

# ANNUAL REPORT

21/22



**North Manchester** Community Partnership

## ELCOMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS ANNUAL REPORT FOR 21/22



ongratulations.

## NORTH MANCHESTER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

### **RESPECT AWARD**

"NMCP AND JOHN CURTIN HAVE SHOWN RESPECT FOR THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITY BY HELPING AND SUPPORTING VARIOUS COHORTS OF LEARNERS WITH DIFFERENT NEEDS - GOING 'ABOVE AND BEYOND' IN TRYING TO SECURE BETTER WAYS TO SUPPORT SUCH COHORTS AND ENHANCE TEACHING AND TRAINING SO IT IS INCLUSIVE FOR ALL."

### NMCP & WELCOME CENTRE STAFF

openawards

With lockdown still causing disruption, the demand on our services showed no sign of slowing down. We started the year with the Census in full swing from Simpson Memorial Hall, coupled with a huge demand around EU settlement due to the fast-approaching deadline for applications.

By this time our sessions there had got quite established with the footfall increasing massively, and we experienced a noticeable rise in attendance from the African communities living in and around Moston.

The delivery of the health and wellbeing sessions along with offering work club/employment support really helped residents to try and get some normality back into their lives

We provided a Thursday morning session in No93 working with Big Life supporting the Foodbank, this led to being invited to start delivering the same type of sessions helping the parents at St Dunstan's and Lily Lane schools in Moston again working directly with Manchester foodbanks.

Our work with NHS Health development coordinators in M8, M9 and M40 wards and the North Manchester Inclusion group comprising of up to 40 members helped to maximize opportunities for our people to engage, through the collaboration of services.

We continued to support parents working with the Surestart outreach teams, finally got the go ahead to reboot the sessions in the housing office's in Cheetham Hill and Charlestown.

Our staff numbers increased with our volunteer Minaj being employed as an advisor, we also recruited Jade (DWP project) and Jilani to start volunteering from January at the Welcome Centre.

# CHAIR'S REPORT



This last year has been one of fantastic achievements, lots of disappointments but with a new found sense of connectivity with many of the small groups in North Manchester.

Our achievements over the year are to be seen in our Project Manager's report, as a Board we are still astonished at just how much work was done despite the Covid disruptions.

Our development plans for the year included focusing on our staff and volunteers was not as successful as we had hoped but has gained pace in the last quarter and is now back on track.

Our staff and continually expanding cohort of volunteers are a understanding bunch of people very committed to our work with local residents. They deserve all the support and informal/formal training and qualifications we can give them. This is a priority for the next year.

Whilst we have been successful in competing for funding for various small projects it has highlighted the need for a sustained core funding element that enables us to give time and energy to all the back office work, to release our Project Manager so time is available to manage - a luxury we can no longer do without. To this end we are planning a number of community events, indepth surveys, consultations about what really matters to the people who live in North Manchester. There will be a special focus on Moston/ Harpurhey, carrying on the work with Simpson Memorial Hall to become a community hub and opening new outreach venues in the North. We submitting applications to funders who offer longer term sustainable core funding by the Autumn.



On a lighter note I as individual and not the Chair carried on working with various groups on Gardening Projects, with The Shaw Centre (Adults with learning Disabilities) Great British Birdwatch, British Science Week and fun stuff that people enjoyed.

# **KEY OUTCOMES & ACHIEVEMENTS**



Our team successfully generated just under £135,000 of income throughout the reporting year. This came from a diverse range of funders to cover a whole host of activities and services. Being awarded a DWF Flexible Fund Award (51k) to support some of the most vulnerable of our residents this was scheduled to start in May, however due to further lockdown restrictions this was pegged back until June. We had a target of 280 people over 12 months to deliver Digital, ESOL, employment and accredited and non-accredited courses along with Health and Wellbeing

#### Activities

We were invited to be part of a test and trial working with Good Things Foundation and Open Awards around the new Essential Digital Skills Qualification (EDSQ) over the summer, and one of the Winner's at the Respect Awards in the Community 2021. NMCP also became part of the National Databank network and will be looking to add the device bank later in 2022.

We increased our support for our refugee communities in Manchester/Salford and we have seen a huge jump in footfall, support with not only Visa applications but further help with employment, Housing and welfare. Lockdown restrictions prevented us from spending all the funds from the Power to Change project which ran through the previous year and with this underspend NMCP got involved and contributed to the Community Connectors program which was being delivered by CAHN and funded by the NHS working with 10 small black led charities in North Manchester. Manchester City Council awarded us to carrying on supporting North Manchester residents around job search. Cv's and pre-employment courses along with finishing the advisors and Covid support funding where we also provided wellbeing and exercise sessions along with healthy eating, ESOL and fun

to-do activities when restrictions allowed.

