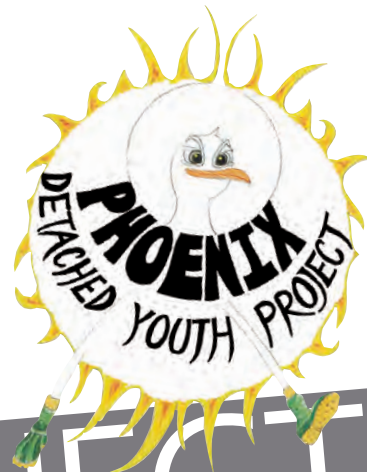


PHOENIX DETACHED



YOUTH PROJECT

Initiated by
young people and
creatively delivered
for young people

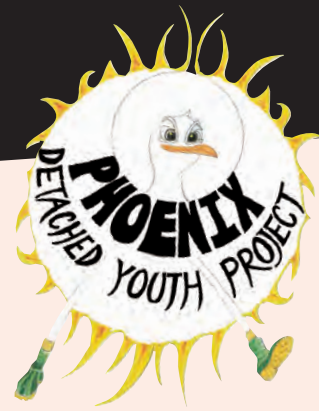
MISSION STATEMENT

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



Charity number 1106223

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



FOREWORD

Welcome to the Phoenix Detached Youth Project 2021 Annual Report. This report covers the year April 2020 to March 2021; a year that none of us expected with the arrival of the global pandemic and one in which our PDYP team have truly excelled by safely adapting the project environment, donning their key worker masks and continuing to engage young people through face to face, online and social media contact. The last year has seen the project strengthen and consolidate in many ways and has been a first point of contact for our young people ensuring access to food parcels, support with energy costs, Helping Hands groups and other essential services and, through the generosity of a local supporter, 120 families were able to support their children in home schooling with laptops and access to the internet. Our thanks go to all our supporters, donors, funders, North Tyneside mayor, local councillors and all our partner organisations who continue to see the value of the work and contribute in so many ways to our service provision.

Our amazing young people continued to inform and shape the project with their ideas, creativity and commitment to supporting each other; helping to make a difference in their own and each other's lives and bringing their interests, concerns and experience to the fore which then highlights and helps to address social need in our local community.

Relationship building, trust, communication and consistency are key to effective youth work at Phoenix, and our young people's involvement depends on it. So, it is with great appreciation and thanks to Mike, Becky, Luke, the part time workers and volunteers who have worked hard and pulled out all the stops to ensure that the foundations set over the last 17 years have held strong and ensured the project was able to respond so well to the many challenges of the last year.

We heard very recently that sadly our dear friend Krisse Tate had passed away.

Krisse lived locally and was a kind woman, and long-time supporter and trustee of PDYP. She will be a great miss to all of us and we appreciate all she gave to the project and her commitment to young people over the years. Our thoughts are with Dave and all the family.

At the end of 2020 we said a fond farewell to our previous Chair Jane Cook who had worked in partnership with PDYP as Health Promotion Specialist for Sexual Health and as a trustee. Jane brought real clarity and insight to the board and we thank her for the commitment and dedication she gave to the project during her time with us. After many years as youth work colleagues with Mike in Longbenton, tutoring on the basic youth work course and collaborating with the team on student placements, teaching and research projects where I taught on the Community and Youth Work Programme at Durham University, I was delighted to follow in Jane's footsteps when taking up the role of Chair from January 2021. Our thanks also go to David Peel who stood down as a trustee having being involved with PDYP since the beginning.

Our thanks also go to our excellent group of young ambassadors and trustees who continue to guide and support the development of the project and through their ongoing commitment ensure that the project is well and truly in safe hands.

We can be proud that here at PDYP we kept our doors open to young people and families and continued to offer services throughout the uncertainty and impact of the last year. We look forward to a settled time ahead and working together over the coming year.

Anne Marron – Chair PDYP : May 2021

Achievements of the year

- 1 We have contacted and built long term relationships with 395 young people (199 males and 196 females). This amazingly is an increase during the Pandemic where we have been a constant and consistent point of contact for local young people This has resulted in 3,252 interactions.
- 2 This year we have successfully supported 11 young people into work, 10 into training and 2 into University.
- 3 Helping Hands groups continue to be delivered in partnership with Connexions North Tyneside and is a valued Borough wide provision. There were 62 young people involved across the five groups, gaining support with their mental health and emotional well-being, throughout the Covid 19 pandemic.
- 4 The Good Practice film produced by our mental health ambassadors was launched. This film shows how GP's and young people can make the most of appointment times when talking about mental health. This can be seen on our website <https://www.pdyp.org/videos/good-practice>

- 5 We continue to build positive relationships with local businesses. This has resulted in £5,000 funding in kind and grants to support young people.
- 6 Young people successfully finalized an educational resource, M.O.N.A (Moving On Not Alone). This is aimed at supporting care leavers starting to live independently as well as young people PDYP are working with who are getting their first tenancy. Social workers from Newcastle upon Tyne have started to use the pack with young people.
- 7 We continue to deliver the health and well being contract on behalf of North Tyneside Public Health in the NE29 area.
- 8 During the past year and during the pandemic it was vital to work effectively with Partners to support the Community. Two local agencies stood out to work effectively with us during the challenging 'Covid' time. Little Blossoms Childcare continued to collect food and items to support those in need, including the residents of Chirton Lodge and Cedarwood Trust worked with us to support the community in a range of ways.
- 9 Due to the pandemic, we have given out more grants than we have in previous years. We awarded and distributed 171 food parcels and grants. Grants were used; for gas, electricity, baby equipment, clothing and other household items.
- 10 We provided staffing and transport to support 117 laptops purchased to support local young people with their home learning. This was in partnership with business, and supported by N.T.C and local schools.

