

Pro Forma for Participation Works Network for England regional case studies

Region: East of England	
Submitted by: Lucy Francklin Date of submission: 27 March 2009	
Please indicate which sector this case study is an example of:	
Voluntary sector activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Statutory sector activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corporate sector activity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (<i>please specify</i>)	
Please indicate which themes this case study can be used to support (<i>tick all that apply</i>):	
Arts & creativity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Early Years	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faith	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Governance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hard to reach groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth-led project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Inclusive practice	<input type="checkbox"/>
Learning & research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Measuring change	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online tools	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rights/citizenship	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safeguarding	<input type="checkbox"/>
Standards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Workforce development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name of project: West Anglia Crossroads Young Carers project	
Name of lead person on project: Lucy Francklin	
Contact information for further details: Lucy.franckin@youngcarershunts.org.uk 08452412125	
Aims of the project: The specific case study – ‘Hunts Youth Bank Teens Trips Project’ The aim for the young carers was to apply to the Hunts Youth Bank for funding and then organise and go on trips that would allow their friendship groups to grow.	
Timeline for the project (expected start and finish date, if known): July 08- present	
Who funded this project? Crossroads Young Carers Project funded the start of the project and then the young carers were successful in their application and their specific project is now funded by the Hunts Youth Bank.	

<p>How many young people were involved? 4 wrote the application and up to 50 have been further involved.</p>
<p>How were children & young people involved in decision-making? The young carers made all the decisions from what their funding application would be about to deciding as a larger group what activities they would like to do.</p>
<p>What changes has children & young people's involvement led to? Crossroads Young Carers Project has always endeavoured to be youth led and the involvement of young carers has always been paramount. Young carers took the lead on their choice of trips and application and this has underlined the importance of listening to young people and responding flexibly to their wishes.</p>
<p>What did children and young people involved in this work achieve from this experience? Young carers worked hard together as a team, they decided on what they wanted, wrote the application, attended an interview with the youth panel, were granted £10,000. They now as a group decide on trips and want to reapply for further funding.</p> <p>The strength of the young carers application was recognised at the recent Youth Service OSKARS where the young carers won the Youth Bank Application Award. A young carer attended the ceremony to receive the trophy.</p> <p>We believe that the young carers involved felt a great sense of achievement and we hope that all the young carers benefitting from the project have realised that they can make a change and a difference to their own lives. Evaluations of the project show many of the ECM outcomes are being achieved.</p>
<p>What next for the project? Crossroads Young Carers Project will still support this group. The young carers involved wish to reapply for funding and will decide on what they want to apply for.</p>
<p>What next for the participants? As above</p>
<p>Quotes from staff, management, children, parents/carers: Young Carer quotes after an ice skating trip:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "It gets young people to meet new friends, a chance to do things that we have not done before." • "Helps us to have activities in the half term." • "Allows young carers to get away and enjoy them selves." • "It makes you aware that you are not alone in the position and gives Young Carers and family's space." • "Allows YC's to have trips they can't afford." • "Gives us a break."

- “I think I broke my bum.”
- “Hilarious watching the guys fall over.”
- “Fun to try something new.”
- “Made lots of lovely new friends.”
- “Great place to get away.”

Staff quote:

“It is great to see young carers have choices and to see them decide what to do, it’s a great learning experience for them. We can’t change their lives and the caring roles they have at home but what our organisation does is give them a break and it’s only right that they choose how they want to spend that break.”

Participation Works wants to share your good practice to a wider audience to enable others to learn from your experience and develop their own participation practice.