



Youth Development Service
Community-based and City-wide Youth Work

East Locality
(East and Park Areas Update April to June)

Good News Stories

The importance of being visible in our communities and working together;

While undertaking an outreach session, Danny (Youth Service) Jake and Neil (MESMAC) came across a young woman, L. (16yrs old) who was clearly upset and under the influence of alcohol. She was on Holderness Road in and out of traffic, a very dangerous situation. They managed to usher her off the road and spoke with her. She told them that her Nanna had thrown her out. She had then gone to her boyfriends and they had had an argument. This led her to get a bottle of wine from a local shop she also said she'd taken 'coke'. Aware of supporting the team and a young woman appropriately Danny contacted our locality lead Tina, who was able to give advice and contact and send two female workers to take over.

After advice from the Police they called the ambulance service who said that because she was talking to them and moving without distress they could not attend. The team contacted the emergency duty team (EDT) for advice. EDT would contact her Nanna and source accommodation if required.

The team took her to Maxlife which is a local youth project where they could continue the support for her. She was given something to eat and drink and further conversation about why she was so upset. EDT rang back having contacted the Nanna with the option of L. to go back to her Nannas or a friend. She decided that she was going to meet a friend so our workers, Karen and Sophie went with her. Staying with a friend was not possible and as Maxlife was closing they then took her to our Andrew Marvell Youth Centre to wait and see if EDT could source emergency accommodation. Meanwhile L. disclosed that her relationship with her boyfriend was not great and in fact she stated that she was treated very poorly and sometimes violently by him which prompted a call to the Police who then attended to take an initial statement.

The time was now 11pm and our workers took L to the emergency placement which EDT had sourced.

Sophie visited L the next day and has worked with her, social care and her placement to enable L to feel a little settled and re-build the relationship with Nanna. Sophie has introduced her to Kingston youth centre and helped her become more

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aware of the broader support and activities provided by the Service. Sophie will remain a key worker for her in the short term so that she can engage productively with her nanna, placement, social worker and the service.

The social worker from EDT sent this email recognising the work which was undertaken;

I just wanted to contact you about your youth worker, Sophie, I am afraid I don't know her last name but believe she is attached to the Marvell Youth Centre.

Sophie came into contact with a young person who had recently become known to social services, L. Sophie and her colleague stayed with L. all evening on Tuesday 30th May whilst she spoke to the Police then took her to the supported lodgings carer identified for her, I understand this was gone 11pm. Sophie had also made contact with L. the following day, the concessionary day when she was not scheduled to be at work and continued to offer support.

Sophie and her colleague have gone beyond what was expected in supporting L, they have responded to her needs and genuinely cared about her, regardless of the no doubt imposition it placed on themselves, sacrificing their own time.

I just felt compelled to pass on my appreciation for the work they have done.

(Name supplied)

Social Worker

Emergency Duty Team

East Hull Harriers link

Another young person joined East Hull Harriers back in March – Together with the other two who joined in January all three continue to attend regular training sessions at both East Park on Kneeshaw Park with the support of a Youth Worker? East Hull Harrier and East Hull Harrier Coach. They have also entered several races including East Hull Harriers Junior East Park race and a track and field event at Costello (placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in 3000m). All three are also participating in Parkrun and have all brought their times done significantly over the last few weeks. The young man who joined in March has identified that his involvement in running is having a positive impact on his mental wellbeing (he has also been receiving 121 supports from the youth worker).

They are currently preparing to complete a sponsored run-on 9th July to raise funds towards the AMYC Flamingo Land trip over the summer holidays. Future training plans also includes entering the Hull Marathon as a relay team in September.

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Training with other young people has also enabled them to form new friendships.

Within these new friendships the young people are arranging their own social training runs and bike rides to Hornsea.