DETACHED YOUTH WORK



One of the key strengths of detached youth work is its adaptability, and this year that ability to adapt to ever changing circumstances has been put to the test. With lockdowns taking place and restrictions on being outside, sadly from April to the end of June, we were unable to go out on detached and meet young people on the streets. However, since July, we were given the go ahead to restart detached. Detached this year has been a great tool to catch

up with young people and groups (socially distanced of course), allowing us to keep contact with those who needed the service but were unable to access it through their usual methods. We have used detached to help us develop projects and ideas, as well as utilizing street spaces we developed years prior including the Parks Basketball court and Skate Park, so that we could still deliver a service while indoor groups were restricted.

Male new contacts (12-19yr olds)	92
Male new contacts (20-25yr olds)	7
Female new contacts (12-19yr olds)	90
Female new contacts (20-25yr olds)	9

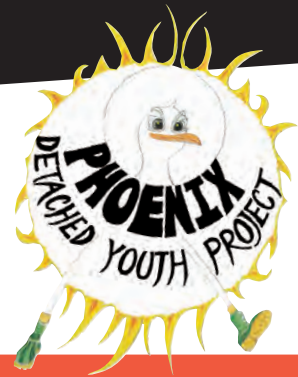
Male existing contacts (12-19yr olds)	78
Male existing contacts (20-25yr olds)	22
Female existing contacts (12-19yr olds)	77
Female existing contacts (20-25yr olds)	20

750 interactions through detached youth work (508 males - 242 females)

1124 interactions through group work (616 males - 508 females)

1886 interactions through one to one work (836 males -1050females)

Total number of interactions **3760**



PDYP'S RESPONSE TO THE PANDEMIC

COVID 19

No one could have foreseen the long-term impact Covid 19 was going to have on society when the first lockdown was announced in March 2020. As a project we felt passionately that we needed to remain open and work in whatever way was possible, under the Governments and National Youth Agency Guidelines, as local young people were going to need our continued and additional support. At the start of the restrictions in March 2020, and due to the small office space, we had one member of staff in the office at a time. This meant we could still provide practical support and the other members of staff were able to offer support by phone / online. During this time, we were grateful for the support of others and the systems that were put in place e.g., Taz, local shop keeper, agreed we could top up young people's gas and electric cards remotely. Over the year and as restrictions changed we evolved our work accordingly. The time staff were working at home was allocated for report writing, online meetings, professional development, admin tasks and providing support to young people on the phone or online. This meant the time spent in the office could be prioritised for meeting young people face to face. The majority of the period covered by this report was spent under National or local lockdown, so when restrictions were slightly eased July – October we made the most of being able to do some activities with young people. Throughout the report we will detail how specific areas of our work were affected and delivered.

ONE TO ONE

Supporting young people on a one-to-one basis has always been a vital part of our work, and this has been even more true over the last year. Where possible we met young people face to face. For some young people it was because they were in crisis and needed practical support but for others it was about having the chance to see someone outside of their household, especially when schools and colleges weren't face to face and they were limited with interaction with others. As we were restricting people coming into the office the 'walk and talk' session began. We adapted to each young person's needs, for example for some we met them at their house and walked from there, for others we met in North Shields and got a takeaway cuppa. It has made us all appreciate what is on our doorstep and the change of scenery

has been beneficial to young people and staff! We aren't fortunate to have the; coast, Marina and various parks all within walking distance.

GROUP WORK

Group work has taken on a much different look this year. Our usual methods of group work have been impeded due to social distance and lockdown rules; however, we have still been able to run them in different capacities. During lockdown we ran virtual groups for young people using digital spaces such as Teams and Skype. We have also been able to deliver some face-to-face groups when restrictions were eased meaning we were able to do activities including; surfing, mini golf, beach walks, canoeing and visited some trampoline parks.

"Surfing was absolutely amazing, I loved it, I would love to do it again". **Young woman, 16 yrs**

CRISIS GRANTS

This year we have seen a spike in need for crisis support and grants for project users. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the local council, businesses and individuals who have all stepped up and provided resources to help those struggling due to uncertainty and changes in financial status, often brought on by the pandemic. We have also with permission from funders, repurposed some of the money given to do activities this year, instead using it to create crisis packs, that we have then been able to hand deliver to young people over the course of the year. This year we have given out 171 crisis grants to support people with household items / baby equipment, food hampers and gas and electric. 222 welfare packs and 143 activity packs have also been given out to young parents and their children when the schools were closed. Being able to provide these has also had the additional benefit of having face to face doorstep contact with young people when the restrictions were at the tightest and then when restrictions eased slightly, encouraging people to come and see us, allowing us to talk with those who come in and then work with them to put things in place.





LAPTOPS WITH LOVE

Due to the pandemic and young people having to learn from home it soon became apparent that digital poverty was an issue impacting on some local young people. We worked with North Tyneside Council and six local schools and identified 117 young people had either; no device in their household, were having to share 1 device between several school aged children, were trying to do school work on a mobile phone or had no internet access. They then supported us with the purchasing and delivering of the 117 laptops. We approached a businessman who originated from the local estate and he generously funded us through his charity, Red Brain Charity Set Up. He also sent a letter of encouragement and support to be given to each young person. The Vinci Foundation also contributed to this project.

SOCIAL MEDIA

This year with the restrictions of face to face meetings, we have increased our social media presence through facebook and instagram. We have increased our overall reach on facebook from 27,532 to 238,708 which is an increase of 767%. This has been through either people seeing our posts directly, or when someone has shared our posts with others. While digital youth work can never replace face to face work, it has been a useful tool when working within the current situation to offer some level of service to those wanting it.

