# East Riding Voluntary Action Services (ERVAS)



**Evaluation Report** 











#### **Project Summary**



Volunteen Hull was a project run by ERVAS. It aimed to help young people aged 10 to 18 in Hull to increase their life skills. It introduced them to new and enjoyable social activities, including volunteering, work experience and social action projects.

Over the space of this 12 month project we have engaged with **498** young people, **13** of these young people have been referred to the project for 1 to 1 support.

We have currently awarded **47** young people with certificates of recognition for their volunteering and social action work, reaching a combined total of **2285** volunteering hours carried out.

## **Activities and Outcomes**



What we planned	What we achieved
Support young people aged 10 - 18, to take part in volunteering and social action opportunities.	Through the Volunteen Hull project we have engaged with a range of young people, encouraging them to take part in volunteering and social action opportunities.

As part of the project we have worked with a number of different organisations (listed on next page) and their young people to highlight the importance of volunteering and youth social action, and what impact this can have on their community.

We have engaged with these groups of young people, to start discussions about the types of projects that they may wish to undertake. We have supported two of these to complete a project over the year.

#### **Organisations Engaged**

- Anlaby Park Methodist Church Youth Club
- Tigers Trust
- Kids
- HeadStart Hull
- Feast in the East
- Targeted Youth Support
- Step Out
- East Riding College

- Marfleet Community Centre
- Air Cadets
- HYJS
- Humberside Police Missing Persons Team, Edge of Care & Early Intervention
- Emma Hardy MP CYP
   Mental Health Information
   Event

### **Activities and Outcomes**

volunteering roles.



## What we planned Engage with 50 young people on a 1:1 basis, to support them with taking part in a social action projects or in What we achieved We have worked with 13 young people on a 1:1 basis that have been referred into the project for direct support with

Over the space of the project we have also engaged with **26** young people that were attending various groups within the city, including Kids, HeadStart and Step Out, to encourage them to take up further social action and volunteering opportunities outside their organisation.

Of the **13** young people directly referred into the project, **8** of these were from the Humberside Police missing persons team. We have been able to track the progress of 5 of these young people through the number of reduced missing episodes.

finding volunteering opportunities.

## **Activities and Outcomes**



What we planned	What we achieved
Engage with 100 young people to raise awareness of general volunteering activities and highlight its importance.	Over the space of the project we have engaged with 498 young people in total.

We have held talks and ran information stands at various events across the city, including the Tigers Trust NCS Pitch Events, Wyke College Next Steps Events, and the CYP Mental Health Information Event run by Emma Hardy MP.





What we planned	What we achieved
Generate and support young people to take part in social action activities.	As part of this we have had discussions with young people about activities available in the city.
	47 young people have been provided with volunteering recognition certificates totalling 2285 volunteer hours undertaken.

As part of the project we have undertaken some youth outreach work to identify the need for opening a youth hub in the centre of Hull. Through this we spoke with **64** young people about the activities they are involved in, as well as if they are taking part in any volunteering work or would be interested to in the future.

From this research the young people we spoke with represented each area of Hull fairly evenly and were only a few who were passing through from the East Riding. The most popular types of activities young people told us they would like to see more of included, games, arts clubs and places where they could learn new skills such as cooking.

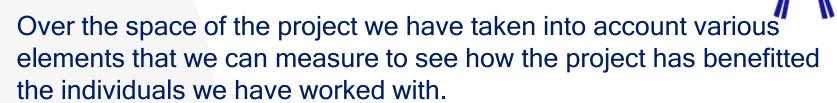
#### The Difference



Through the Volunteen Hull project, we have worked with young people who were identified as being more vulnerable and, or requiring additional support. As part of our project we have increased their participation in various positive social action activities, education and volunteering. Through the project we have also increased aspirations, challenged behaviors and raised awareness of the possible risks young people may face. We have done this in the following ways:

- Providing support to young people on a 1:1 basis
- Encouraged community social action projects such as the Graffiti Arts Bus and the Stereotyping campaign
- Undertaking youth outreach/consultation work to inform and develop a future sustainable volunteen project

#### What we measured



This has included the following:

- The number of missing episodes a young person has had since working with us, this information can be seen in the case study from the missing persons team. (page 17).
- Number of total young people involved we have measured the number of young people we have worked with, against those set out in the initial application. We have exceeded this figure by 398 young people.
- Number of volunteering hours we have measured impact by the number of volunteering hours young people have put in since working with the project. This was a total of 2285 hours.