Sleep easy fundraising

As part of the YMCA Sleep easy five young people from the youth centre took part in the event within the grounds of Andrew Marvell Youth Centre, building a shelter out of cardboard and sleeping rough for the evening, during the evening discussions took place with young people about homelessness and its impact. It was a very cold night and the young people did well raising a total of £287 for the charity.

Humber Night Challenge Presentation

Young people from the youth centre attend a presentation to celebrate their achievement in completion of the Humber night challenge walk. All of them received a voucher and a certificate for their efforts and socialised with other groups and walking supervisors which was very positive. They also gained an insight into other activities and events that young people can take part in that Humberside Police organise.

University of Hull Student Placement

Our Hull University student has recently successfully completed her 6-month placement with east locality team. She had proved a real asset to the centre and has built some fantastic professional relationships with both staff and young people. Alongside bringing her pre-existing skills to the role she has also been able to grow and develop further skills in youth work often supporting vulnerable young people in group and 121 situations.

As a result of her commitment and capabilities she has been successful in securing casual work as a youth worker and coach with Maxlife Youth Project over the summer holidays

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Targeted Youth Work

Turn 2 us & 121 support

The team have restarted the Turn2us sessions delivering in Archbishop Sentamu Academy, Malet Lambert school and The Marvell College. We are there to provide a listening ear and raise awareness of the local youth work offer and provide an increased awareness of opportunities and support. It has been positive to be back in the schools seeing old faces and making new relations, this has led to an increase in requests for 121 support taking place at these schools.

Smile programme

The young people who had been referred to Smile were identified as having low self-esteem and confidence, difficulties making and keeping friends and not knowing how to express themselves and talk about their feelings.

The Smile sessions have focussed on these areas and helping them to build their resilience has been part of every session. At the start and end of each session staff reflect with the young people about what they have done and how they have used what they have learned in their lives outside of the sessions and what they are doing to improve their emotional wellbeing. We also ask them to do a self-care task that they might not normally do and this has given the young people the understanding that they can be responsible for their own happiness.

The sessions have been interactive and have been planned specifically around their interests. Successful sessions have included;

- Working together as a team to cooking a meal– “A Recipe for Friendship”
- Decorating a cake based on the important people in your life – promoting discussion around how these people are our support network and help us through when life is a struggle.
- A drama session exploring:

Understanding feelings,

Knowing how feelings affect our bodies

Expressing and communicating feelings in different ways

Being able to label a feeling

Expressing empathy for others

Creating a power suit that shows their strengths

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Wilberforce College drop-in

Lunch time drop in going very well, in partnership with MESMAC and Maxlife. Young people can access free condoms and sexual health info and support as well as find advice and guidance going on in the local area. Young people gaining an increased awareness of opportunities and support.

A Young man who to attend the youth centre prior to covid came across us in the college and has since returned taking part in two sessions a week (Mix and Match and Let's Get Creative) at the club. The Young man returned remembering members from when he attended which helped, too as he doesn't have many friends and is from quite a vulnerable background. The Young man is also very creative with weaving and origami and actively shares his skills with other young people who are really interested in it.

Young Carers

A member of the Young Carers took part in the East Hull harriers Junior Fun run on 10th May. This was her first involvement in such an event, and she thoroughly enjoyed it and proudly brought her medal to show to the group the following week.

Over recent weeks young people have been making their own meals (smoothies, healthy breakfast snacks, mini pizzas, etc) at the start of sessions. Young people have expressed how they have enjoyed trying foods they have never eaten before (blueberries, seed, spinach, etc) and have liked how the recipes are simple enough to repeat at home. These weekly meals have been implemented following a request from the group who stated that they particularly enjoy the social aspect of being able to sit around the table together and chat about their week.

The members of the group recently worked collaboratively to write a poem about what it means to be a young carer. This was for Young Carers Awareness week and has been posted on our social media sites as part of the campaign.

Summer plans – Young Carers have two trips booked in for the school holidays. Hollywood Bowl on 28th July and Let Loose on 1st September. These are being funded by a recent successful grant application to the Young Carers panel.