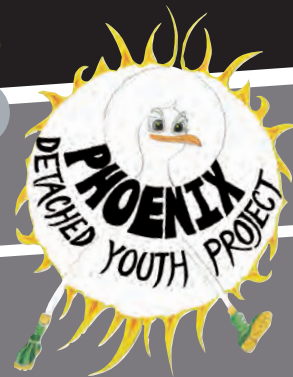
WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHERS DURING THE PANDEMIC

While there has been a lot of negatives linked to the Pandemic, one positive has been the coming together of different people, agencies, schools, business and everything in between to support those who needed it. This year we have been overwhelmed by the support offered by others. Likewise, with the change in how we have had to work, we have been able to offer support to other agencies when in other years we wouldn't have had the capacity to. Between April and July, we were able to work with the Cedarwood Trust, offering our Minibus and staff time on a Monday and Friday to alleviate some of the pressure they were under with the high demand for delivering free meals to 225 households who were isolating and shielding in the area.



Alongside this we have been donated things including food hampers, easter eggs, toys, activity packs and so much more, which have then been given out in the community to bring a little joy to those who received them. We can't thank everyone enough who has donated and helped make a difference.

ONGOING CORE WORK



HELPING HANDS

Helping Hands groups are delivered in partnership with Helen Heslop from Connexions, North Tyneside. We have been working together now for 14 years so have a proven track record of working together. Helping Hands groups provide support to young people regarding their mental health and well-being. Due to the demand, we have 5 groups. In the last year, 62 young people have been involved in the groups, of these 43 were existing group members and 19 new group members.

When lockdown was announced in March 2020, we knew we had to prioritize how we could support young people attending the groups. Due to being unable to meet face to face we set up online groups. Delivering the online groups was a learning process for all of us at the beginning and to start with we needed an additional member of staff to provide technical support to people trying to access the online sessions. Initially the uptake of young people wanting to join the online sessions was quite low but as the lockdown continued more young people got involved. We were able to sort Chromebooks for several young people who didn't have the technology, and this enabled them to join the online groups. For those young people who didn't feel comfortable with joining the online groups we made an effort to keep in touch via phone, text etc. After several months we decided to put together welfare packs. The purpose of this was to give young people some treats that would be beneficial for their well-being but also with the added bonus that it meant we got to see everyone face to face as we delivered the packs to people's doorsteps. The bags included; toiletries, activity books, pens as well as some treats to eat and drink.

When the NYA (National Youth agency) guidelines changed in September we had the opportunity to resume face to face sessions. Due to the size of the PDYP office it wasn't feasible to run the groups from the office so we were extremely grateful to The Cedarwood Trust and St Peter's Church who offered us the use of their rooms. We contacted all of the young people to see if they would prefer sessions to stay online or remain face to face. The daytime group for 'older' young people unanimously decided they wanted to meet face to face and we were fortunate to

secure space within the Learning Alliance at Norham Skills Centre for them. For the 4 evening groups there was a 50/50 split across the groups about face to face and online sessions. To accommodate what was best for individuals we ran 2 groups face to face and kept the other 2 groups online. For some young people this meant changing groups, but this was something they were prepared to do. We continued to operate in this way until Easter 2021, when all group sessions became face to face again.

The impact of Covid has been an overriding theme of Helping Hands sessions over the last year, whether it has been regarding school, family, friends or the wider impact on society. For some young people Covid has had a detrimental impact on their mental health but for others; not having to go to school, not leave the house or socialize has been seen as a preferable option. Going forward our role is to support young people to readjust and adapt to the ever-changing situations.

We continued to accept referrals throughout the lockdowns and arranged to speak to young people via Teams. When restrictions eased up over the summer of 2020, we were able to meet some referrals in the office. We increased the level of one-to-one support we offered young people in the referral process as we were aware a lot of young people's usual support options weren't available to them e.g. face to face in school, peers etc.

As soon as we were able to, we increased outside face to face one to one support to young people both within the groups and also on the waiting list and in the referral process. We were flexible in doing this and met young people wherever was most convenient for them. For young people who were shielding or didn't feel comfortable meeting face to face we continued the one-to-one support online, on phone or by text.

"Thankfully, Helping hands have been able to continue to offer a great service to young people during COVID -19. They quickly adapted their service to meet the needs of the young people by offering groups as well as 1:1 for those struggling to access groups through technology or who just needed that bit more individual support. I am aware that CAMHS referrals have

increased during the pandemic and we have been so grateful to have helping hands to also help the young people access support around their mental health. You really do, do an amazing job”.

Amy Collins, CAMHS Primary Mental Health Worker, CAMHS, Northumbria Healthcare

“To say that the last year has been tough is an understatement. No-one imagined that the Helping Hands groups wouldn’t meet face to face for 5 months or that when we did, we would have to sit 2 metres apart from each other!! What a year it has been. However, out of this incredibly difficult experience, we have learned to adapt and change how we connect with each other. Working with Becky, Luke & Holly during the pandemic has been amazing. The pandemic has strengthened an already very effective partnership, and it has, yet again, highlighted how important and rare, good partnership working truly is. As a Helping Hands staff team, we all feel that we’ve developed our IT skills – Teams, Zoom, WhatsApp, online quizzes – and we have learned a huge amount about ourselves & the young people who come to the groups. Over the last 12 months, everyone involved in Helping Hands has shown that they can adapt, they can change and can make the best out of this situation that we find ourselves in. We have all seen how important it is to stay connected, to listen to others and to be in the moment. I would like to take this opportunity to say a Big Thank You to everyone involved in Helping Hands!!”

