



ISLINGTON MILL FOUNDATION

What did you do?

We wanted to create a healthier, fairer, and greener Salford. With the creation of the container classroom, we hoped to give local people opportunities to connect with the natural world and each other, while enjoying a green oasis in the heart of the city with excellent facilities for learning about bees and beekeeping.

With this grant we were able to pay for a labourer, materials, and furniture to turn an old container unit into a comfortable, welcoming classroom. Thanks to a supplementary grant from The National Lottery, we have been able to procure and install excellent quality materials for the build, which will be less costly to maintain in future than cheaper alternatives. We have also been able to build a sheltered decking area outside the container.

The result has surpassed all expectation – both with the actual build and the way it has positively impacted the site and our activities.

Funding received

**BIG IDEAS
FUND -
GRANT OF
£10,000**

“This is definitely a space that improves mental health for sure. 😊”



What difference did it make?

The Container Classroom is now a permanent fixture at Bee Corner. It has improved the health and wellbeing of visitors and volunteers alike and will continue to do so for years to come.

What advice would you give to another group delivering a similar project?

Make your grant stretch by sourcing used and recycled items where possible, from eBay and Facebook Marketplace for example. Ask for donations. Also ask for discounts from suppliers. It might feel cheeky – but when you believe in your project, and show how passionate you are, others usually respond positively.

Many businesses are happy to support good causes – especially local ones, and we found that a sweet ‘thankyou’ in the form of a jar or two of honey went a long way!

What are your hopes for the future of your work?

This project paved the way for our charity to pursue a new Courtyard Garden project at the newly renovated Islington Mill – giving staff and volunteers the experience and confidence to fundraise and project manage going forward.

“It’s so tranquil...this place makes you forget about all life’s troubles – and just chill.”

“This is somewhere for thought and reflection, inspiration and challenge...it offers an opportunity to escape the busyness of our heads, and to just be. A truly valuable gift.”



THE ABILITY COOPERATIVE

What did you do?

With this grant, Ability Cooperative supported 24 service users with learning difficulties and/or autism to create a 'Cottage Garden' at the entrance of Prince's Park Garden Centre.

The planting reflected the historical links and wildlife of the area, which was a great learning to the services users. This included cross-leaved heath – a type of heather found on neighbouring Little Woollen Moss that is important for the conservation of the Large Heath Butterfly.

The service users also helped to create posters to put up on the site to educate visitors about the plants in the new garden.

Tom, PPGC horticulture specialist, said:

“The groups enjoyed working outside the boundaries of the usual garden centre, also looking at animal habitats and a range of wildlife.”

Funding received

GRANT OF £4,000

“I liked being outside of the centre and planting the plants.”
Mark



What difference did it make?

Participants developed their communication, horticulture, woodwork, and communication skills. Their confidence and general wellbeing also developed over the course of the project through spending time in nature, seeing the results of their hard work and hearing the feedback from visitors to the garden centre.

New plants, bird boxes and hedgehog boxes also helped create a more diverse habitat for wildlife at the garden centre.

What advice would you give to another group delivering a similar project?

Ability Cooperative feel it is important for their projects to be user-led and prioritise listening to the ideas and needs of their service users.

Regular breaks were important for this group of service users and the weather wasn't always on their side, so there were times when the work started and then the project had to be put on hold for a short while. This meant that initially it was hard to see the transformation however having a few motivated people in the group helped them rally the others and keep the momentum up.

“I enjoyed painting the pergola and the woodworking. I liked talking to the people passing about our work in the garden.”
Kris





SALFORD CITY OF SCHOOLS FA

We received a grant of £2,500 to purchase a defibrillator, cabinet and CPR training and to install the defibrillator and cabinet outside the community venue.

What did you do?

We purchased a defibrillator and cabinet, which has been installed on the exterior wall of our playing fields at Lower Broughton Road. Its location means that it can be used by any member of the public during a medical emergency. All coaching staff and committee members were offered the opportunity to partake in a registered CPR and defibrillator training session: 10 /12 were able to take advantage of this opportunity and have received certificates from the organisers.

Apart from social media the defibrillator award was also the centre piece of a recent BBC Christmas Star Award, which was broadcast on BBC Northwest Tonight a few nights before Christmas 2022. This involved the filming of the Defib being presented to our secretary of over 50 years, Mr Lol Duffy, by Deputy Leader of Salford Council, Mr Peter Openshaw. The event publicised the award of the defibrillator from Salford CVS as well as an award for Mr Duffy for his exceptional service to Salford School Sports.

