

Project		Family engagement and opportunity project	
Lead delivery partner		Sure Start Children's Centre/Warsop	
Theme	Adult and Family learning Reducing barriers to training and engagement	Priority	Training and development
Activity	Training and personal development opportunities	Budget code	£2,412.58
Project outcomes (from SLA) Improved knowledge and skills Improved life opportunities			
Reporting period dates	December 2018- April 2019	Nr and age of people benefiting from the project during the reporting period	139 attending Easter Disco Outreach approx. 25 families at Stay and Play sessions Transport etc. 4 families Childcare 10 families

Introduction

This covers the period December 31st 2018 – April 1st 2019

This quarter has seen the demands of essential service delivery versus staff on leave, maternity leave or long term sick. Other team members from the Children's Centre have been moved to cover other sites and yet we have still tried to maintain a normal service and provide interventions in Warsop areas or locally for Warsop parents. It is important to recognise the benefits of Big Warsop Funding and the enhancements it provides.

The funding allowed different kinds of engagement interventions for parents and their families locally including support for women experiencing abusive relationships or survivors of Domestic Abuse. It helped support parents to attend Freedom programmes (D.V.) and especially courses to improve skills and future employability.

Staff observed a parent in a previous parenting programmes and ways she didn't appear to stay on subject but she is now receptive to attend the course and stay. Parents were valuable support to others and helped other families through difficult times.

Family Support feedback:

Even though an emotional course, this new information now made sense and parents understood the effects on the child. They now understand how D.V. affects the child and parents recognised they would not be a victim of this (*healthier choices for future partners*).

Comment from a parent:

I wouldn't be able to access this course without the funding (*and shared her gratitude for transport and return to Big Warsop*).

Parents travelled from Warsop to attend the sessions run at Mansfield Woodhouse Children's Centre and provided mobility (taxis and bus fares) for parents dropping children off at school and then having to travel for the course to start at 9.30am and return before school pick up times. The funding also provided an additional crèche worker on two courses (Freedom/Women's Aid. and Sleep tight) so no one was declined a place.

We recognise how difficult life can be when children have a sleep issue. Our aim is to support families to get a better night's sleep by offering workshops, clinics and written materials. We use a behavioural approach to sleep and work in partnership with families as many do ask for this intervention. It is essential to realise the strong partnership working with Women's Aid, Family Action, trained project workers and the Big Warsop project.

The funding helped provide childcare for parents to attend parenting, adult learning courses and childcare to reduce barriers to them moving on with their lives. Parents completed evaluations and commented:

'I think the programme's really good and has helped my family a lot. I wouldn't have been able to attend without the crèche facility.'

'My son is now in his own bed. This wouldn't of happened if I was unable to attend the course because of no crèche'

'...because there was crèche available I was able to attend and now I am more confident to instil a routine.'

The funding supported an agency worker for eleven weeks at Meden Vale Bungalow to provide services, assist and to help parents and local children. The centre was going to be taken over by other services but their start date, once again, has been prolonged. Without the funding, the sessions wouldn't have run so well and meet the needs of local families in a rural community. The sessions have also signposted parents to other support projects running from the Methodist Church.

Engagement sessions

The funding, along with other shared pots of funding, has contributed towards Volunteer engagement at local level to run the Easter Party, supported by the community development worker. Around 139 people attended this event at the Black Market and involved a disco, party, food and fundraising too (tombola's and raffles). The event allowed intergenerational family attendance and retain old traditions and legacies from "pit party" days,

Engagement opportunities are an essential support mechanism for families to receive additional information and support and link to services still within the Children's Centre remit or wider community opportunities. One less confident parent was supported to collect items and raffle prizes for the Easter Party and now talks about how successful this was and her achievements.

They also provide community empowerment and engagement opportunities, personal development and also the satisfaction of seeing a successful project being led and enjoyed by others. Parents took on this event by planning publicity

These have now led parents onto opening their own bank account and deposit approximately £160 from ticket sales and fundraising.

Comments from people at the Easter Party:

The Easter party has been lovely, everyone involved has made such an effort for our children, thank you.

M (child) has gained a new experience, made new friends and every time she attends an event like this her confidence grows.

Well done to all parent volunteers, another successful party, there was something for all ages.

Really great event, really well organised and good fun.