Helen Heslop, Connexions Adviser, Employment and Skills, North Tyneside Council

EMPLOYMENT

The pandemic has impacted on young people we work with and sadly some lost their jobs. Young people were impacted more by unemployment than any other age group due to Covid 19. This said the Phoenix Construction Scheme still ran this year and is detailed in a separate section.

Despite everything we were still able to support 11 young people into work, 10 into training and 2 into University.

“White Knight Maintenance have been working with the Phoenix Detached Youth Project for the last 2 years providing opportunities for young people to help them into full time employment. Through Mike and his teams efforts we have taken on 2 full time apprentices. The support and encouragement from Mike and the team to young people onto the right path and see them thrive is a vital part of the community. Keep up the good work, it makes a real difference”. **Lee Bishop, White Knight Maintenance.**

PHOENIX CONSTRUCTION SCHEME

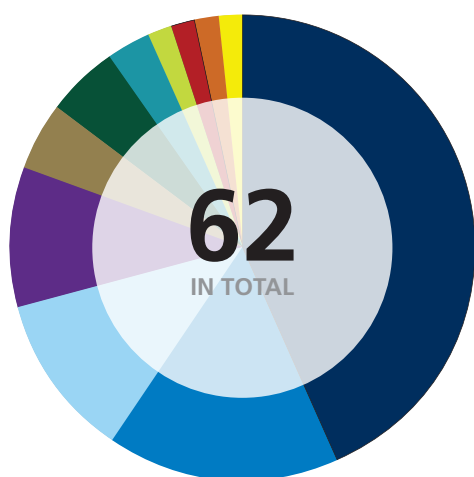
From the previous cohort that finished in June 2020, 5 out of 6 young people secured apprenticeships. This year’s course has been a challenge due to Covid 19, however, the partnership with North Tyneside Council Learning Alliance and local businesses remains very strong.

Due to Covid 19, recruiting young people for the 2020/2021 scheme was a real challenge, but with help from local schools, Connexions workers, family partners and positive word of mouth amongst local young people we recruited 6 trainees. This year it was just an interview as all the team building selection activities were not possible due to the pandemic. Also, at times due to national and local lockdown restrictions, there were periods where they had to work from home but when possible, there was a range of site visits and training supported by local businesses. The companies who provide valuable training and qualifications remained loyal even whilst under real financial pressure. We continued to receive £3000 of in-kind funding towards 6 qualifications valuable for accessing the construction industry, from Carney Consultancy and N.E. Access training.

Sadly, one of our well-loved local shop keepers died suddenly. His family and the local community collected £327 in donations in lieu of flowers which they chose to donate to PDYP. We offered to help make a memorial bench and this was successfully built by the 6 young men on the construction scheme.



WHERE REFERRALS CAME FROM?



■ CAMHS - 27	■ Parent - 2
■ Schools - 10	■ Family Partner - 1
■ GP's and mental health specialist nurses - 7	■ Phoenix detached youth project - 1
■ Connexions - 6	■ Youth Focus - 1
■ Social workers - 3	■ Youth Offending team - 1
■ Barnardos - 3	



PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

One of our artists painted Neil and Ronnie Barker and 'Open all hours' on the back of the bench. This will be put outside of the shops for 'older' residents to take a seat on their way to the shops and celebrate Neil's life and all the help he gave to the local Community.



"I think the Phoenix Construction Scheme is a great scheme for young people. It has helped me more than school did because they have been able to support me gain qualifications, and hand skills in joinery, to prepare me for working life. The mentoring from the youth workers has helped keep me on track and not get side tracked staying focussed. If it wasn't for the Scheme, I would have been out on the streets going down the wrong path".

Trainee on scheme

"The construction Scheme has really helped me by improving my hand skills, and taught me a new trade, and helped me get the qualifications I need and earn certificates. Every day is different and I have really enjoyed the scheme and it has made me clearer of my future work". **Trainee on Scheme**

"I missed school for the last year due to having a quick temper, the scheme helped me chill out and gain some certificates, and prepare for work, I now have a job as a carpet fitter and things look good for me thanks". **Trainee on Scheme**

"While being on the Scheme I have gained a fair few qualifications that have helped me get into work on sites. It has helped me to develop my hand skills to increase the quality of work I produce for my new Employer". **Trainee on Scheme**

"The Phoenix Construction Scheme has really helped me by improving my hand skills and teaching me a new trade, and helping me get the qualifications I need, every day is different and I have really enjoyed the scheme". **Trainee on the Scheme**

"Thank you for all the support you have given my son in the last year he has passed all his qualifications, and could not have done this without your help at the Phoenix Construction Scheme thank you so much". **Parent of Trainee**

"The Phoenix Youth Project I would say is the hope most parents seek when we can't see a light at the end of the tunnel. And for that I thank you". **Parent of Trainee**

"In the current world where much of the younger generation have suffered with the lack of work experiences, exams and general



opportunities that should be their right, the work Phoenix DYP does on this one particular programme is invaluable. Construction was told to keep going throughout the pandemic which shows its reliance and importance to the UK economy, with Brexit now done and having lost many of our foreign workers and their brilliant skills, the skills gap in the industry is growing ever wider. Therefore, helping to fill this gap by attracting young people to the industry and supporting them all the way through the programme, the industry is gaining some much-needed new enthusiastic young people". **Angela Carney, Managing Director, Carney Consultancy**

NORHAM

This year sadly we haven't been able to go into Norham High school as much as we would have liked. However, we have still been able to work with them to support the Pupils coming up with different ways to deliver sessions. We were able to offer session during their enrichment days, using digital media to deliver education sessions to different year groups on topics including health and wellbeing and consent. We have also provided additional one to one support to pupils throughout the year. They were also one of our main partners for the Laptops with Love project, mentioned else where within this report.

