

NNS Small Grants Impact Summary 2020-21

Small grants scheme (up to £10,000) for Hall Green based community groups and organisations

*"It is positive that all members **get an equal opportunity to discuss their thoughts** and feelings regarding each application."*

9 panel meetings

*"As an older person it was good to feel that my opinions were valued and that the contribution I was making was **enabling more activities to develop in my community.**"*



*"It has given me **more of an insight into the NNS role** in relation to BCC Social Care, the gaps and how Accord are looking to fill those."*

£171,568 – grant funding allocated

34 applications

22 projects funded

82% of beneficiaries aged 50+ (Covid-19 relief projects)

NNS Priority Outcomes

Minimising impact of Covid-19 – **14 projects, total investment - £113,352**

Healthier Lifestyles & Increased Social Participation – **6 projects, total investment - £36,968**

Maximised income – **2 x digital inclusion projects - £21,248**

Covid-19 Relief Outputs

Befriending calls - 243

Advice/support - 331

Foodbank visits - 733

Volunteers - 579

Foodbank referrals - 391

Emergency food parcels - 637

Prescriptions / shopping - 307

Wellbeing checks - 173

Beneficiaries - 3,682

Hot meals delivered - 9,006

IAG with Covid advice - 1485

Hall Green Gap Analysis Priorities

- **Financial & digital inclusion**
- **Health & wellbeing activities**
- **Social activities (including befriending services)**
- **Volunteering in Local Neighbourhood**

All Saints Community Catering – Meals Delivery Service



- Engaged with 70 households
- 4500 hot meals delivered with about 80% (3,600) going to over 50s
- 50 volunteers involved in project



What went well?

The commitment and skills of the volunteers. There wasn't a day when we were unable to deliver as promised.

What has been the learning?

Extra sanitising and cleaning requirements due to Covid. These important matters are labour-intensive, but don't bring in an income.

John and Alyson still receive subsidised meals twice a week. They have health problems as one of them has Alzheimer's and the other COPD. The routine of receiving the meals has **taken some of the pressure of shopping and cooking off them**. They are both over 50.

Music Misfits Ltd – South Birmingham Guitar Club



Our project saw us provide weekly guitar sessions and 2 social events for up to 20 local people each week. One of the highlights of the project was at Christmas when some of the members took part in a video performance of Jingle Bells to show off their new skills to friends/family.

Reached 32 people with weekly sessions, many more than the 20 expected

What is the legacy?

We fully intend to continue the project in the long term and will be adapting based on what our project participants have told us.

What is the learning?

Probably most importantly, we have learnt that online activities can actually vastly increase our accessibility in the long term as an organisation

What is the impact?

74% of respondents felt more connected to others as a result of our sessions

100% of respondents found enjoyment in our sessions

"Love that I am finally learning to play the guitar with some amazing people!"



"I enjoy the sessions, I feel my playing has improved significantly as a result. Rodrigo is incredibly patient with us and is full of encouragement. I really can't express how more confident I am because of the way he teaches."

Daar-ul-Jannah – Support for over 50s

- 108 people supported during the 3 month project (89% were over 50s)
- 12 emergency food parcels delivered
- 13 well being calls
- 48 service users received benefit support
- 10 service users received form filling support
- 4 volunteers engaged in the project with food parcel delivery, social media updates and designing all our marketing materials

Key Outcomes

- Reducing isolation
- Reducing financial hardship



“DUJ successfully provided emotional support to an individual who had language barriers and needed someone to speak with in his language. **We were able to support and give housing advice and a referral was made** to one of local housing association to see if he was eligible for one of their supported accommodation. The individual is a vulnerable client who had become homeless. We supported him to fill in his housing application and made sure that he was in receipt of the correct benefits.”

