they use knives when on drugs (no thought about actions and consequences). A second residential to resolve some of the issues associated with the initial street discussion cards was successful in adapting the cards. We also included role plays about first aid and knife injuries.

Our second stage is also near completion with an Educational Drama workshop designed with Northern Stage to pilot on the street with marginalised young people and those in school.

A victim of knife crime is presently in prison for violence, our work is to support him return to the estate and think about his actions and consequences. A perpetrator of knife crime has rebuilt his life gaining qualifications, been to Norway on the 'Catch a fish' project and has just got a job with the oil industry!
We wish him luck.

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

EDUCATION THROUGH CULTIVATION - ALLOTMENT

Cedarwood Trust in partnership with Phoenix DYP actively supports initiatives that enable and encourage children and young people in meaningful activities.

The theft of equipment when developing the project e.g. fence, flagstones and a brand new poly tunnel have created a real challenge. The good news is after relocation and lots of hard work in partnership with the Cedarwood Trust; young people, parents and children are busy planting for the coming season.

"Allotments are valuable green spaces, community assets that can help improve resident's quality of life by promoting healthy food, exercise and interaction providing the opportunity to grow their own fruit and vegetables whilst making new friends. Together we can plant a seed and grow a community".

Ainsley Rea, Cedarwood Trust

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

The impact on local young people often on the edge of employment has been devastating as a result of the economic climate. Young people who we helped into work in previous years are now also out of work. The well being and hopelessness of young people is greater than it has ever been and young people are giving up hope. This said we have responded by being available on Wednesday mornings for employment advice, support, beans on toast and a drink of tea. This year we have helped 7 young people into work and 10 into training.

"I have started attending on Wednesday for the employment and support drop in. This has helped me enormously as I have access to the internet to do job searches and use of the telephone to ring employers. I also got help with my CV to make it stand out better. If I didn't have access to the employment and support drop in I wouldn't be able to access and do as much job searches etc as I need to get me into work". Claire, 21 years

SEXUAL HEALTH

Sexual health is another aspect of work we support young people with through the seX factor programme, C Card scheme (enabling young people to get free condoms) and Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea testing. Over the last year we have also supported young people access services offered at the One to One centre and Streetwise. By supporting young people in this way we are widening the service we can offer them and which they may not otherwise access unless supported by Phoenix DYP staff.

MENTAL HEALTH

This is an area of work where there has been a huge increase in demand for one to one support and group work. The need was probably always there so maybe it is because that we have developed a reputation of being able to support young people effectively coupled with the fact that we are trying to break the taboo associated with mental health that means young people see Phoenix DYP as somewhere they can go or that professionals can refer young people to, to discuss and get support with mental health. Our links with CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service) mean that we get a lot of referrals from their team. In the last year we have been involved with the North Tyneside Mental Health Promotion Group which has enabled us to establish a wider network of professionals. It also resulted in us being awarded a grant from the NHS North of Tyne. It has been a long term goal to get recognition from the NHS/Primary Care Trust so this was a fantastic achievement for us. The grant enables us to support young people with mental health and emotional well being needs in a practical way e.g. transport costs that would otherwise prohibit them from attending sessions.

"I was happy to support the project with a small grant as it works with vulnerable young people, who may be too old to remain within CAMHS but who need support to develop confidence to cope with challenges in life. The activities offered, and group sessions together with the ethos of the project and evaluations, offered positive outcomes for this group

of young people, many of whom are referred by CAMHS. The link between Phoenix DYP and Connexions offers the opportunity for skills, employment and training support, which is much needed by young people up to the age of 25 years". Jan Thompson, Public Health Specialist, NHS North of Tyne

We have several young people who are interested in the issue of young people and mental health and are keen to be proactive in raising awareness and addressing the taboo of mental health. They have recently joined a group set up as a partnership between the national charity Young Minds and Regional Youth Work Unit who are developing a 'Regional Young People's Mental Health Board'.

"Mike and Becky have really come up trumps helping my son and me; if it wasn't for the input from them we would have had great difficulty in accessing the adult mental health service. I will be eternally grateful for your help". Grateful Mum

INVESTORS IN YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD (LOCAL BUSINESS)

We are delighted to present this year's award to Peter Lough from Blue Planet Stone for his help and support with our 'Education through Cultivation' project.

BUILDING

Thanks to a funding bid made by the Youth Forum, the project was successfully awarded £9,500 from the Dosh Posse Youth Capital Fund North Tyneside Council in 2011. Due to delays and difficulties the refurbishment work was only completed in January 2012. The Young Mayor supported by North Tyneside Council Mayor, Linda Arkley officially opened the building on 23rd April 2012 and were subsequently flashed mobbed by the Phoenix real dance life street dance crew.

FUNDING

In addition to the continuation funding we receive from Henry Smiths Charity, Tudor Trust and Lloyds TSB Foundation we have had the following successes:

We are delighted that The Big Lottery, Reaching Communities Fund believe in our approach and work and we were successful in being awarded a five year grant from them for our Project Manager's post and a contribution towards core costs. This is fantastic news and provides stability for the project for the foreseeable future. We also feel it is a 'stamp of approval' that what Phoenix DYP does works.