"The whole team at The Phoenix Youth Detached Project never ceases to amaze us. The work, dedication and commitment shown once again has had an overwhelmingly positive impact on our pupils and thus the local community. While working in partnership with the school throughout lockdown, we are thrilled that members of the team like Luke and Becky are now back in the building working with our wonderful pupils.

Through our partnership, we have secured apprenticeships for young people but perhaps more importantly, together we have helped to protect the education of our pupils and thus minimise the impact of COVID.

This was made possible as the funding secured by Mike and his team enabled the purchase of over 80 Chromebook (laptop equivalent) devices for our pupils, this, then combined with the DfE laptops for pupils scheme and investment from the school enabled the provision of a device for every single pupil at Norham High School allowing us to teach and deliver over 4,000 live lessons during the previous lockdown - perhaps more live lessons than any other school in the country. As such, it needs to be noted and recognised that the partnership with PYPD was a catalyst for real change within our community and the school on the whole as we are now adapting our teaching around the use of these devices, every lesson, every day - the positive impact from this work really does go deep and will support the school in future years.

Thank you to the whole team at PYPD". Terry Conway, Proud Headteacher Norham High School

PALS

We have continued to deliver alternative education this year working alongside PALS. We have fortunately been able to maintain face to face delivery with 2 bubbles of young people. We have been able to deliver sessions looking at increasing young people's knowledge and understanding of issues including; actions and consequences, knife crime, employment, mental and sexual health, drugs and alcohol and other topics identified by the young people and workers. The advantage of delivering youth work in this setting allows for the adaptive skills of the worker to facilitate learning based on conversations with young people during the sessions. Keeping topics and learning approaches suitable to those involved.

INTERGEN

For years we have used our minibus to take residents from Chirton Lodge to Morrisons for fortnightly shopping sessions. Sadly, we were unable to continue this over the last year because of Covid, our day trips out, games nights and Christmas Panto trip were also unable to take place.

We wanted to continue supporting residents so did various things during the difficult time. This included; promoting the Cedarwood meals scheme to residents, delivering hand painted rainbows kindly done by Children from Little Blossoms nursery, and doorstep visits for a chat and drop off treats throughout the year like biscuits and Easter Eggs as well as phone calls.

"The COVID restrictions over the last year meant the usual intergen work with the residents at Chirton Lodge couldn't take place, but Phoenix have continued to support them in different ways. With rainbow pictures, Christmas cards, Easter eggs and socially distanced visits just to say 'Hi'. Thank you from us all - it's lovely to know that you are thinking of us, it really brought a smile to everyone's face. The residents can't wait for activities to begin again" **Claire Pinchard, Team Manager, Anchor Hanover**

PARENTS

The young parents we work with were significantly impacted, especially during the first lockdown when restrictions were at their toughest. We started by ringing parents to see how they were, but quickly felt the phone calls weren't enough and that we needed to be seeing people face to face. We came up with the idea of fortnightly activity packs as this would give the children something to do whilst they weren't at school and also give us the chance to speak to parents face to face about their well-being and see if there was any other support we could offer. With most shops shut and needing to buy things in larger quantities it was a challenge coming up with ideas. Neil from Chirton Traders was fantastic at supporting us with this. Packs included; arts and crafts, items for the garden, things to bake and we also included a treat for the parents. It was fantastic, on future visits, to see things the children had made in their windows e.g., tissue paper rainbows, suncatchers etc. The first few weeks were the hardest with many of the single parents not seeing another adult in between our visits, the fear, unknown and uncertainty was having an impact. When we went into the regional lockdown it was more manageable as the children were in school and parents were able to meet each other whilst their children were in school. When we went into the 2nd National Lockdown, we did restart the activity packs again but because the home learning from school was more structured the children had things to do during the day. In total we gave out 143 packs to children.

When restrictions were slightly eased, we did what activities we could as this is an important part of our work with parents as it gives parents and children the chance to socialise. Things were more complicated than usual but we did what we could under the circumstances and restrictions and included things like going for a meal....with each family group on a separate table and booking Pots n Pancakes for an afternoon and having 3 families in at a time on a rota. We have also been able to benefit from trips to local parks and the coast for rock pooling.

"The Phoenix has supported me, my partner and daughter over the past year immensely. I have been part of the Phoenix for many years now and they have had such a big impact on our lives, always there to help in anyway they can, getting my daughter out and about and helping my partner with getting more qualifications and also helping me along the most bumpy road! We will always be forever thankful". Parent, 23 yrs



SEXUAL HEALTH

We have continued to provide free condoms to young people this year through the C Card scheme, although as to be expected the number of interactions has been lower than in previous years. For years Becky has worked in partnership with the One to One Centre to co-facilitate the introduction to Sexual Health course for professionals working with young people. We were due to deliver a face course at the start of lockdown and this was postponed. As time went on it became apparent that face to face training wasn't going to be possible in the foreseeable future. Time was spent adapting the course so it could be delivered online. Whilst it was agreed face to face training was more beneficial it meant we could continue to offer some training. Some of the exercises weren't possible online but it still provided the opportunity for professionals to come together and develop their skills and network. The online course will continue until we are able to return to face to face training.

"Becky continues to co-facilitate on our Introduction to Sexual Health course and during the past year has supported us to make big changes so that we can deliver this training online. Becky's experience and knowledge of working with young people helps us to deliver a training course that is well evaluated and enjoyed by local professionals. This collaborative working continues to be successful and demonstrates how sexual health messages can be promoted to local communities and groups".

