

## TFN Impact Report

<b>Name of your Organisation:</b>	My Life Films
<b>Date of TFN event which you pitched at?</b>	23/05/18
<b>Name of the project TFN funded:</b>	Films for Dementia
<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>We originally applied for funding to create film packages for 4 people living with dementia, however, due to the great success of the event we were able to raise enough to work with 6 people instead.</p> <p>Impact assessments that we have from films completed show us that families have said the process of making the film made the Star feel 'calm', 'happy' and 'talkative'. Families have found that they 'reminisced more as a family', they 'found out new stories and photographs that they hadn't seen or heard before' and that 'there was an increased interest in the person and their life'.</p> <p>Families were 'very happy' with the final film package. For one Star they 'really responded to the Music, she waved her arms in the air and on occasions sung along with the words to individual songs'. For another family, they said 'Mum is very focused and asks many questions when the film is being shown...once the film starts she becomes engrossed in it'.</p> <p>The film packages have had a 'positive impact on the person's ability to communicate'. Impacting the relationship with care workers as they are able to use 'info gained by watching the film (to) offer Mum prompts to hold quite interesting chats', and also family members: 'I can have great conversation(s) with mum when the film is on. Otherwise she can be quiet and uninterested in her surroundings'.</p> <p>Whilst watching the films the Stars are 'calm', 'reassured', 'focused' and 'talkative'. The film package has helped the Star's 'deal with their low moods' and helped to 'reduce behaviour that has been challenging to manage'. The care worker for one of the Stars was quoted from her logbook saying: 'I sat down with (daughter) and watched a film about (star's) life story. It was excellent to watch and I would recommend that anyone who gets the chance to participate in this scheme should; and all patients going into care homes should have a short 5 minute film made about there life'.</p> <p>Below are more quotes from families we have worked with:</p> <p>"I enjoyed being involved with the making of the film and found Tulasi (the filmmaker) very personable and easy to talk to. I felt at ease with her approach and questions. It was nice to reflect on my relationship with (Star) and remember all the happy times."</p> <p>"Her family relationships have improved as all photos were brought together from different family members for the making of the film.</p>

## TFN Impact Report

	<p>There had been relationship issues but these have improved through the film making process.”</p> <p>“She will put the film on to cheer herself up.”</p> <p>“Dad seems more certain of who he is, where he came from and is proud of his achievements.”</p>
<b>What portion of the project did TFN fund?</b>	100%
<b>How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?</b>	6
<b>How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?</b>	At least 54
<b>Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?</b>	No
<b>Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?</b>	Yes
<b>If yes, please can you provide details of the support you received?</b>	After the event we received a number of useful introductions and we are looking to take them up going forward.
<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>	<p>Since presenting a TFN we have appointed the charity's first Executive Director, Andrew Webb. Andy will be leading the charity into the next stage of its development to grow its impact over the next few years. We have also appointed a full time Producer in Harry Jackman, who is managing the social enterprise side of the charity, raising money through commercial film production and supporting other small charities with marketing videos.</p> <p>We have also started to explore a hubs model of expanding our reach across the UK, beginning in Sandwell, Birmingham. We have partnered with local organisations Dementia Pathfinders and Agewell to support them with free film packages and this has gotten off to a promising start.</p> <p>We are also investigating the use of other technology to improve the lives of people living with dementia. We are designing an App that will allow people to create their own film, reaching thousands more people affected by dementia. And we are trialling the use of Virtual Reality as well. We have created a Virtual Reality 3D model of the</p>

## TFN Impact Report

	<p>house of someone with dementia, and we are keen to learn the ways that this may be used to support someone moving from their home into a care home.</p>
<p><b>Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?</b></p>	<p>The whole experience was really positive, we received lots of useful advice and support from others and in general we found everyone to be welcoming and helpful. Overall, we have had a very positive experience.</p>
<p><b>Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?</b></p>	<p>“Words cannot express how amazing the video is and what a difference it has made not just for my mum but actually for the whole family... My brothers and my father were so touched as well and are so appreciative.” – Sharna, Helen’s daughter.</p> <p>Helen has always been an active and energetic person, she loved socializing and was the life and soul of the party. Sadly, she was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease in September 2015, and her disease reduced her wellbeing and made her less socially active. She started experiencing low moods, where she felt anxious, sad, depressed, distressed, agitated, bored, frustrated, disorientated and confused.</p> <p>She was referred to My Life Films in the summer of 2018, and had the My Life Films package of a long film and short film made about her life story. The impact was hugely positive.</p> <p>“The whole process was perfection right to the delivery and production of the films... The filmmaker was lovely, a true gent... He was kind and patient and was comprehensive with his ideas and guidance the whole way”. Sharna, Helen’s daughter, picked all of the photographs and home video footage for the films, which the filmmaker “brought to life”. “Nick captured everything so perfectly and was so lovely to deal with. He was the perfect gentleman and made life so easy for us”. Helen chose her favourite music tracks and loved being interviewed and “having someone to listen to her stories”. The films have made Helen excited to share them with other people, “she feels important and very wanted in the knowledge that other people are interested in her life”.</p> <p>Recently, Helen’s condition has deteriorated and the film is becoming an important way to connect her to her happy memories and to be able to show to Helen’s care workers. They have watched the film with her and “they find more things to talk to her about in the film every time”. Sharna understands how this film can help people see who her mother really is: “It is so difficult to remember mum as she was sometimes and it is a really big struggle to deal with the every day heartache that comes with this awful illness. The video perfectly encapsulates her whole life and the person she once was.”</p>