Good Things Foundation increased the HMRC award to support even more residents along with further development and capacity building opportunities, also successful with the new CRF program, where we partnered with Wai Yin and Northwards housing to deliver digital skills and device training this week started in February and will run until end of June to support 70 residents

The Census, we were one of only 5 centres in Manchester who were successful and we set up Simpson Memorial Hall as a Census Hub where the public could access support to fill out the forms online, our work on this caught the attention of UKHSA and in December John was approached to take part in an 8 week program working with **Documented Migrants to** Understand the Impacts of **Covid across North** Manchester, we were successful with the bid and the project ran from January to March and we collaborated with 3 other charities to nationally produce the report

Through our membership of Salford CVS, we got invited to



upgrade our Cyber Security, John attended the training in February, and we were also awarded £2500 towards upgrading our office PC's and equipment.

Having achieved so much through the remaining uncertainty of further lockdowns throughout the year, our partnership with Wai Yin Society to deliver the DWP project through such adverse conditions was accredit to both Charities, supported so many residents to move forward, with digital skills, ESOL, employment support and Wellbeing activities.

#### Impacts

We have supported 3212 people, over the last 12 months, we have evidenced our ability to help people make real change in their lives through the following:

Through collecting feedback forms and questionnaires, our participants confirmed:

 1857 residents (57%) were supported with Universal credit claims/ Journal management

611 (19%) residents accessed Digital Device training/ online training/ Digital Upskilling
229 (7%) residents were supported with food parcels or help with ordering shopping online

912 (28.5%) residents were supported with council tax, housing, HMRC, Utility bills or other household issues
725 (22.6%) residents received support around employment including CV's, Job search and application forms.

• 486 (15.1%) residents received support relating to online Visa

or EU settlement applications

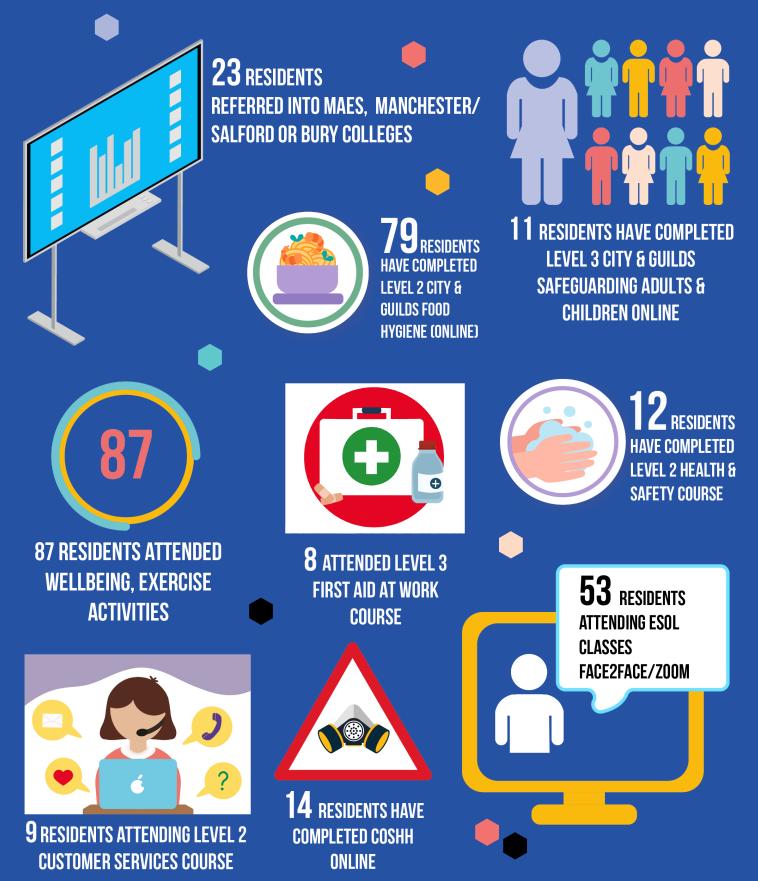
All participants welcomed the social aspect of attending with many meeting and making new friends.

### Social Legacy/ and Further impacts including:

 Social Cohesion across communities – bringing different ages, abilities, and cultures together in our services, we continue to contribute to improved social cohesion with diverse community members from various cultures participating in community activities Access to our services helped to reduced isolation and improved the health and wellbeing of participants through services such as IT classes, ESOL, exercise sessions and promotion of healthy eating.

