

# THE WEE HAVEN YOUTH PROJECT

### ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020-2021



### THE WHY PROJECT

C/O Whale Arts Agency, 30 Westburn Grove, Edinburgh, EH14 2SA info@thewhyproject.org.uk

Charity Number: SC049493

# **BACKGROUND**

The Wee Haven Youth Project was established in December 2018 and was recognised as a registered SCIO in July 2019. The organisation works with young people of high school age in the South West of Edinburgh through the delivery of open access youth work which incorporates the provision of hot food. Our service is based in areas of multiple deprivation and poverty, which has been further intensified through the on-going Covid-19 pandemic.

The organisation was founded by Kevin Brown and Sabrina Tickle, graduates of the BA in Community Education at The University of Edinburgh, both of who have extensive experience in youth work through direct youth work, senior management and governance. Both founders have lived experience of poverty and it was their positive experience of youth work which played a key role in the vision for The Wee Haven Youth Project. Our board of trustees is made up of a wide range of professionals from diverse backgrounds who bring with them a breadth of skills and experience in youth and community work, working in the third sector, being small business owners and having lived or professional experience of poverty. Like one of our founders, Kevin, some also went to school in the local area and have strong links to the community.

Our work is delivered though our 'Wee Havens' which are set up in local communities centres and spaces where there are existing gaps in senior youth work provision. We provide safe and accessible spaces for young people to engage in fun, educational and topical activities using a 'drop-in' format with a semi structured programme, which allows us to respond to issues directly impacting young people and their lives.



# CHAIRS REPORT

Well, I can hardly believe it has been a year already since we held our last AGM for The WHY Project and also a year since I stepped into the role of Chairperson – and what a year it has been.

This past year has seen The Why Project continue to support young people during the different stages of the pandemic, but also show great resilience in a time of uncertainty. The team have adapted to a new way of working and continue to embrace the opportunity to make great strides in working towards positioning ourselves as a key youth work organisation in South-West Edinburgh.

As I reflect over the highlights of the past year, I have quickly come to realise that I may need more than my allocated word count! There have been so many milestones on our journey so far and here are few that I would like to highlight.

In 20/21 The Why Project:

- Had 532 contacts with young people
- Delivered 47 hours of youth work (mainly outdoor sessions)
- Prepared and delivered Activity Packs for 15 families for 15 weeks
- Referred 10 families for food or financial support
- Generated £2000 from the Virtual Kiltwalk
- Had a total income of just over £46,000, a huge increase on the previous year.
- Were able to offer our Operations Manager an increase in hours to support the development of the organisation

All the achievements above would not be possible without the support of the fantastic staff team who are at the front line of delivery, the generosity of those who support us financially and the volunteers who give up their time to take part in the various fundraising activities that take place throughout the year. A special thanks too to the Board of Trustees who give up their time each month to meet and support the aims of The Why Project. To all our supporters we couldn't do it without out.

Finally, and probably most importantly thank you too to the young people who come along to groups and take part in summer projects. Your enthusiasm for the groups your attend inspires us, and for this we are grateful.

On that note, it's time to draw a line under 20/21 and look forward to 2022. There have already been some exciting movements, but like any good story, I'll leave you on a cliff hanger and you'll just need to come along to the 21/22 AGM (hopefully in person) to hear the outcome!



Mel

### FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Enter charity name below The WHY Project (The Wee Haven Youth Project) SC049493 Office of the Scottish Ch Receipts and payments accounts For the period from 2021 July 2020 30 June Section A Statement of receipts and payments Expendable Permanent Unrestricted Restricted **Total funds** Total funds last endowment endowment funds period funds current period funds funds A1 Receipts Donations 1,815 1,815 Legacies 33,252 33,252 Grants 10,006 10,006 Receipts from fundraising activities Gross trading receipts
Income from investments other than land and buildings Rents from land & buildings Gross receipts from other charitable activities
Furlough Payments (HMRC) 951 Refunds 173 A1 Sub total 33,252 12,945 46,198 A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales Proceeds from sale of fixed assets Proceeds from sale of investments

