

Big Local SW11 Alliance Covid-19 Community Support Fund

Funded Projects

World Heart Beat

Through the support of the Big Local SW11 Covid-19 Battersea Community Support Fund World Heart Beat has been able to provide 1:1 online music tuition and coaching to 19 young people aged 5-17 from Battersea, with 75% from BAME backgrounds. Students, including six young people from Providence House Youth Club, are being provided with tuition in instruments including violin, piano, guitar, cello, flute, tabla, drums and vocal coaching, with several being taught multiple instruments. World Heart Beat.



Their teachers have seen remarkable progress with their learning despite the challenges of remote teaching. At the same time this project and World Heart Beat's wider online activity has helped to combat feelings of loneliness, specifically giving the young people World Heart Beat works with a sense of purpose during an uncertain time and where their wider education may be on hold.



Some of the young musicians supported through the project feature as part of World Heart Beat's Lockdown video and on Providence House's YES radio show: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9c4sz2QYbfA> and <https://soundcloud.com/user-250778137-9165377/05-06-20-8pm-creative-minds-radio-show-v2>

Quotes:

"I've noticed such a significant improvement in my young musicians. My guitarists are killing it, my singers are belting!" Sian Kelly, World Heart Beat alumni and teacher @Sian_Kelly_UK

"The online lessons have been really great. It has helped my kids not to forget what they were taught before the lockdown, considering they are quite new to playing musical instruments. They are getting better and gaining more knowledge. They are really enjoying the lessons." Parent of two Battersea students

Thank you once again for Big Local's support of our Covid-19 activity.

Islamic Culture and Education Centre



With your support we have:

Phase 1

Our admin team collated a master database of all known contacts which had been built up over a number of years from different sources such as a youth centre members, Islamic school students and congregation prayers attendees. This list totaled over a 1000 numbers.

Phase 2

Our support team then worked through this database and contacted each individual to see what their situation was and if any support was required. Support programme included weekly food packs, medical costs and funeral costs. Alongside the calls we also ran a SMS campaign and posted information on our social media platforms (Facebook & Instagram). We then identified which families needed help and recorded who these families had been affected by COVID19 and what support was required for each household.

We learnt that single parent families were the hardest hit which resulted from either loss of income due to COVID19 and catching the virus and being unwell to work and support their families. The biggest success story was a family who dad was in intensive care at Kingston Hospital, we were supporting his wife and kids during the ordeal. Last week he was discharged and returned after 10 weeks.

We have supported a total of 18 families, 10 of which are active in getting our support through our weekly food pack programme

Phase 3

We branched out to the local care homes in Battersea, a local baker who attends our mosque baked cakes on behalf of the mosque and delivered them to Meadbank care home. we have a letter of thanks posted on our social media platform. No other care home requested any support.

St. John Bosco College

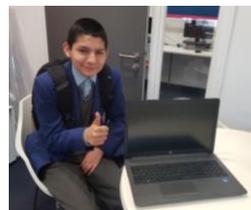


By enabling us to purchase laptops, The Covid-19 Community Support Fund enabled young people to continue with their education. Here are some testimonies:

Year 8 Student. "A laptop means I can catch up on my work. I am currently having one to one English, as I arrived in the

UK last year not speaking English. I am learning English and a laptop means I can access additional English lessons.

I want to be a vet and need to catch up on work that I didn't understand, but now I can do that over the summer holidays."



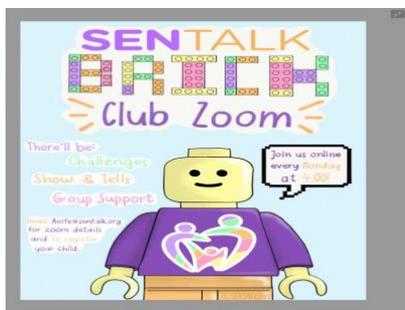
Year 10 Students. "We have been shielding due to medical conditions in the family. There are five of us, and we have been sharing our mum's phone. Mum struggles to provide for us, and we do not have a dad, we could only ever dream of having access to a laptop at home. We are really behind in our work. My brother wants to be a doctor and is aware he has missed large chunks of work



and needs to catch up. I'm still undecided about what I want to do but I do want to go to university."

Year 10 Student (no photo). This student is currently shielding due to her medical needs and has been unable to catch up on missed work. A laptop has given her the opportunity to complete tasks over the summer, so that she can hopefully be one step closer to her dream of being a social worker.

Year 10 Student (no photo). "There are seven children in my family. We all need to do school work. My mum has a very old laptop, which has to be plugged into the electricity all the time. But I am not able to open many of the power points. If one of my siblings gets annoyed, they pull out the power cable and I lose my work. I am falling behind the rest of my classmates. My mum cannot always afford to top of the electric key, so we can't leave it plugged in all the time."



Since receiving our grant from the Big Local SW11 Alliance we have been able to rapidly change the delivery of our services and digitalise our offer. We have been able to continue to support existing registered children and their families and meet the growing demand of new referrals. Our focus has been on supporting emerging needs due to isolation and supporting the social and emotional mental health of autistic children and children with ADHD and other social communication differences.

To date, we have delivered **100** children's sessions virtually to **43** children, offering a peer space for children four times a week through our Brick Club, Afterschool Clubs and Drop-in sessions.

The team have also been able to successfully support children most in need, like those currently misplaced from education or home-schooled or experiencing hardship by providing bespoke mentoring sessions, with a main focus on building self-esteem and helping children to overcome emotional barriers during COVID-19.



For families who for whatever reason preferred not to, or weren't able to join virtually, the Children's Team have designed and distributed **40** specialised resource packs for, each customized for each of our wonderful children with supports and aids to help with emotional regulation, mindfulness activities, and challenges to keep them going and keep them positive.

