

Big Warsop Monitoring and Feedback Report

<i>Please liaise with the Big Warsop Communications Officer when completing your reports in order for us to help you with your reporting.</i>					
Project Name		Warsop and Meden Vale Freedom Centres			
Organisation Name		Freedom Community Project			
Theme(s)	Strengthening the Community	Empowering People	Supporting People	Improving the Environment	Having things to do
Target Outcomes					
Insert Project outcomes (from SLA)					
<p>We are expecting to see approximately 70 people per week between both centres. One of our main areas of support is one to one care for people who are struggling with multiple issues. These issues could range from benefit problems, low self-esteem, debt all the way to homelessness, drug and alcohol addiction and mental health issues. The service is run by a trained team who helps and supports individuals through their problems and life changing journey. The key focus of the team is to walk with people through each issue with the desire for them to manage their own lives.</p> <p>All of these services will be offered to initiate change for those marginalised and socially excluded, within Warsop and Meden Vale. These changes will help build self-esteem, improve self-respect and increase personal worth where less people will be reliant on food parcels with more people being financially capable. The larger impact of this service within the greater community will be a reduction in homelessness, a decrease in crime rate and an even greater sense of community well-being.</p> <p>Some of the key guiding points of the Freedom Community Project is that every activity we are involved in will be free to the people who use the services, so will benefit the local people living within the Parish of Warsop and Meden Vale, particularly those on the fringe of society who feel marginalised and socially isolated.</p> <p>From our Warsop and Meden Vale centres we will provide social events throughout the year for people and families on a low income. These events bring families together and offers them a break from their normal routine and reduces their social isolation.</p> <p>The centres will offer two grants opportunities for people, the first is an electrical grant which is awarded to people if they cannot gain a loan from the Credit Union to buy essential items like a cooker or a fridge. The second is a clothing grant which allows people to access free clothes from our Charity Shop.</p> <p>The centres will also provide a Financial Conduct Authority Regulated Debt Advice Service for anyone who needs help with financial issues. This service is run by our fully qualified Money Advisor who supports individuals on a one to one basis through their problems.</p>					

Reporting period	Date From:	25 April 2019	Date To:	2 March 2020
<p>1. Activities undertaken during reporting period <i>Tell us what you have done and how well things have gone. Include any issues carried over from previous report, activities carried out and any base line monitoring. Please attach photographs, quotes, good news stories etc.</i></p> <hr/> <p>We have held weekly café's at both the Warsop Centre and the Meden Vale Centre.</p> <p>The attendance at both Warsop and Meden Vale has improved since last year; the attendance at Warsop is around 15 people and Meden Vale around 15 people. We expect this number to increase throughout this year as people in each village hears of who we are and what we do. Meden Vale has become known in the village particularly since the beginning of January when 4 people from Meden Vale joined the café team as volunteers.</p> <p>Warsop</p> <p>Since 25 April 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33 different individuals/families have accessed the support offered. • 21 individuals/families have returned for support other than the reason they first came. <p>Other people come to the café not for individual support but to avoid social isolation.</p> <p>Meden Vale</p> <p>Since 25 April 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 different individuals/families have accessed the support offered. • 21 individuals/families have returned for support other than the reason they first came. <p>Other people come to the café not for individual support but to avoid social isolation. One gentleman said he was getting so depressed at home not talking and mixing with other people due to financial constraints. He was overwhelmed that he now has somewhere he can go and socialise. He said it is making a big difference to his mental health.</p>				
<p>2. Target Outcomes the project has contributed to <i>Tell us the difference your activity has made in relation to the participants, the local area and the SLA outcomes.</i></p> <hr/> <p>Support that has been given to participants:</p> <p>Benefits checks; people knowing what benefits they are entitled to and how to apply.</p>				

Benefit applications; supporting individuals with making paper applications for disability benefits (some of whom have been awarded the benefit). Applying for Universal Credit online. Contacting the DWP with individual present.

Support with utility bills, Winter Fuel Payment and Big Difference (Severn Trent) applications made and rewarded.

Council Housing applications

Housing support around environmental issues.

Furniture/white goods, applications made to the furniture project for low cost furniture and white goods, items were delivered to the families who would not otherwise have afforded to purchase them.

Social inclusion/isolation, different people have accessed the café's who would not otherwise be able to go to a café due to affordability. They have come on their own, with their partners or with their children. Everything is free and all who come feel equal. We have a small amount of toys at of the centres for the children to play with.

Debt, supporting people to work their way out of debt.

IT support, supporting people who are computer illiterate or do not have internet access to pay bills online, access utility comparison sites, applying for Universal Credit and updating their details, other benefit applications including State Pension etc.

Fines, help understanding letters re: fines and what they to do next.

Food Parcels, giving individuals and families access to food during a time of hardship.

Drugs support, information given to a mother about an organisation that helps families (after contacting the organisation her son is on a journey to recover from the addiction).

Counselling referral to the Freedom Community qualified counsellors.

3. Timescales/Participant Numbers

Is project on track both in terms of timescales and the number of participants? If not what are you planning to do to address the issues? What activity was taking place when you started the project and how has this changed/increased/improved in quality?

We are still currently below numbers expected at the Centres for using the café's. However, the amount of people who attend continues to increase.

We continue to promote the café on Social Media, leafleting and posters in community areas (shops, schools, etc).

We continue to raise awareness within other community groups, of what we offer, where and when. We have good links with outside agencies in particular the Childrens Centre.

There has been an increase in volunteers at Meden Vale. One of which came through the centre initially for support.

Plans for next reporting period

What are you going to do next?

Are there any concerns/risks to the project you need support with? What are you looking forward to?

- Continue to advertise the free café and support offered in the local area.

The Meden Vale Methodist Church was at risk of closing however this church is now going to remain open.

The Warsop Methodist Church is going to close and so we will need to find new premises when this happens. All premises we use are provided to us free of charge which may cause an issue as we seek to move to another building.

We are becoming known as a place where we offer support and a place to feel safe, without judgement or prejudice.

Project Budget (is the project still on track in terms of costs?)

Do you have any concerns that you will not be able to deliver you project as intended?

The project is financially on track. We have no reasons to be concerned.