

## TFN Impact Report

<b>Name of your Organisation:</b>	Drum Works CIC
<b>Date of TFN event which you pitched at?</b>	25/01/18
<b>Name of the project TFN funded:</b>	Drum Works with Lewisham LAC
<b>Were you able to undertake your project as you outlined in the application?</b>	Yes
<b>Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?</b>	<p>Project Leaders and Social Services staff both commented that they saw significant improvements in participants' confidence and social/interpersonal skills through this project. Specific examples of this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A young woman with learning needs and social anxiety who was extremely shy and reluctant to take part at first, even in a very small group, performed on stage to a public audience at the end of the year. This was a real achievement for her. She was very well supported and encouraged by the group, which helped to raise her confidence.</li> <li>- A young man was struggling to cope when he 'got things wrong' but by the end of the sessions he was supporting others who were struggling.</li> </ul> <p>Alongside improvements in confidence, we have also seen participants being more proactive and doing more for themselves, which is an indicator of increased self-efficacy. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A young man who had previously refused to take part in any group activities came to all of the sessions, travelling over an hour by bus to attend. He has since joined another club, demonstrating an increased confidence to try new things as well as a willingness to engage in a range of activities.</li> </ul> <p>Some of the relationships that developed through this project have been extremely valuable for participants' wellbeing. We were delighted to see some quite unexpected friendships spark up, such as a young lad of 11 with another of 17 who didn't speak much English. The children and young people supported each other on their journeys home, adding a level of responsibility, care and friendship. Connections were made across age, gender and language. One young person who had a lot going on at home including a school exclusion, issues with his birth family and an unsettled foster placement, made a very strong connection to one of the Drum Works team members, which supported him to engage fully with the project.</p> <p>Several participants commented that drumming made them feel 'energetic' and 'happy'/'good'. Other conclusions from the participants' evaluation forms are limited, as the majority of</p>

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	<p>participants ticked 'strongly agree' for everything we asked them at the start and end of the year (possibly because they thought that's what we wanted or expected, despite asking them to be honest!). With hindsight, we should have held a reflective conversation with the participants and if we are successful with fundraising for this project to continue we'll be using conversations as a means of gathering richer evaluation data from participants.</p> <p>Having obtained some additional funding (as detailed below), we were able to run a summer holiday project, pairing up with a spoken word artist who worked alongside the drummers. Participants were able to explore some quite personal feelings and experiences through words and music in a very flexible and creative space. Again, children who were extremely shy and withdrawn at the start (there were two who refused to enter the room for 45 minutes at the start of the first two sessions and required careful coaxing), were able to perform things they had created together to an audience by the end of the project, and were asking when the next sessions would be.</p>
<b>What portion of the project did TFN fund?</b>	70%
<b>How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?</b>	19
<b>How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?</b>	87
<b>Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?</b>	Yes
<b>If yes, how much were you able to raise and from whom?</b>	£3,800 from the Nick Alexander Memorial Trust. We are aiming to secure further funding to continue the project further too.
<b>Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?</b>	No
<b>How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?</b>	We wouldn't have been able to achieve our objectives without TFN funding.
<b>Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?</b>	We have started to increase the activity we deliver outside of the school environment. While our schools programme continues to be very successful and is a significant part of our programme, we recognise that some of the most vulnerable young people are unable to access our sessions in school. We have subsequently secured two substantial grants to launch community-based programmes in

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	Waltham Forest and Barking & Dagenham.
<b>Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?</b>	It was a very positive experience overall - the pitching training was useful and the event attendees were warm, welcoming and interested in our work. We enjoyed returning to perform at TFN's Christmas event at the end of the year.
<b>Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?</b>	<p>Personal stories (names abbreviated for confidentiality):</p> <p>D is 12, somewhat self-conscious and lacking fine motor skills. Although he was not naturally talented at drumming, he loved the experience and never gave up learning and trying, and he improved hugely across the duration of the project. Both the development of his motor skills and his new-found confidence to persevere are skills that will transfer to all areas of D's life. D also hugely benefited from meeting other young people in care and realising he was not alone in his situation.</p> <p>T is 17 and a UASC (unaccompanied asylum-seeking child) with limited English skills. When we met him he was suffering from social anxiety and rarely interacted with others outside the home. He had few friendships and would struggle to go to anything new. With support T was encouraged to attend the drumming group. Once there he was immediately at ease and enjoyed it from the first session. He attended all further sessions independently and enjoyed interacting with his peers and joking around. For T, taking part in a live performance to an audience was a huge achievement and something that he will remember forever. Since then, T's confidence is notably increased and he has been motivated to involve himself in more activities outside the home and take steps to move forward with his education. Social services staff believe that the impact of drumming was especially significant for T, and was a step towards him changing his approach to life.</p> <p>A note from a foster carer of one of the participants, written to Social Services:</p> <p>"I want to express my sincere gratitude to you and the Drum Works team for your commitment with the drumming. R (11) has enjoyed every session. His confidence has boosted. His motor skills have improved. He has become sociable and has made friends. He asks me on many occasions if he can continue drumming. I do hope you will continue next term."</p> <p>An email from a social worker for children who attended the summer holiday project:</p> <p>'Thank you for arranging this activity, my children really benefited from attending. It offered them an opportunity to do something very</p>

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	<p>different (they don't really do a lot outside of home or school) it also helped them to meet other young people in a similar situation to them. It was also good to get feedback about how their carer supported them as this was something we were worried about."</p>
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