

TFN Impact Report

Name of your Organisation:	SAFE! Support for Young People Affected by Crime
Name of the project TFN funded:	Parent Support Service
Date Funded by TFN:	18/05/2017
Were you able to undertake your project as planned?	No
If no, please outline how the project has changed.	We have been able to complete the project in part, and we have certainly achieved the aims of supporting parents in need. The funding was used entirely on providing one-to-one and group support for parents. However, the parent mentoring model was slower to initiate than anticipated and so has only recently really got going. We are fortunate to be able to continue this aspect of the project this year and consolidate the volunteering aspect of the programme.
Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?	<p>Funding from TFN has enabled SAFE! to significantly develop the parent support project, although it is still a work in progress, and we hope it will continue to grow. Since receiving the funding we have made steps towards the establishment of the parent mentoring model as well as significantly increasing our support to parents both one to one and in groups.</p> <p>The project was initially slow to get going as it proved more difficult than anticipated to recruit parents with sufficient time and the appropriate skills to become peer mentors. As an alternative, resource was put into providing additional support one-to-one to more parents in need whilst continuing to seek appropriate volunteers. Three parents have now been recruited and trained to provide peer mentoring support to other parents moving forward. This support has just started and will continue to build over the next few months. The three mentors are parents who have benefited from SAFE! support previously and are hoping to use their experiences and knowledge to give back.</p> <p>Through TFN funding we have been able to extend our offer of support to parents and have provided over 90 hours of support to 23 parents since the event in May 2017. SAFE! has also very recently set-up a second parent support group which is meeting monthly in Abingdon. 25 parents of young SAFE! clients were contacted and personally invited to join the peer support session. The first session is on Tuesday 10 April and is due to be attended by at least six parents. It will be co-facilitated by Janice, our parent support project worker, and three parent volunteer mentors. This group will continue to meet monthly.</p> <p>The work of building the parent support project has also helped with the development of partnership working with CAMHS HORIZON</p>

TFN Impact Report

	<p>service. The Parent Project Worker worked alongside this service to align our support for parents and offer an enhanced provision for those parents coming through their service. This relationship continues to build and inform the development of the project. Thanks, in part, to this project we have secured some additional funding to ensure that the parent support project can continue over the next twelve months, and the volunteer mentor model can consolidate and extend its reach.</p> <p>Feedback from parents who have been supported by SAFE! has been overwhelmingly positive. Parents have reported an increase in their ability to support their children with their experiences as well as improvements in their own wellbeing. It is clearly still early days for the parent mentoring model and we are developing bespoke evaluation tools to show impact and areas for improvement. However, we are extremely positive and excited about the next stage of the project, and hopeful that providing opportunities for volunteering will continue to enhance our provision.</p>
What portion of the project did TFN fund?	100%
How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	23 so far
How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	Approximately 50
Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?	Yes
If yes, how much were you able to raise?	A grant of £25,000 has been approved as a result in part of the work of the parent support project but I cannot yet release any more details.
Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?	No
How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?	We wouldn't have been able to achieve our objectives without TFN funding
Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?	No

TFN Impact Report

<p>Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?</p>	<p>Rachel's 14-year-old daughter was initially referred into SAFE! after experiencing emotional and sexual abuse from an older teenager. Sami received 12 sessions of one-to-one support from a Project Worker to help her to cope with her emotions following victimisation and move on from the harm. Towards the end of her daughter's support, Rachel asked if she could get some support to help her process the experience as she was finding it hard. SAFE! Parent Support Worker Janice went to meet Rachel and offer her some support one-to-one to help her develop strategies to support her daughter's recovery, but also to think about her own self-care. When asked for feedback, Rachel said</p> <p>“I truly believe that my daughter, myself and our family would not have got to the place we have now emotionally and psychologically without the support of SAFE. The knowledgeable, skilled and patient approach taken with Sami and the compassionate, expert and timely approach by Janice made me feel like somebody really 'got it', in terms of the distress and hurt caused by this traumatic situation. When we have needed further support due to Sami's ongoing vulnerability the response has been immediate and one of understanding and support.”</p> <p>A few months after her support had ended, Janice contacted Rachel again to ask if she would consider using her experience to help other parents in similar situations. Rachel agreed, and following guidance and support from Janice, she has supported SAFE! as a volunteer to develop the parent support programme. She has written top tips for professionals working with traumatised families, spoken at a conference, and given evidence to a local authority safeguarding review. She is also now supporting other parents through a new group for parents which has just started. Rachel feels that the opportunity to 'give something back' to other parents who have experienced trauma has helped her to come to terms with her own experiences.</p> <p>(names have been changed)</p>
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