

Community Action Norwich

Trustees' Report

The Day Centre and Luncheon Club.

This past year has been one of consolidation and development of our dementia programmes. Duane Elkins is now firmly established as our Community Engagement Officer and he manages the work with older people. His energy and enthusiasm impacts the older people and creates an environment in which there is much laughter and a real sense of 'belonging' to a family, which is much appreciated by club members and their families. Duane has trained with Norwich City Council as a Dementia Champion and is now helping local schools and business to become dementia friendly. We have lots of testimony from families as to the impact and value of our work. The area of challenge we face is to keep numbers at 25 each day. Obviously with this age group there is constant through put because of changed circumstances as a result of illness, moves to alternative accommodation, and of course death. We continue to advertise locally, build relationships with local residential homes and keep our website updated. The four outings have been very successful especially the visit to the Norfolk Family Life Museum at Gressenhall.

The Children's Club

This club continues to be popular with the community and runs at capacity averaging 40 children each week. We focus on teaching the children social skills through the varied activities. We keep them moving in 15 minute slots to avoid unmanageable behaviour. Activities include story telling, singing, dance, craft, cooking and team games. We depend upon our volunteers from the community and the four young leaders who manage teams of 8/10 children each. During the summer holidays we ran an activities club at a local primary school in partnership with Norwich Foodbank. The aim was to focus on children who have free school meals and provide a 2 course cooked dinner for them during the holidays.

The Youth Club

We have 15 young people attending with an average weekly attendance of 8/10. All activities and 'chill out' times are about building relationships of trust and discussing issues that are relevant to them and their lifestyle.

Social Prescribing

We have piloted this programme for 9 months in partnership with the Tuckswood surgery. We have worked with 19 people referred to the scheme, our biggest challenge has been to get the doctors to buy in to the opportunity presented to them. The scheme has now been incorporated into the work of the Community Café, as well as at the surgery. Most of those using the café for this scheme are referred from other agencies or self - referrals.

Funding

I wish to express our sincere thanks to all our funders. Trusts which have given grants and individuals who have faithfully supported our work through regular monthly giving. We have secured continuation funding for three years from the Big Lottery. Thank you all for the trust you have placed in the work we do in this community. The biggest challenge we face is to bring all our projects to financial sustainability.