THURSDAY FILM MAKING 



Currently we are providing free essential supplies to a weekly average of 25 households. The make-up of these households' ranges from the very elderly, those who are shielded, essential front line staff both NHS and the police, and also several families in hardship with young children.



We also look after the council sheltered housing unit on the estate where there are 16 residential units – generally they receive the equivalent of four boxes

weekly. These are made up differently to better suit the particular needs of the residents. We supply between 7 and 10 boxes each week to other residents who are not in a position to do regular shopping but who are happy to pay for them. So in sum we are delivering an average of 30 free boxes a week to those residents most in need.



Our BLSW11 Alliance Covid-19 funded work is all about meeting the needs of the most vulnerable on our estate.

Most of the residents were called on the telephone to establish the situation and the needs of the residents. I knocked on the door of others, where I don't have the telephone number. They are all in good health, but the very vulnerable ones haven't left the house for the last 6 weeks and feel lethargic, due to lack of exercise. It was obvious that they were very happy to receive the call, as they were keen to talk for a while, since they were lonely. Some residents live alone, some live with their elderly partner and some were with the young family. There are 3 blocks, 3 maisonettes and 50 houses on the estate.



All door knocking and food deliveries were done by 5 volunteers, but not always the same people visited the same elderly over these 4 weeks. All volunteers wore the purchased face masks and protective gloves, whilst delivering food.

We have served 29 flats with 40 people all together. Some residents have other support. Some residents have enough food, but need regular fresh fruits, milk and bread delivery, but some have higher needs and need a full weekly shopping done for them, which is what we are doing. Some elderly have cancer, but their carers cannot come to help them, some are in a wheelchair and some are on the vulnerable adults list. Some families are overcrowded, such as a mother with 6 children in 3 bedroom flat.

We have also provided food for key workers whose children use our local schools.

Kambala Residents Association



As a result of your support we have been delivering bespoke food packs to varied residents that live alone isolated, with underlying health problems and unable to afford food or struggling to make ends meet (one parent families, children with SEN, mental health problems etc) so far we have sent out to 1,200 home cooked meals and desserts across the Winstanley and York Road Estates.



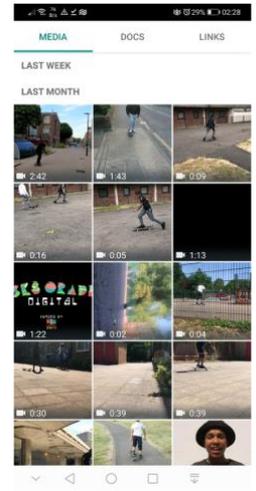
With 10 volunteers and working alongside other groups we provide an essential point of contact with the most vulnerable in our communities.

Since receiving the funding we set straight to planning with the tutors with regard to how we

will deliver the content and the best formats for the videos, tutorials and physical sessions once restrictions ease. We then moved to promoting our activity to the right organisations and people, we then made all of the pertinent purchases which has so far proved essential as it has created an efficient workflow for creating our tutorial content.

During the initial phase we had partnered with the Battersea CoronaVirus Angels to deliver approximately 9 boards along with pads and helmets, we also delivered over 12 items of equipment personally to our participants, in total we have 17-18 people in the group of which 13 live directly within SW11, we have loaned out over 25 items from our equipment cache among which over 13 skateboards.

Within our group in the first 2 weeks we found that our upload rate from the families was a little timid, but we still received a few videos from the group in the first week. I had inquired with the parents as to why the videos were not as many we would have hoped, most responded stating nerves and time being the main factors to slowing the upload rate. As an answer to this circumstance we have created some inspirational clips to excite the young people which have been very well received from both parents and the young people, interacting with the tutors on information surrounding the activities such as appropriate footwear, where to source good value equipment, instructions on how to perform tasks, peer interaction on the videos uploaded so far, peer support, interacting with new people and reducing isolation.



As a result of support from this fund Providence House has been able to create and produce 4 youth and community radio shows. The shows have been a continuation of a creative arts project working with local young people to develop their talents and skills and to have a public platform to showcase these. The lockdown has been challenging in a number

of ways for young people involved no longer being able to attend normal development sessions and losing the social interaction of the project. This funding not only allowed us to transition our workshops online successfully, supporting existing tutors and facilitators who would otherwise have lost their income, it has also enabled us to explore and successfully put in place ways of creating, producing and recording music with young people in lockdown.



Providing workshops online via zoom and supporting young people to create new songs and lyrics that reflect the current situation whilst bringing hope and a sense of appreciation for life and a coming together of community.



We have successfully broadcast 6 radio shows presented by a young 17 year old, incorporating interviews with children and young people, and poetry and songs written in lockdown. The shows include Keep Moving Forward – providing positive youth songs and encouragements, We'll meet again – focusing on VE day with a modern twist on coronavirus, We are family celebrating international families day, A tribute to sport – focusing on the loss of sport and physical activity, Come Together- exploring music

that has brought people together in the past and Creative Minds highlighting the importance of creativity and more youth creations in lockdown.

The project has opened many doors for the community to profile what is on offer for young people at this time and to host a Lockdown Youth Awards scheme which will involve celebrating youth achievements during this difficult time and continuing to showcase the talent and voice of local young people. All together we have represented over 50 young people within our shows including artists and musicians, local children and their parents, footballers, boxers and poets. All the shows can be listened to by visiting www.youth-battersea.co.uk

In addition to the groups presented here the BLSW11 Alliance Covid-19 Community Support Fund has also been awarded to Waste Not Want Not and Battersea Mutual Aid.