Recently two new young people have joined the group.

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Universal Youth Work

Easter Review

Young people asked if we could do easter egg hunts for them over the Easter holiday, so we arranged four in week one for our groups. As a team we looked at the best way to do this in a simple, efficient and fair way as none of us really had any idea where to start, young people had to solve puzzles and challenges to get their eggs, we also provided arts and crafts and baked cornflake nests with mini eggs on (and they were delicious) this was another positive example of the impact of young people's voice and influence..

Youth workers continued our partnership supporting the Marvell College with the school holiday club, young people were based in the youth centre and enjoyed the support and activities on offer including the healthy lunches.

Four young people took part in a local 5 a side football tournament at Soccer Sensations on 26th April. This was organised by our university student on placement as part of her objectives. Young people participated in two training sessions prior to the tournament. All those who took part played with passion and commitment and did a fine job of representing AMYC. The team got knocked out during the play offs, but this didn't dent their enthusiasm and they are keen to take part in future tournaments (potentially in the summer holidays).

Due to popular demand, we arranged another trip to Gravity. 20 young people from across all our sessions attended and really enjoyed it and this has been included in the summer programme along with other excursions.

An Ice skating trip on the last day of the easter break was a fun way to complete a busy time.

Monday Madness

Sessions have continued to be well attended increased recently with pre-existing members introducing their friends to the session. Arts and craft continue to be popular along with team games and multi sports activities outdoors.

Stepping Up (After School Club)

Again, the session is well attended, it is specifically targeted to school years 7 and 8. Young people are building positive relationships with staff and learning to resolve issues including recently working as a team to establish ground rules for expectations of behaviour and engagement within the centre whilst taking part in range of art, sports, and centre-based activities such as pool etc. Young people confidence has increased engaging with the positive activities.

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A parent asked for youth work support for her son as he had started to hang around with an older group of boys, been lying and stealing from her and had been grounded. She trusted us to intervene and speak with him about her fears as she was aware of the positive impact youth work has had on her son in the past. As a team we are now collectively supporting the situation, the young man realised he had done wrong and doesn't want to hang with the older boys, which is positive. The young man also realised there can be consequences for actions.

Mix And Match session

A core group of 15–24-year-olds participate every week enjoying an array youth work support, activities such as pool, boxing, arts, and games. Young people enjoy sports too and requested a basketball hoop and other equipment which we were able to purchase and use.

One young man who attends regularly and has been coming to the youth centre on and off for years. He is currently struggling with his anxiety due to some social media rumour and messages. We have been able to put support in place and reduce his anxiety. As a result Internet safety has been a focus of our work with young people ensuring they know about privacy settings on social media.

Let's Get Creative

Young people have explored their creativity and taking part in drama workshops, creating artwork to display around the centre, making most of the good weather and playing small sided games. Some of this art work can be see on our social media pages.

Next Steps Group

A young man continues to access this focused session for support with job applications. He recently completed several applications which led to invites to interview he awaits a reply. This session will move to a Friday in August and will include an invitation to year 11 school leavers providing a much needed support session specifically for them helping them in their next move to further education, training or apprenticeships.

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Keep Smiling

This is a core group of young people transitioning over from the Smile group work sessions. It continues the help they receive. These sessions offer a quieter environment that allows staff to provide more focused support to young people (who would struggle in a more busy/ active session). Young people continue to influence the activities on offer and plan their programme with the youth work team.

Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) session

Part of the last few months has included a focus on expedition. We have undertaken many activities linked to the skills needed, these have included fire safety, respect and awareness of the country code, quizzes, developing a kit list, meal preparation and a competition to see which groups could erect their tent the quickest and most accurately. The group has grown in participants over those last few weeks and this has enabled further team building exercises. They have all worked together and continued tasks which have enabled the garden to be developed into a bright colourful space in which young people are enjoying and spending time in.

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