**Lisa Hanson, Health Promotion Assistant – Sexual Health
Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust**

MENTAL HEALTH

In addition to the group and one to one support offered via Helping Hands group sessions, we support other young people on an individual basis. Over the last 12 months young people's mental health has been affected by Covid 19 as well as relationships, housing, employment, poverty and health. We continue to be flexible in the support we are able to offer people and for some young people we have worked with this had meant supporting them to access more specialist services. For some this could mean making phone calls on their behalf whilst for others we have supported them in attending face to face appointments. Self harm and suicide are also issues we have supported young people with this year. We are currently working with the Suicide prevention team who are keen to work with us to update the SOS pack we produced 6 years ago as a resource that can be made available across the North East.

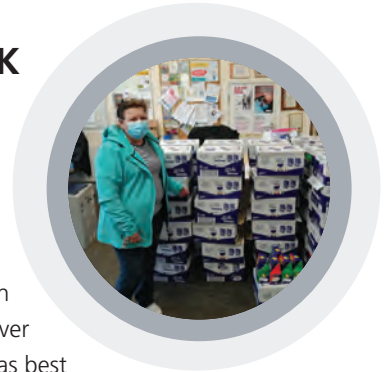
LGBTQI

At Phoenix DYP whilst we don't run a separate LGBTQI group we support young people within existing groups and on a one to one basis. For some young people they have identified that PDYP is a

safe place where they can be who they really are and want to be in regards to their identity. For young people wanting to join a specific LGBTQI group we continue to sign post them to relevant services.

PARTNERSHIP WORK WITH ACTIVE NORTH TYNESIDE, NORTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL

We have continued to work in partnership with Michael Scafton and Active North Tyneside to deliver the Club 1 and Us girls schemes as best as we could. Sadly, this is the first year that we were unable to do the Club 1 residential to High Borran. When possible, we have still met the members of the group and when gyms have been open local young people were provided with gym passes.



"Since working in partnership with the Phoenix Detached Youth Project we have managed to engage with several young male and females in the North Shields, Meadow Well and Chirton areas. Due to their hard work and reputation within the borough, we have been able to utilise this to great effect yielding positive results by delivering sport sessions, events and working closely with individuals together.

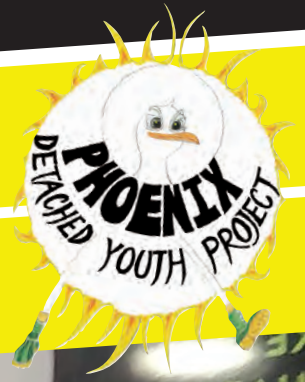
The Phoenix Detached Youth Project have also been a great asset to the project over the years by providing transport for several activities such as the residencies, sporting events and provided their own equipment for kayaking. This has resulted in the project saving money to put towards other opportunities for the participants so we can have an action packed programme all year round. Sadly Covid 19 impacted on this side of the work over the last year but we look forward to restarting things as we are allowed.

Due to the excellent partnership, we work closely with the participants and get them active whilst PDYP find a route into employment for the young males. This allows participants to build up their daily routine and gain independence so that they're ready for the working environment.

The Phoenix Detached Youth Project is a major reason why the Club1 Lads and Girlz programme is a huge success and it wouldn't be the same without them!"

Michael Scafton, Leisure & Well-being Activator, Sport & Leisure, North Tyneside Council

DEVELOPMENTAL AREAS OF WORK



M.O.N.A (MOVING ON NOT ALONE)

This educational pack came about as a result of Elm House, North Tyneside Council approaching us to develop an educational pack to support young people with independent living. We had worked with young people from PDYP and Elm House and were fortunate to have almost finalised the pack prior to Covid 19 which meant we were able to put the finishing touches to it and print it this year. The pack is inspired by young people who have given their time and ideas voluntarily so other young people will benefit from the M.O.N.A pack. We are proud of them and thank them.

"Phoenix approached me and asked if I would help design a pack for care leavers. I got involved because I think all leavers from care and from home should have a good knowledge of living on their own. I didn't know a lot when I left the care system and when I left care I felt I was alone so I surrounded myself with people I shouldn't have and got into loads of trouble. If I had a pack like this it would have helped me out. I want this pack to help other young people out and to experience some real situations and be aware of what support is in the communities. I would like to say thank you to all who helped make this pack, the young people, Elm House and PDYP". Rebecca Johnson, young person.

GP FILM

The 'Good Practice' film was finalized just before lockdown and due to be launched. The film came about as a result of requests from GPs to CAMHS about how best to support young people regarding their mental health. We are grateful to Caitlain, Isaac and Paige for all their work on this project. Sadly, due to the ongoing

restrictions it wasn't possible to have a celebration event and launch the film, so it was launched online to coincide with a range of online events for North Tyneside's World Mental Health Day. Leaflets to accompany the film are in the process of being produced. <https://www.pdyp.org/videos/good-practice>

COMMUNITY HEALTH CHAMPIONS / AMBASSADORS

During the pandemic the ambassadors have been restricted and unable to meet for the majority of the year. Despite this there has been work happening 'behind the scenes'.

Some young people have contributed to the M.O.N.A pack and Good Practice film mentioned elsewhere in the report. Another young man who had been involved with PDYP for a long time has become a physical health ambassador. He has successfully boxed for England and GB and now turned professional. He is keen to promote physical health and a 'can do' attitude in the local community. He is being coached by a businessman in London who has done TED talks so he in turn can inspire change in the minds of local young people. He also plans to develop a health programme which can be delivered in schools and this will be in partnership with PDYP and Active North Tyneside.

On an individual basis some of our ambassadors have gone out of their way to help others during the pandemic; shopping for local residents, dog walking for those shielding and signposting young people to us who need additional support.

