



**Linden
House**

Young Person Support | Careers Advice



Spotlight Report

May 2023

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Young Persons Hub

The service swiftly commenced in Autumn 2021 with a variety of outreach and partnership networking within Bury St Edmunds. Utilising these findings and with additional engagement from local recipients of our PINK Orange service (household food poverty parcels) helped inform initial building requirements and modifications needed.

Linden House opened early 2022 and is today firmly recognised and regularly attended by Young People (YP) across West Suffolk. The 3 storey venue houses a variety of programmes and services that provide meaningful activities to help improve the life chances of vulnerable YP and their households that are most disconnected from society. Continuing provisions include 1:1 and drop-in mental health support, targeted youth groups/club activities supporting mainstream and

neurodiverse individuals (eg. fitness/gaming/outdoor/mindfulness) and personalised employability and careers assistance to YP and NEETS to proactively break the intergenerational cycle of unemployment that is synonymous within disadvantaged communities.

Last year, gaining traction and attendee trust remained the prime focus and positive outcomes achieved were bolstered by a number of additional in-house and community-based events (school outreach/podcasts/outdoor cinemas/open house), so that YP could be listened to and heard.

Adapting at pace due to the Cost of Living Crisis (CoLC) and with a new Hub Coordinator, 2023 has already seen many new essential provisions introduced

in a dignified manner, as YP and their families face additional critical challenges. From expanding the hub's discreet hygiene bank, through to setting up an in-house food bank with BME Suffolk to support our growing client base. With an increasing number of attendees (17%) showing signs of food insecurity, Linden House is proactively working with local supermarkets and grassroots partners to offer a hot meal to those in need when visiting.

Our NEET and Skills Connect employability/education projects have merged and rebranded as 'Link Up Services'. This has improved meaningful participation, efficiencies and positive outcomes by 11%, with YP believing in their self-worth and actively grasping opportunities following service engagement.

"I'm much more confident now. The Link Up team have helped with my CV, volunteer experience and i'm starting an apprenticeship next month"

Client 17SE



Young Person outcomes (Oct 21-April 23)



572

Overall positive
outcomes achieved
via services



47

YP Supported
through Holiday
Activity Food
programmes (HAF)



125

Successful
employment
outcomes



20

Average evening
attendance of
weekly youth club.



114

Individuals accessed
mental health
services
(24 presented in crisis)



12

Trained YP
community
volunteers



73

Clients supported
with essential food
parcels for their
families



13

Outreach and
community events
(Future Proof and
Pop up cinema)
Average attendance 34

Added Value includes:

960

Meals donated
to support food
poverty affecting
attendees

THE
**COUNTRY
FOOD
TRUST**

500

Items of formal
clothing to support
job interviews
and employment

M&S
EST. 1884

1xF/T

Skills Connect
employment coach
funding achieved
(Rebranded Link Up)





Summary

Linden House has embedded itself as a community based asset for YP. Strong relationships and results have been achieved with schools, DWP, grassroots groups and statutory partners. It has also collaborated with the local police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) to combat anti social behaviour.

Pathways to employment/training outcomes are building, although they are sadly hampered by the a greater than expected demand for crisis mental health support.

The Linden House team is activity driving positive change locally for Young People and their families.

Year 3 proposal

Rising energy costs, a drawdown on accrued earnings to recruit and train an additional experienced Young Persons Mental Health Worker and a lack of client/customer disposable income have impacted plans for an entire self fund of year 3. Charitable need continues to rapidly grow within the locality.

£30,000 Rent and Utilities
£28,750 Centre Coordinator
£28,750 Trained MH Worker
£10,000 P/T Youth Workers
£97,500



Young Persons Wellbeing Centre

Building on established outreach, phone and virtual support channels through Autumn / Winter 2022, the Junction officially launched in early 2023. The coproduced Wellbeing Hub transformed a long-term vacant town centre public house into a modern safe haven, that provides a growing spectrum of support and assistance for young people aged 8-25.

Our Mental Health Lead and team of multifaceted Youth Workers provide meaningful 1:1, group, workshop activities and walk-in sessions across the week.

Working in synergy with schools, grassroots community groups and statutory partners, the Junction has swiftly embedded itself as a trusted and much needed venture in Lowestoft, where both reactive and proactive assistance can be accessed with ease, empathy and positive change.

The service is productively evolving to meet local need by increasing its upper age range to 25, enhancing LGBTQ+ and Neurodiversity offerings and establishing a formal Youth Led Action group that will steer future provisions.

“So glad I found the Junction, I didnt know where to turn. I felt so low and alone. The team get me and have made me look at things differently. It’s early days, but knowing I have a voice and can talk without fear and judgement helps”

Client 16ED



Stats | Nov 22-April 23



127

Overall positive outcomes achieved via services



11

Average drop-in session attendees



24

Active clients with varying need.



7

Outreach awareness activities



18

Pipeline clients (awaiting allocation)



3

Successful employment outcomes

Recent added value

£30k

YOUTH MUSIC

Pilot project (Strike a Chord)

Exploring music for therapeutic benefit with Young People. Initial programme for 15 individuals with 33+ on waiting list.

204hrs

BBC Children in Need

Staffing hours

Place of Pride (PoP group)

Delivering group and 1:1 support for Young LGBTQI+ community.

£1k

Rotary

Rotary donation

Development of sensory area

The charitable community support provided by Linden House and
The Junction would not have been possible without dedicated support from:



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CHARITABLE FUND



SUFFOLK
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