Funding received

**GRANT OF
£2,500**

**THROUGH
SALFORD CVS'
DEFIBRILLATOR
FUND**





What difference did it make?

The acquisition of the defibrillator grant from Salford CVS has made a significant improvement in our ability to provide a safe environment for the children in our charge.

For over three years we have been trying to raise funds for the machine and the grant has enabled us to make an immediate purchase.

Some of the funds we raised have been reallocated to the establishment of our first girls' teams and to essential repairs to the roof and plumbing systems at Broughton Playing Fields.

The defibrillator has also enabled long-awaited contact with our near neighbours in Lower Broughton. We have now established a good relationship with the local Jewish community and have spoken about future enhancement to the area, as well as the long-term maintenance and security of the defibrillator.

“Finding the opportunity to apply for a grant through Salford CVS was a golden opportunity.” – John Peters, City of Salford Schools FA

Image: Harry Hackett (left) and John Peters (right), City of Salford Schools FA

‘(it) has made a significant improvement in our ability to provide a safe environment for the children in our charge.’





DEANS YOUTH CENTRE

Hate Crime Awareness sessions 2023

Date: 14th Feb 2023

Time: 6.30pm-8.30 pm

Age category: 11-12 years old

Session aim: For the children to come up with their messages to spread the idea of Hate Crime Awareness through a piece of art or music.

What did they do?

It was a very busy evening at the Deans Youth Centre as the particular session. I met with Matt Parry, Youth Worker for the year 6 youth group. He explained they are planning to conduct altogether six Hate Crime Awareness sessions with different youth groups throughout February. The children will come up with their ideas/ definitions of hate crimes after attending these sessions. These will be published via their social media so a wider audience can be reached and educated. Before starting the session the young people played - table football, dominos, painting and playing basketball outside. When the staff started preparing pizza for their dinner some kids also lent a hand. It was collective work indeed.

The **painting sessions** started by giving each kid a letter and the complete message of the letters were 'I work for Hate Crimes Awareness'.

In the **music session** the musician asked the kids to follow his clapping beats. Kids tried different instruments such as electric drums, different types of manual drums, bongos, and organs. They seemed to enjoy it. The musician then started to play some rhythm using a guitar and the kids followed him. The session went on for nearly 30-40 mins and they enjoyed their self-made (mostly) pizza for dinner.



SOUNDUP ARTS



Empowering people living with dementia

Founded by Lucy Temby in 2018, SoundUp Arts' mission is to empower people living with dementia and those who support them to build confidence and create meaningful connections through creative arts activities. The group deliver participatory music sessions in care homes that are specially designed to include people living with dementia.

What did you do?

During the third lockdown, many people that SoundUp connect with felt very isolated. All of the activities people living with dementia and their carers used to benefit from had stopped during the lockdown. SoundUp Arts wanted to put something in place to fill the gap.

The Wellbeing Fund grant was used to deliver 10 music-based creative and cognitive stimulation sessions via Zoom, for a group of Salford community participants with dementia or caring for a loved one with dementia (existing Age UK Salford service-users). Four SoundUp Artists were employed to perform live in two of the workshops across the series. The project also recruited young musicians as volunteers from Salford University, Pendleton Sixth Form College, and the Royal Northern College of Music. One or two volunteers were invited to each session. These young musicians received mentorship across the 10-week series from the project lead and music for dementia specialists.

Funding and support received

Wellbeing Fund (Round 3)



WELLBEING
FUND 2020



What difference did it make?

The project made an incredible difference to the Salford Age UK group who attended the 10 sessions. The participants gave such wonderful feedback, and reflected that every session provided respite, joy, a creative outlet, and companionship.

Participants were asked to describe their feelings in one word and it was such a great way, to sum up the session:

‘content, grateful, refreshed, good, fine, happy, buzzing, fandabidoz, thirsty, calm.’

Participants were also asked to send feedback and how they would rate various aspects of the session such as variety, SoundUp communication, the way the sessions were run, and whether they felt they had met people in the group. People generally reported they did. One participant said: ‘I really look forward to seeing you all each week, it gives me structure’.

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