A2 Sub total 46,198 12.945 33.252 Total receipts A3 Payments Expenses for fundraising activities 546 546 Gross trading payments Investment management costs Payments relating directly to charitable 16,310 activities
Grants and donations 16,310 Governance costs Audit / independent examination Preparation of annual accounts 840 840 Legal costs Other 123 123 A3 Sub total 1,509 17,819 A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements Purchases of fixed assets Purchase of investments A4 Sub total 1.509 17.819 Total payments Net receipts / (payments) 11,436 A5 Transfers to / (from) funds Surplus / (deficit) for year 11,436 33,252 28,379

### **KEY POINTS**

- Overall annual income £46, 198
- £10, 006 from fundraising activities (including; Kiltwalk)
- £1,815 from individual donations

# YOUTH WORK

As we commenced our second year at The WHY Project we were in the midst of the Covid pandemic, with restrictions on the use of indoor spaces, numbers of people mixing and the need to track and trace our usual way of working was no longer relevant. Like many youth organisations, the need and demand continued with evidence both formal and anecdotal telling us that young people were being adversely affected by the lockdown we had to adapt our services and quickly. Our groups moved outdoors in all weathers, we made activity packs for distribution, provided one to one support and acted directly to support families in need, as well as signposting for the longer term.

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#### **OUTDOOR YOUTH GROUPS**

August 2020 saw the start of our partnership with Street Soccer. Together we began delivering outdoor youth groups on a weekly basis in Clovenstone and Saughton, providing safe spaces for young people to access fun activities including arts and crafts football, hot food and have support from trusted adults. Despite many challenges including adverse weather, lighting and limits on numbers our dedicated team persevered and succeeded in creating a programme that young people came to enjoy and rely on, so much so that despite making the move indoors we are looking to continue our work with Street Soccer in the future.

#### **ACTIVITY PACKS**

In early 2021 as Scotland was in it's 2nd lockdown in the middle of winter, public mood was particularly low. Young people were growing anxious about the possibility that they might have to live long term with restrictions. To help alleviate boredom and maintain regular contact to 'check in' with the young people we work with, the youth work team created activity packs. These included various activities such as slime, cake decorating and quizzes. Our staff delivered these every week and were able to catch up with young people, their families and help out with additional support where required, as well as maintaining relationships and having a general catch up. The activity packs were well received and after a few attempts at on-line youth work, we ended up with a WhatsApp group where people would share their activities, ask auestions, countdown to delivery and keep in touch with one another.



# STAFF TEAM



**KEVIN BROWN** Co-Founder



SINA RAMANN



SABRINA TICKLE Co-Founder



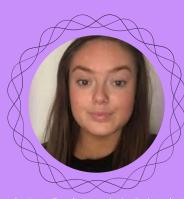
**ROBYN RAIKER** Youth Worker



KIRSTY MADEN Youth Worker



CALLUM SYMINGTON Trainee Youth Worker



ABIGAIL MCNAB Youth Worker



JORDAN MCCROSSAN Youth Worker

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



CLARE GIBSON
Chair Person



DARCEY BLAIR
Vice Chair Person



LUKE CAMPBELL
Secretary



SINITA POTIWAL Board Trustee



BOBBY NWANZE Board Trustee



DANIELLE CAMPBELL
Board Trustee

### FUNDERS & SUPPORTERS

### **FUNDERS**

Cashback for Communities
Youthlink Scotland
South West Partnership
Corra
LAYC
Tesco
One City



We would like to say a huge thank you to all our funders and supporters. As well as everyone listed here, there are so many people that turn up to our events, support and sponsor our activities, share our social media & keep us going

### **INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS**

Suzanne Cummings, Adele Gordon,
Mark Burt, Darren Priestley
Amanda Aird, Sean Mackay,
David Hay, Natasha Noble, Luke Campbell
Christina Boyle, David Tickle, Gareth Baxter,
Laura Lawson, Paul Wilson,
Simon Thomson, John Notman, Nicola Thorpe,
Stuart Elder, Angela McCrae