RECOGNISING OTHERS



REECE ALLEN AWARD

This award has been given in memory of Reece Allen who sadly lost his life in 2016. We had worked with Reece for 11 years and the PDYP and Reece's family wanted to create a legacy in his name.

The award is in recognition of the contribution to the local community by a local young person. This year's winner is Rebecca Johnson. Rebecca was the lead young person over a two-year period helping us design the educational M.O.N.A (Moving On Not Alone) pack aimed at care leavers and other young people facing the challenges of living independently for the first time. When we took the young people on a residential to design the pack she motivated and encouraged the other young people to engage and work on ideas and content for the pack. The pack is now finished and is being used within PDYP as well by care home staff and social workers. Rebecca committed a lot of work and time on the M.O.N.A pack and it has been an amazing achievement and shows the passion she has for helping others.

"Well done Rebecca for your achievements and using your own experiences to help support others in similar circumstances".
Sylvia Welsh, Reece's Mam.



INVESTORS IN YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD - OUTSTANDING LOCAL PARTNER

This year we have decided to recognise two local partners.

CEDARWOOD TRUST

This year we have chosen Cedarwood Trust for their vision and commitment to work throughout the Covid 19 pandemic and approaching us to pool resources for the good of the community.

They also supported our Helping Hands groups by providing us with a room which meant the groups could meet face to face and be socially distanced, as we were unable to in our office. This meant we were able to continue delivering mental health and emotional well-being support to those who needed face to face support instead of online contact.

"Thank you for this award. What this means to Cedarwood Trust and the team."

Thank you so much to Phoenix DYP, who have helped and supported us as true partners throughout the pandemic. Without both charities combined efforts the community and the very people

CEDARWOOD TRUST
Fighting Poverty, Supporting Community

we both support would have had a much harder time. Thankfully the close working between us has complimented both of what we do in making life for our residents that little bit easier". **Wayne Dobson**, Chief Executive Officer, Cedarwood Trust

LITTLE BLOSSOMS CHILDCARE

For years the nursery staff and children have supported our work in a variety of ways, and this has been more evident this year.

At a time when many people were struggling, they stepped up to brighten people's lives.

The children painted pictures of rainbows which we hand delivered to every resident of Chirton Lodge (they still adorn windows and doors, a year later), collected food for our Christmas hampers and easter eggs all to benefit local young families. Throughout the year they 'checked in' on us to see if there was anything more they could be doing.

"We are absolutely over the moon to receive the award for Outstanding Partner. It is an honour for us to work alongside yourselves to support the local community, especially over the past year with Covid. We very much look forward to our future projects together". **Vikki Karter**, Nursery Manager, Little Blossoms Childcare



INVESTORS IN YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD - LOCAL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

This year we have decided to award two local businesses. We feel very fortunate to have supportive local businesses towards us as a project, staff team and young people.

CHIRTON TRADERS

Neil Inman was a long-term supporter of PDYP and we were devastated when he sadly passed away. We are awarding this in his memory and also to his family, Lynn Inman and Gary Gill who have continued to support us. Neil was a straight-talking Yorkshire man and was well liked within the community. He directed local young people to us if he felt they could benefit from our support and went out of his way to help us. This was even more evident this last year. At the start of the pandemic, when most shops were shut, he continued to work tirelessly to support local people not only by supplying items they needed but being there to have a chat with people. When we started providing arts and crafts packs to young parents and putting together welfare packs, he sourced suitable items for us in bulk. Lynn and Gary have continued with their generosity and donated nappies, sanitary items as well as arts and crafts materials.

"Neil was part of the community which he loved. He has left a big hole that can't be filled, he would help anyone who needed it.

He gave to this community as he knew what it was like to have nothing.

We as a family would like to say a massive thank you to the community for all their support we have received since his passing. We are delighted to collect this award in his memory".

Lynn Inman



THIS AND THAT

Ian Davidson is another local shop keeper who for years has always helped us and young people out. When we have young people in need, he makes a real effort to source affordable furniture and helped young people move house or collect and deliver larger items that we can't fit in the minibus. He also refers young people to us if he feels we can support them in some way. Even when he was unable to open during the pandemic, he would often pop by to see how we are doing.

"I am proud as punch to receive this award from PDYP and being part of helping local young people. We are in it together and having a business on Front Street isn't just about making money, it's important to help each other out for the benefit of local people".

Ian Davidson

FUNDERS AND BUSINESSES

Without funders and business supporting PDYP the service is not possible. The partnerships allow us to improve the lives of local young people and community we serve. During the Covid 19 crisis, without the flexible approach from funders (e.g., agreeing we could carry forward funding which we couldn't spend on activities) our work would have suffered. We have been overwhelmed by people's generosity this year and the additional funding we have received to support young people who have been affected by the pandemic. The support from North Tyneside Council's; Public Health, Mayor, Officers and Councillors with providing crisis grants to support food and fuel poverty for those affected by the pandemic was invaluable. We were also grateful to the Greggs Recovery Fund and Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland for the additional funding they awarded us as a result of the pandemic. Without all of this help local young people would have suffered greatly and our challenging situation would have been more stressful for our over stretched staff team .



PHOENIX DETACHED YOUTH PROJECT

Businesses continued to support us with acts of kindness and without them the Laptops with Love project would not have been possible or the Phoenix Construction scheme. We would also like to thank Gaynor from Tynemouth Morrisons and Trish from Poundland, Royal Quays who went out of their way to ensure we could bulk buy items for our welfare packs and food parcels and hampers.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported during a very challenging year. Support from a wide range of people and organisations made it possible for us to deliver the work on the ground, which was needed more than ever.