#### What's worked well



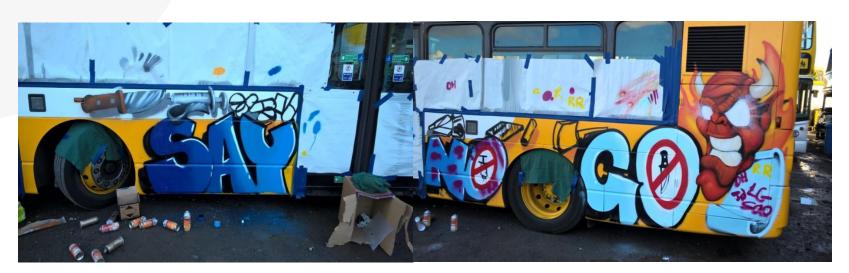
Over the length of the project we have delivered various activities including the following:

- A Graffiti Art Project with Ellie Rose Travel
- A Stereotyping campaign with HeadStart
- A WisER programme with East Riding College
- Youth Outreach Consultation to develop a youth opportunities hub in the city

#### **Graffiti Art Project**



As part of the Volunteen Hull project we worked with the Humberside Police Early Intervention Team (Hull) to deliver a graffiti arts project to 5 young people over the October half term break. As part of the project we had discussions with the group about the effects of drug use and knife crime. On the day the group came up with ideas of messages that would prevent other young people to engage with these activities.



### **Stereotyping Campaign**



Over the past few months we have been working with the HeadStart Hull Project on a campaign that is focused on stereotypes. The aims of this project are to raise awareness of the stereotyping that takes place towards the following groups of people; young people the LGBTQ+ community, those suffering from mental ill health, those with disabilities, Individuals who are labelled as chavs, Travellers / Gypsies & Refugees / Asylum Seekers.

The group have plans to continue their work by carrying out the following:

- Holding a launch event including workshops covering various stereotyping topics
- Provide regular mini awareness raising events over the course of the project with specific themes e.g. hate crime, LGBTQ+ issues, disabilities, gypsies/travellers and asylum seekers
- Generate a series of posters that reflect 7 different stereotypes and people's perceptions of these
- Creating a leaflet and matching website that contains information about the 7 different stereotypes and links to the various help services that are available for those that are affected
- Creating downloadable workshop/activity packages that can be made available to organisations for use within training/classroom environments

#### **WisER**



We have delivered the WisER programme, which provides information about the role of the police, bullying and cyberbullying, drugs and substance abuse, healthy relationships, and a First Aid qualification to a group attending East Riding college in Beverley.

Whilst delivering this programme we identified 4 young people as being from Hull. We supported this group of young people to plan and deliver a campaign that raises awareness of male mental health. The group decided they would like to create an impactful musical rap to raise awareness of the issues young males face.

## Youth Outreach Consultation



As part of the Volunteen (Hull) project we carried out some youth outreach consultation work to identify the need for opening a youth hub in the centre of Hull. As part of this we asked a series of questions to young people in the Interchange area as well as those taking part in activities with other organisations in the centre. As part of the survey we spoke with **64** young people, who at the time of the survey most stated that they would like to attend a new youth club activity, gain life skills and have somewhere to 'chill out'.

From this research we have put together a funding bid to Children in Need to provide a virtual opportunities hub, where young people can gain support from outreach staff, as well as gain information about volunteering and social action and a range of various topics 24/7.

### **Future Improvements**



Over the space of the project we have had some great conversations with other organisations and have developed relationships that will support the work into the future.

We have however faced some difficulties with receiving referrals for young people in a timely manner. Despite having heavily advertised the project throughout the year, we had a low uptake on the 1 to 1 support element of the project, which evidenced that there was not as high a demand for this type of intervention as we thought. However, towards the end of the project, (in January 2019) we received an influx of 1:1 referrals, due to the information being promoted to the Neighbourhood Policing Teams via the Early Intervention Team. Unfortunately we did not have the capacity to work with all referrals received as the project was coming to an end in March 2019.

#### **Case Studies**



The next few pages look at the case studies of young people we have supported through the project, including the following:

- Humberside Police Missing Persons Team
- Young Person 1
- Young Person 2
- HeadStart

# Humberside Police Missing Persons Team



DC 0320 Mandy PRECIOUS from the Humberside Police Missing persons team has provided us with the following statement for the project:

Below are the names of the referrals that I have submitted to ERVAS - I have documented the missing episodes in total and the missing episodes since the referrals. With the exception of \*YP5\* whom I believe does not engage with any services I think that ERVAS referrals have had very positive effect on the young persons.

