

IMPACT & OUTCOMES FROM GRANTS

Love Kingston presented each of the five projects with £2,470 in the first wave of Grants in May 2013. On 25th September 2013 we awarded a further £1,000 to each project. Here's how your donations have made a difference to the projects and the people they support.

Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness are using the grant to part-fund the position of an Outreach Worker who has been working on a tenancy sustainment programme, helping clients stay in their homes. The grant has also funded.....



Cook & Eat Programme

Giving advice on health eating



Job Club

4 clients have found work

Quote from a Job Club questionnaire:

"Without the help of KCAH, I would have not have had so much access to a phone and also free internet access to apply for jobs online. They also helped me to update my CV and were incredibly supportive. I could not afford a mobile phone for potential employers to contact me so KCAH gave me a pay-as-you-go. One time, they helped me with my travel fare to get to a job interview. I am now in full-time employment."



Hestia - The Butterfly Project is a group for survivors of domestic abuse. The Love Kingston grant has supported art therapy and a celebration breakfast for the group, along with an end of summer picnic. We have helped to fund essential welcome packs of toiletries, bedding, clothing and toys, school uniforms for the children, as well as affordable afterschool activities to help them integrate with their peer groups. Last year alone, Hestia supported 45 women and their children in the Kingston borough, along with a floating support service for a further 40 men and women.

Kingston Foodbank - Since its launch in November 2011 they have provided emergency food for over 5000 families. In recent months they have seen a doubling of demands - all of which is provided by food donated locally from schools, churches, businesses and individuals. They have used their grant to upgrade their out-dated IT system (they partner with over 110 front line agencies), help fund a post for one day a week to oversee the direction of Kingston Foodbank, and set up a regular communication with the stakeholders. Additional funds will help fund a support worker and enable Kingston Foodbank to open another collection point so that they can be open five days a week.

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Registered charity no. 1091263

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Kingston Savers have used their grant to focus on Norbiton – one of the more deprived areas in the Borough. Officer time is spent on generating and presenting a full training package and supporting volunteers running SurreySave’s second outreach on the Cambridge Estate together with local charity, ‘One Norbiton’. The outreach started in June 2013 and was opened by the Mayor, Penny Shelton. St John the Baptist Church is keen to set up another outreach. At the time of writing, Surrey Save has 83 Members from Kingston, attracting credit balances of nearly £39,000. Loans totalling nearly £20,000 have been drawn, including two via the new Norbiton outreach.

“Very happy a simple process. The man I spoke to was friendly & supportive and ensured I provided the right documents. It was a quick painless exercise and I certainly will be recommending SurreySave’s services.”

“I needed a Loan to Consolidate my Credit Card debts. I applied on-line – the response was fast and efficient and I drew the Loan within 1 week. It has saved me a considerable amount of money each month.”

“So straightforward – I applied by internet and we spoke on the phone - 50/50 each method. I provided what was needed and it was a really easy exercise.”

Oxygen – The grant has helped fund the Developing Leaders Training Programme - a new programme designed to identify and develop leadership skills. Young people are tasked with achieving specific learning outcomes around trust, identity, team roles, communication, problem solving, and leadership characteristics. They discover that they have the skills and with some support and encouragement, they can achieve things they never thought possible.

The grant has also helped to fund Room 1 - a safe haven for children to go after school. They receive extra support with their school work and participate in sports and activities with their peers. Additional grants will help them to provide targeted projects including running a Mentoring Project, Managing the Kingston Street Pastors and delivering Man and Boy, a programme supporting families by creating opportunities for fathers to build relationships with their sons through outdoor and residential activities.

Quote from a young person:

“Being part of Love Kingston has really helped us get more publicity for the work we do with disadvantaged young people. The money has helped us run more activities and paid for staff to work with young people who need Oxygen's help the most”.

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