"The two-year grant from the Bowey Fund at the Community Foundation enabled Phoenix Detached Youth Project to play to its strengths of supporting young people on the Meadow Well Estate,

by engaging them in experiences which have broadened their horizons and challenged their personal perceptions. Through the Completing the Circle project, Mike and his team have created life-enhancing experiences for the young participants that have clearly made a positive impact at a crucial point in their formative years".

Su Legg, Senior Philanthropy, Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland

"The Joyce Trust is committed to supporting the building project at Phoenix. It's always rewarding to see how the young men develop personally and in their ability to gain employment".

Eileen Davidson, The Joyce Trust



WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT PHOENIX DYP



"In the last year the Phoenix Detached Youth Project have stayed true to their values, despite the huge challenge presented by COVID-19, and gone even further to deliver detached youth work and support their local community. The enthusiasm, creativity and dedication of the small team at Phoenix is truly inspiring and they continue to make a real difference to the lives of so many young people and their families. It's clear from reading this annual report that relationships with young people have continued to thrive, key projects have been delivered and yet PDYP have still managed to provide some fun during this particularly difficult year. My sincere thanks and appreciation to the whole team and I look forward to more partnership working in the coming year".

**Wendy Burke, Director of Public Health
North Tyneside**

"The PDYP youth workers /mentors, have a can do attitude to working with young people. The quality and level of attention they give to the trainees is of a high standard, with them educating and working with individuals on their weak points to prepare them for the workplace. They work with us as and value our strengths as an agency and partner, and work to develop effective relationships with Construction Training agencies and contactors/ companies to identify valuable work experience placements and training, for the trainees. This compliments the hand skills, functional skills and training we deliver".

Lynn Norris Programme Manager, Employment and Skills Learning Alliance N.T.C

"In the past twelve months two of our local schools Percy Main Primary School and Norham High School have been fortunate enough to work with the Phoenix Detached Youth Project on several projects which have delivered a range of positive and measurable benefits for our pupils.

There are too many projects to mention them all but during this horrible pandemic Phoenix Detached Youth Project was able to access funding for IT equipment which meant that every pupil at Norham High School received their own piece of IT equipment. This equipment allowed every pupil to access remote learning, homework and many other support services and supported by the hard work of teaching staff at Norham over 4,500 remote lessons were delivered. This would not have been possible without the support from Phoenix Detached Youth Project.

Phoenix Detached Youth Project work in a constructive, friendly, and innovative fashion and we look forward to working with them in the future for the benefit of our pupils, our schools, and our whole community. Well done to all". **David W Bavaird, Chair of Governors Percy Main Primary and Norham High Schools**

"The work of the Phoenix Detached Youth Project has never been more needed. They have remained active throughout the pandemic providing practical and emotional support to people whose lives have been severely impacted. From the delivery of outdoor youth sessions to the provision of essential food parcels and gas and electric top-ups, the work of the staff team has been incredible. The charity know what they do well, and they stick to it with great passion and determination".
Robin Fry, Chief Executive, VODA

"At home there has been a lot of stress, the PDYP have been so supportive, they have also been here if I need to rant, vent or give me advice. The Phoenix is like my backbone". **Young woman, 17**

"I can't thank you all enough for your support within the community and our family. Nothing is a bother to you all and always at the end of the phone. Lock down has been hard this last year with having to isolate but you all made it all fantastic and give the children something to look forward too. You all made Xmas and easter fantastic. Just to see kids' face's light up and the excitement seeing Santa and receiving gifts made it for me. Fantastic job you're all fanflamintastic". **Local parent**

"I wanted to share my thoughts re the support you have given to my son D over this last year, especially to Becky, Helen and Luke, where do I start? I have been impressed from the very beginning with your service offered to D, your commitment and dedication to continue to help and support D even in times of real difficulty for not only him but his whole family, you stuck with him, continued to listen, helped and advised wherever possible. D is a wonderful young man now of 18 who has had a lot of support through his life with his extra unbelievable addition to his wonderful self, autism, this is a tiny part of him that adds to his unbelievable personality and strength.

As his mother it is very rare to see and receive amazing support and for people to see the real D, your team clearly do and have skills that is very rarely seen, just wanted to thank you all again as it has meant a lot to D and myself, you have made a huge difference, keep doing what you do, being amazing" .

Regards, J and D

"Phoenix is class. They've helped with lots of things and my mental health has improved and improved. Thanks, Luke, Becky and Mike!" **J, 18 yrs**

"Becky, Luke and Mike always make time for me and if they can help with anything no matter how big or small it is they will". **E, 23 yrs**

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

National Lottery Community Fund
Tudor Trust
Alex & William de Winton Trust
Dept of Public Health, North Tyneside Council
Ron & Louise Bowey Fund
The Joyce Trust
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear
Northumberland
Greggs Foundation Recovery Fund
Red Brain Charity Set Up
Vinci Foundation
John D Endowment Fund
Joseph Brough Charitable Trust
Tyne and Wear Grassroots
Vital North Tyneside (Community First)
JP Morgan
Covid Crisis Fund, North Tyneside Council

Department for Work and Pensions
Covid Winter Grant
Groundwork UK, Bags of help
Active North Tyneside, North
Tyneside Council
Alex Lamb and family
Bow it Up
Carney Consultancy Ltd.
Churchill Community College
Chirton Lodge Residents, Anchor
Trust
Compass Developments
Elswick Lodge Trust
Engie
Greggs Foundation
Healthwatch North Tyneside
JTL Scaffolding

Krissie and Dave Tate
Land Digital
Little Blossoms Childcare
Newcastle Falcons
Neil Inman Fund (local community dona-
tions)
Norham High School
North East Access Training Ltd.
Percy Hedley Foundation
Tynemouth Decorators
Vinci Construction
White Knight Maintenance
WJR Financial Solutions

As well as individuals
from across our
Community



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