Name	Date referred	Total Missing	Total Missing Since referral
*YP1*	22/06/18	44 (since 15/09/17)	14 (last missing 22/10/18)
*YP2*	16/08/18	16 (since 04/08/17	3
*YP3*	14/10/18	05 (since 20/08/18)	1 (last missing 15/10/18)
*YP4*	23/10/18	15 (since 15/09/16)	1 (last missing 02/02/19)
*YP5*	26/09/18	27 (since 15/02/17)	22
*YP6*	23/10/18	27 (since 28/11/16)	6 (last missing 05/11/18)

I have total confidence in referring any young person to ERVAS and sing your praises in any multi agency meeting that I attend.

DC 0320 Mandy PRECIOUS - Missing Persons Co-ordinator

#### **Young Person 1**



This young person was referred into the project by the missing person's team. At the time of the referral he was involved with the Hull Youth Justice Service and having regular missing episodes. When we met with him shortly after the referral was made, it was also apparent that he was not fully engaging with school as he had recently been excluded for a week. As part of the work with him we have supported him to gain a placement at Motivation Training for 3 days per week, this is currently being paid for by the pupil premium that is available to him. Due to the age he has started with Motivation, it is hoped that he will be able to gain a full qualification up to level 3 in motor vehicle studies; this was something that he was passionate about, and he had told us that in the future his goal is to run his own motorbike repair business. We have been informed that he is engaging well with the activities and is also still attending school to gain his Maths and English GCSE's too.

He has also taken part with the Graffiti Arts Project at the Ellie Rose Travel depo. He got involved in this project as he had an interest in graffiti art work. Whilst he was taking part in the project, he had discussions with another young person who was involved with the WiseUP! Project and from these conversations he showed an interest in taking part. He discussed with PCSO Allison Carter about taking part in a future programme with the Early Intervention Team and it was agreed that he could do this.

#### **Young Person 2**



This young person was referred to Volunteen by the Humberside Police Missing Persons Team to try to engage the young person and support her into more positive activities. This YP was a regular missing young person in Hull and there were CSE concerns as well as low confidence and self-esteem.

The YP lives with Mum, an older brother who has severe mental health issues, an older sister who has a toddler and is pregnant and a younger sister. The YP struggled being in the house and would often escape. The YP attended School but was heavily supported by the Link and not often in regular lessons.

Volunteen has worked intensively with the YP since September. School and social services have also been heavily involved with the support needed. The YP attended the Wise Up! programme run by the Early Intervention Team and with the support of Volunteen enrolled with the Army Cadets. With this intervention the young person's behaviour at school has improved and she is accessing mainstream education regularly and has not gone missing. She is a happier person with something to call her own, in addition Volunteen have secured funding for her from the Tribune Trust to cover the cost of the enrolment to the cadets, buy her some boots, provide transport each week and for her to go on the first cadet camp. Volunteen has also entered this person into the Humberside Police Night Challenge team.

#### **HeadStart Group**



Through the Volunteen Hull project, we have worked with a group of young people to support them with setting up a campaign about stereotypes. As part of this campaign the young people have identified 7 groups of people who are affected by negative stereotypes, which they would like to tackle and have put together a method to do this.

The campaign is fully run and designed by the group and as an organisation, Volunteen's role is to facilitate them to make the decisions themselves. Through this work we have been able to provide them with the staff time to do this, as it was something that other agencies were unable to fully commit to. We are working in partnership with HeadStart Hull, and their group of young people who are representative of different groups of young people across the city.

From this group, after having a talk from Daniel Fleming, the Communities Cohesion Officer from Humberside Police, one young person decided to start an application to become a police cadet and another has started to think about becoming a police officer when the next round of recruitment starts.

We have also supported one young person to apply for the Genesis Academy Summer Institute 2019, she is waiting to hear the result of her application, however more information is available here <a href="http://gatc.org/genesis-academy/">http://gatc.org/genesis-academy/</a>.

## **HeadStart Group (Cont.)**



"I used to have a bad image about asylum seekers but from coming to the stereotyping campaign meetings I've learnt that a lot of what people say about them isn't true and they don't have it better than we do. With our stereotyping campaign we can teach other people who think like I used to what life is really like for asylum seekers."

HeadStart Hull Volunteer, aged 16

"From my perspective, this is a great piece of partnership work and the group have thoroughly enjoyed working with you and Julie. It has been great for me to be able to take more a back seat with this campaign, so I can focus my energies on some of our other priorities, and have found your approach very empowering. You have really listened to what the young people want, have challenged them appropriately, in a way that feels safe, you have supported them to reach their own conclusions, and have given them the space to explore and discuss their ideas and opinions while keeping them focused on the task."

Clair Atherton - Participation & Co-Production Officer, HeadStart Hull