This year we have also been awarded a Widening Horizons Grant from North Tyneside Council. This is for supporting our creating positive street space for urban art.

NHS North of Tyne also awarded us a grant for our mental health work and it has been positive to get recognition from them for the quality of our work in this field. It had been a long term aim of Phoenix DYP to get recognition for the work we do to support and enhance the services offered by the statutory sector in regards to young people's mental and emotional well being.

Young people took part in a sea kayaking residential to Oban raising money through sponsorship so that young people from Phoenix DYP who are suffering from fuel poverty can receive a small grant.

North Tyneside Charities Development Group awarded us a grant to buy educational resources for the group and this will enable us to tailor our group work sessions to successfully address the diverse needs of individuals.

Members of Helping Hands raised money through an O2 project to purchase promotional material for their group.

In the last year we have had representatives from a number of our Funders (Big Lottery Fund, Henry Smiths Charity, North Tyneside Council, Owen Pugh and Tyne and Wear Community Foundation) visit the project and young people. It is always fantastic to be able to meet face to face and for funders to hear first hand from young people about how they have benefitted from being involved with Phoenix DYP. Phoenix DYP wouldn't be the project it is today without the generosity of our funders, so to all of them a very BIG

THANK YOU!

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

The North Shields Neighbourhood Policing Team have worked with Phoenix detached youth project for a number of years and seen first hand the way they work with young people, some of whom are difficult to engage with. They provide support and activities which clearly improves these young peoples quality of life.

Inspector Geoff Cross, Northumbria Police

I have been involved with Phoenix DYP for over 6 years. The project has been a big help for me during the good and bad times. I think the project is a really good place to go to for support.

Matty, 22 years

WHAT AGENCIES

I have been interested in youth work for some time and I decided to go down to the Phoenix DYP to find out more about youth work. I recognised Mike from when he was my youth worker when I was 16 years old. I started volunteering with the Phoenix DYP in 2011. They have supported me with my NVQ Level 1 in youth work and I am now completing my NVQ Level 2. I believe that the interaction with a youth worker helped me gain new life skills as well as making me realise there is more to life than sitting on a street corner getting into trouble. I would now like to show other young people like myself that the Phoenix DYP are understanding and offer lots of help and fun for young people.

Gary Nelson, Volunteer, 28 years

Phoenix DYP simply represents the most active, most varied and most enriching learning experience that a student of social work could ask for. The staff, the young people and the wide range of colleagues from partner agencies have created an environment that inspires, tests, challenges and rewards anyone who works with them. It stretches your limits, confirms your strengths and boosts your confidence. It has been a privilege to have my placement here.

Jack Nicholls, MA Social Work student

Phoenix DYP works with young people over a period of time, helping them to build life skills and confidence. This means that they support long term and lasting change, helping people to make positive choices, getting to know the person and support them through their ups and downs.

Felicity Shoesmith,Manager - Community Engagement, Office of the Chief Executive, North Tyneside Council

I nominated Phoenix DYP for Outstanding Voluntary youth sector team in the North East because their biggest achievement to date is the fact that they work with a large number of diverse groups of youths in our area. Youths have been given a chance to be understood, heard and helped. Relationships between youths in our area has improved and anti social behaviour in the area has declined.

Tas Akhtar, Lifestyle Express

Mobex North East uses a range of outdoor and creative activities to help young people develop their personal and social skills and this year we have worked with Phoenix DYP on several projects. On one occassion the group chose to work on a mosaic project. The group had only been meeting for a few sessions, and we used the mosaic project as an opportunity for the young people to work together to get to know one another better. The end result was a beautiful mosaic design with a good finish that will be used every day in the Phoenix Detached Youth Project base. The group members can feel proud that they have created a lasting piece of art that many people will enjoy and comment upon for years to come.

Best wishes Nicky Sargeant, Mobex North East

AND OTHERS SAID

The Phoenix DYP has been there for me through some very difficult times. They've given me support and pointed me in the right direction. The workers at the Phoenix are friendly and very easy to talk to which makes it easier to go and talk to someone when times are hard and you need support. It means a lot as I don't have much support from family and no one else to go to for help.

Young woman, 23yrs

At first I never bothered with the Phoenix DYP because it wasn't for me. My mate then got out of prison and I started coming. I got to know the workers and it's a good laugh and I get to wind Mike up! I had a class time camping in the lakes, getting off the estate. The Phoenix DYP has been supporting me to get qualifications to go off shore on the oil rigs. I need one more certificate and I am away.

Richard, 20 years.

It is great to see two parents groups coming together and people working well with other people. It is also a benefit to be able to share resources.