## FACTS & FIGURES

WE ALSO SUCCESSFUL SUPPORTED 296 OF THESE RESIDENTS TO FURTHER THEMSELVES THROUGH A SERIES OF PRE- EMPLOYMENT COURSES AND WELLBEING ACTIVITIES



## FACTS & FIGURES

A FURTHUR 122 RESIDENTS SUPPORT INTO:



**21** RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED STARTING SELF-EMPLOYMENT (INCLUDING UTR NUMBER AND GUIDANCE ON SELF-ASSESSMENT)



**15** RESIDENTS SUPPORTED INTO VOLUNTEERING AND HELPED WITH FILLING VOLUNTEER FORMS

**47** RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED INTO P/T WORK (VARIOUS ROLES)



**39** RESIDENTS SUPPORTED INTO FULL TIME/ZERO HOURS

# LOOKING FORWARD



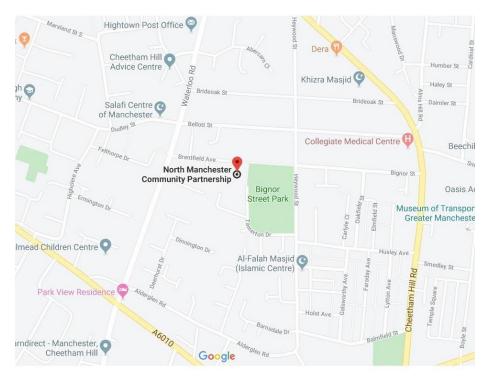
By the end of this report, we have started to increase our outreach venues, with the Digital Inclusion project working with Good Things Foundation and Northwards Housing. We are looking forward to beginning the coming twelve months with our new volunteer recruitment initiative planned for the summer, along with new collaborations with MCC Lets Get Digital team/ NHS Neighborhood HDC's, with work on the upcoming Africa Day celebration event already started.

Continuing further development of our work at the Simpson Memorial Hall The next year will continue to be full of many challenges – with many still recovering from the fallout and impact that the last 2 years has had on our work, the personal lives of staff, volunteers, and our people.

Chosen by Laing O'Rourke construction as one of 2 charities they will be supporting over the next 12 months with social value, digital classes, improvements to welcome centre.

We welcome the new collaborations as we plan for the year to come, with work to start on a Reaching Communities Bid to support our long-term vision.

# WHO IS NORTH MANCHESTER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP?



North Manchester Community Partnership started working with, seven like-minded community-based organizations, based in North Manchester. The partnership and its members work to help those in impoverished and deprived areas to become empowered and learn new skills, to gain employment and training opportunities and helps with the most basic of life skills.

#### We are a unique

collaboration of grassroots and larger third sector groups, housing associations, health services and family services. Our approach is community-led and has shown many benefits to the communities we serve. You can find out more about our service partners in our Partners section. In 2017, we were awarded Accredited Status with Open Awards, which allows us to deliver our own flexible courses. In the same year, we partnered with the Department of Work and Pensions to deliver contracts on their behalf.

Our work has also allowed us to be held as an example of "good practice" by the Good Things Foundation, who selected us as a Pathfinder Project for their Integrated Communities Innovation Fund application from the National Lottery.

The work we have provided since 2011 has also seen our work appear in academic research. In 2013, a research paper commissioned by Manchester City Council and the Sheffield Hallam University featured the Partnership as an example of community working.

### Where to find us and how to contact us:

Our Registered office is: The Welcome Centre, 18 – 32 Brentfield Avenue, Manchester, M8 0TW

Contact 0161 5134509/ 07712633654

Email: hello@nmcp.org.uk

Resident at:

Simpson Memorial Hall, 361 Moston Lane, Manchester, M40 9NB

Contact: 07307206013/ 07859795356

Website: nmcp.org.uk Twitter: @ncmp2017

Registered Charity No:1173945

Open Awards Accreditation: 61539

Disability Confident Committed: DCS015391 (Level 2)

Living Wage Provider Accreditation

# MASSIVE THANKS

To John and his team of staff and volunteers, who worked tirelessly throughout the year.

Our Board for their support, commitment, and endless patience

None of the above would have been possible without the support, advice, and critical thinking of the staff from the following groups and organizations, with Special Thanks to:

Wai Yin Society, Rainbow Haven, Salford CVS, Surestart Centre's North (all of you), Manchester City Council (Works & Skills), NHS HDC's and MCC North Neighborhood teams, Yes Manchester, CAHN, Simpson Memorial Hall, No93, North Inclusion Group, Community Futures, Northwards Housing and Salford Foodbank

## **FUNDERS**

Good Things Foundation
Manchester City Council
DWP
NHS
ESF
Power to change
Salford CVS
UKHSA
We are Digital
AMAZON

Accountant: Geoff Kwakye-Donkor The Hive Planthill road Manchester M9 6NP

We bank with: Lloyds Bank Lewisham High Street London SE13 6JG

