Youth Action Wiltshire

A guide to our award-winning programmes and services
On the occasion of our 70th anniversary, Youth Action Wiltshire is seeking your support to ensure we can continue to improve the lives of the young people of Wiltshire and support them to reach their full potential.

Formed in 1948, Youth Action Wiltshire (YAW) operates as the national award-winning ‘Youth Arm’ of registered charity Community First.

www.youthactionwiltshire.org

YAW spends approximately £530,000 per annum and benefits from an additional £20,000 of in kind activity from partners. YAW currently employs 8 full time staff, 4 part time youth leaders and 8 sessional youth workers.

Our funding breakdown includes 10% derived from our fundraising activities and events, 70% from Grant Giving trusts and the National Lottery, with less than 20% derived from statutory sources such as our Local Authority and the European Social Fund.

Wiltshire Young Carers Service

Keeping young carers safe in their caring roles and equipping them for their future. We offer, initial needs assessments, action planning and reviews, key work support, mentoring, respite activities, transition support, non-formal learning programmes and advocacy.

Established in 1998 as one of the first young carers support projects in the country, we currently have 540 open young carers cases. In 2018 we will provide over 1,000 places on age appropriate activities and breaks for a minimum of 170 young carers aged from 5 – 18 years, advocacy with schools and colleges to aid engagement, attainment and successful transition for 88 young carers and individual mentoring for 35 young carers to help them overcome the challenges they face due to their carer roles. Last year following our interventions, 97% of young carers we supported felt safer in their caring role, and 86% reported increased skills and improved health and wellbeing.

Employability Programmes

Supporting young people who are NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training), or at risk of becoming NEET to overcome barriers and progress. Initiated in 2008 to meet growing local need, our alternative learning and support programmes have received back to back ‘Outstanding’ inspection report grading’s. In 2018 we will provide individualised support, volunteering opportunities, practical and personal skill developmental activities and accredited learning programmes for a minimum for 50 young people. Last year following our ‘Inspire’ interventions, 87% of young people gained qualifications recognising their skill development and 74% of young people leaving our project, did so to a place in EET (Education, Employment or Training).
Splash

Providing positive activity programmes for young people facing ‘challenges in their lives’, which increase confidence, self-esteem and skills.

Formed in 1989 to help young people avoid anti-social behaviour, Splash now supports young people with special educational needs or disabilities, on child protection plans, in care, at risk of anti-social behaviour, victims/witnesses of crime or from families facing bereavement, substance misuse, breakdown or financial hardship.

In 2018 we will provide over 900 places on a wide range of positive activities, delivered throughout the school holiday periods for a minimum of 220 young people aged between 9 – 16 years who are ‘facing challenges in their lives’, and mentoring for 10% of the overall cohort, identified as most in need of intensive support. Last year following our interventions, 96% of young people accessing Splash reported increased self-esteem and confidence; 98% reported increased skills; 86% were happier and 82% reported improved health.

Youth Club Support

From 1948 we have been supporting the development of new youth clubs and working with youth and young leaders to ensure Wiltshire’s voluntary youth clubs are safe, interesting places to be.

In 2018 we will provide wide ranging support for a minimum of 65 youth clubs, training for 150 youth and young leaders and involve 1,000 + young people in volunteering projects, our youth club arts and adventure sports programmes.

Last year 120 youth leaders, and 48 young leaders completed our accredited training courses, 7 new youth clubs were supported through their set up and more than £50,000 was raised to sustain individual youth clubs.
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