Dawn Brunton, Cedarwood Trust, project worker

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

Northern Rock Foundation
Big Lottery Fund
Tudor Trust
Henry Smiths Charity
Lloyds TSB Foundation
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation
St. Hilda's Trust
R.W. Mann Trust
John D Fund
Hindle and Campbell Solicitors
Widening Horizons for all - North Tyneside Council
North Tyneside Charities Development Group
Elswick Lodge Charity
Owen Pugh Fund
Local Environmental Action Fund
Chapman Fund
Tyne and Wear High Sheriff Award
NHS North of Tyne
NE Generation
Blue Planet Stone
The Legacy Trust UK
1989 Willan Charitable Trust
Princes Trust
Buttle UK
Greggs Foundation
O2
Northumbtian Water Fund
North Tyneside Fund
Consult & Design

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

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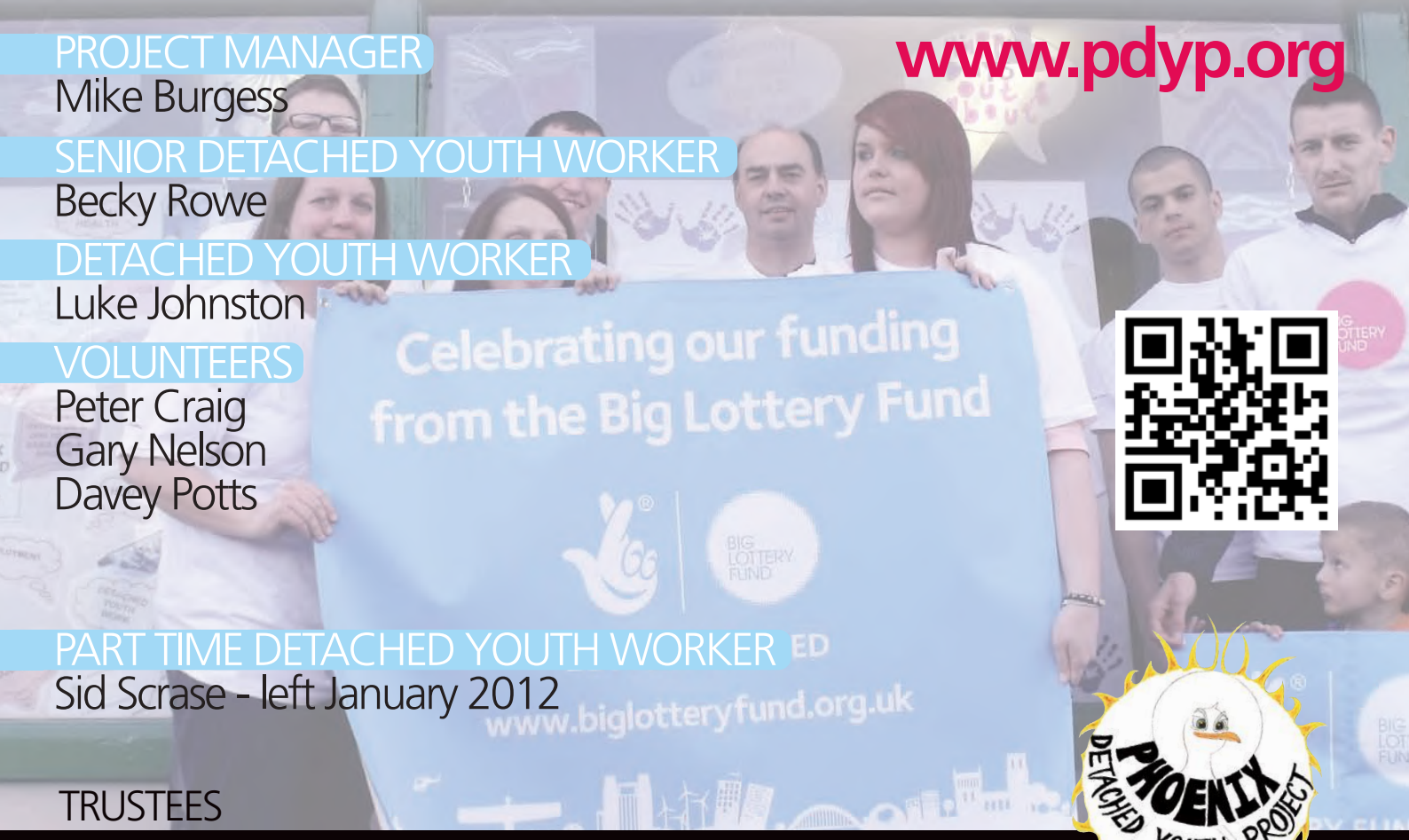

PROJECT MANAGER
Mike Burgess

SENIOR DETACHED YOUTH WORKER
Becky Rowe

DETACHED YOUTH WORKER
Luke Johnston

VOLUNTEERS
Peter Craig
Gary Nelson
Davey Potts

PART TIME DETACHED YOUTH WORKER
Sid Scrase - left January 2012

TRUSTEES

Jim Robson - Chair
Rev. David Peel - Company Secretary
Lynda McCowie MBE - Treasurer
Rev. Helen Gill
Brian Clyde

PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

North Tyneside Council
northern rock foundation
the Tudortrust
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland
GREGGS FOUNDATION
LLOYDS TSB FOUNDATIONS
The Henry Smith Charity founded in 1628
BIG LOTTERY FUND LOTTERY FUNDED
GENERATION