



## Leicestershire Cares Quarterly Update

### Community Development and Safety Team Update – January 2019

Our Community Development work facilitates employee volunteering to support and strengthen community groups throughout Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

#### Last Quarter:

You raised £24,500 for the starter packs received by 18 charities in Leicester city and Leicestershire that support Homelessness. More interestingly is how much fun our businesses had fundraising and buying items for the project, the most interesting so far has been a member who raffled a day of annual leave!

Through your generosity we have been able to support an amazing 18 projects including hostels, foodbanks, homelessness action groups and housing projects.

Bedroom Packs– 106 distributed-Kitchen Packs– 84 distributed - Toiletry Packs – 282 distributed - Children’s Packs – 92

Our members supported 28 events across the city and county, ably aided by 166 employee volunteers from 18 of our member firms. That’s a whopping 830 hours of great volunteering. 18 community groups benefitted from your festive magic this year. These organisations support hundreds of people in our local community and we loved visiting your activities to take photos, chat to the volunteers, service users, guests and really get to see the impact you as our members have made in the local area.



#### Team Challenges

We can help tailor your perfect team day, no matter where you are based, how many in your team, indoor or outdoor we will find something that moulds to your area of interest. You and your volunteers can transform community buildings and outdoor spaces through practical activities. If you have a school or community that you are passionate about supporting, we can help you work with them also.



#### Social Challenges

Employee volunteers support service users of a range of community groups at organised sessions. We offer a range of opportunities with older people, BME groups, isolated, vulnerable and homeless, and adults with learning disabilities. Get in touch and we can help you get to know and work alongside service users and projects in your local area. Social challenges allow smaller number of volunteers to enjoy a unique and memorable experience.

#### Upcoming Available Challenges:



Easter crafts at Vista New Wycliffe, Centre Project, Saffron Acres, Age UK and The Sound Café – 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> of April – get in touch now to reserve your Social Challenge.



Environmental and Conservation team days across the county, get in touch now to reserve your Team Challenge.

## The WIRE Project

The WIRE project continues to enjoy success placing ex-offenders on work experience with a wide range of businesses across the city and county. This year we are aiming to place 60 people with local employers and based on past performance most of them will end up in full time work, back in Education and will stop offending. So a real “win win” for all.

We are excited that Thermo Fisher Scientific are now looking to work with the project. Demand for placements always outstrips supply **so we are keen to talk to members about how you can support the WIRE project by providing placements.** You will be surprised by the variety of talents we have waiting to be employed by you from white collar to creative, from manual to skilled labour we have lots of talented people wanting to get back into the workplace.



We have a breakfast event at the city hall on **Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> of February** which we are running with DWP, Leicester employment HUB and Police and crime commission to share the benefits for the business community of employing ex-offenders.

This article that appeared on the exceptionals blog and provides a good overview of our work:

<http://theexceptionals.org/blog/leicestershire-cares-the-wire-project>

The WIRE project was recently featured on BBC radio Leicester, where Amanda and Sam from AllTruck shared their experiences.

Starts at 1min 5secs: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p06xq4yk>



## Children and Young People Team Update – January 2019

Our Children and Young People Team works with young people, schools and businesses to ensure that all young people have the skills, support and opportunities to achieve their full potential.

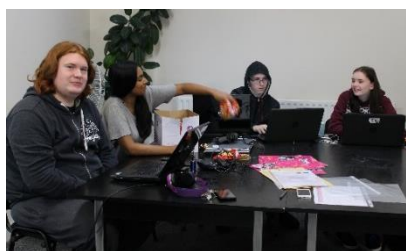
### Last Quarter:

We were very excited to welcome some new staff to the CYP Team. Charlotte joined as the head of the team, and Steph and John will be working with care experienced young people. Charlie is now leading our work with homeless young people, and Keisha and Simran joined to help with admin. You can find everyone's details on [our new website](#).

Over the last quarter our business volunteers have interviewed 718 students in schools across Leicester and Leicestershire by volunteering at the interview technique project events. This brings the total number of students covered since the start of the new school year (August 2018) to 950.

We've had some great successes in our work with unemployed young people. Gareth started a chef apprenticeship with Age UK while Martin entered part time employment with HMV. We had an excellent tour with Thermo Fisher, which helped young people learn about science, the impact it has on the world and roles that could make them a part of it. We also supported care experienced young people with employability and life admin skills and have been busy developing an independent living programme to help these young people gain the skills they need when leaving care.

### Upcoming opportunities to get involved



#### Employability activities with young people

- Help young people with CV writing, job applications and general life admin at our **Get Stuff Done sessions**, every Wednesday 12-3:30pm.
- **Work experience placements**, especially in areas such as IT, finance and admin.
- **Work tours** and/or workplace visits.
- Specific activities for **care experienced and homeless** young people.



#### Volunteering in schools

- **Interview Techniques** - carrying out mock interviews with Year 11 students.
- Delivering **Inspirational Talks** in assemblies, classes and small groups.
- Participating in **Industry Showcase Events** (e.g. careers fairs).
- **Work tours** and/or workplace visits for school age children.
- **Go for Reading** – one-to-one reading support in secondary schools.
- **Number Partners** – playing maths games with primary school children.

Upcoming dates (email [helen@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:helen@leicestershirecares.co.uk) for more details):



#### Lunchtime speaker sessions at Soar Valley community College

KS3 (ages 11-14) at 12.20pm:    KS4 (ages 14-16) at 1.20pm:

- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March
- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March



### Interview Techniques March – May

- 5<sup>th</sup> March 8.30-13.00 Sir Jonathan North Community College
- 5<sup>th</sup> March 13.15-15.00 Millgate School
- 6<sup>th</sup> March 8.45-13.00 King Edward VII Sport & Science College
- 13<sup>th</sup> March 8.45-13.00 Beaumont Leys School
- 28<sup>th</sup> March 8.45-13.30 Martin High School, Anstey
- 5<sup>th</sup> April 8.00-12.30 Madani Schools Federation
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May 8.15-12.00 Redmoor Academy
- 9<sup>th</sup> May 8.45-13.00 English Martyrs Catholic School

### **Key Dates:**

#### **March**

- **Champions Lunch - Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 at Tower Court 12PM – 2PM**

#### **May**

- **Leicestershire Cares Week- W/C Monday 13<sup>th</sup> of May events across the city and county**
- **Annual Awards and Celebration- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> of May at Winstanley House 5PM – 8PM**

#### **October**

- **Champions Lunch – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> of October venue TBC 12PM – 2PM**



**For further information please contact:**

#### **Community Development**

- Sarah- [sarah@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:sarah@leicestershirecares.co.uk)
- Raheema- [raheema@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:raheema@leicestershirecares.co.uk)
- Leona- [leona@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:leona@leicestershirecares.co.uk)

#### **Community Safety**

- Dennis- [dennis@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:dennis@leicestershirecares.co.uk)

### Children and Young People

- Charlotte- [CharlotteRT@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:CharlotteRT@leicestershirecares.co.uk)

### Care Leavers

- John- [john@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:john@leicestershirecares.co.uk)
- Steph- [steph@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:steph@leicestershirecares.co.uk)

### N.E.E.T (Not in Employment Education or Training)

- Ayesha- [ayesha@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:ayesha@leicestershirecares.co.uk)

### Homelessness

- Charlie- [charlie@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:charlie@leicestershirecares.co.uk)

### Become a member

- Kieran- [kieran@leicestershirecares.co.uk](mailto:kieran@leicestershirecares.co.uk)