The Job Marston Centre - Here For You in Times of Crisis

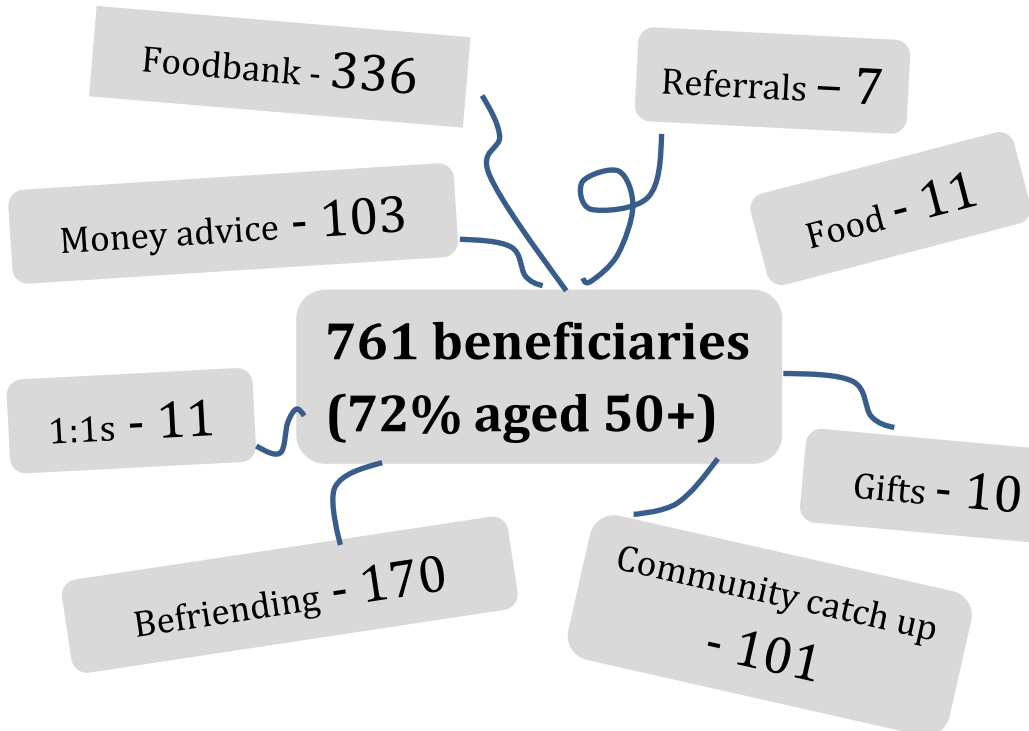
What is the legacy?

Strengthened presence in our community

Increased involvement and representation of BAME individuals in our services

Sense of cohesion and belonging between all those involved

Hope experienced through resilience of all in times of difficulty



I received a message on the answer phone one day. The woman’s voice was faint, but I managed to understand her. English was not her first language, but her distress was obvious. The woman had lost her husband in August and was now living alone, trying to come to terms with her loss and deal with all the admin left undone by his sudden death. I was able to offer her my time and compassion as well as practical help. The woman’s gratitude as she was leaving was effusive; **Small helps and the willingness to refer make all the difference.**

Smart Women CIC – Protecting Families from Covid-19

What is the learning?

We have learnt that there are some groups that are more disadvantaged than others. We are now more aware of the issues within our community and what kind of aid is the most effective. We have learnt what the main demands are how to get help to those that require it.

What is the legacy?

We will continue to remain in contact with those that used our service. People will be more aware that there are services like ours that can get them the help they need during these difficult times.

182

beneficiaries

35 volunteers

We worked with an individual who was homeless and suffered from depression. It was evident he was suffering financially so we provided him with the most **appropriate form of aid**. We **helped him** with his shopping and sorted out a place to stay for him. We **gave him advice** regarding the issues he



Isra UK Charity - Emergency Food and Essentials Pack Distribution, Foodbank and Shopping service

Engaged with 616 citizens

What went well?



- Being able to continue the vital work in helping vulnerable family get through the crisis
- Responding to the requests for help are now being processed more quickly
- Producing the pack to cater for the ethnic background of the families & individuals concerned
- We are making more effectively use of volunteers
- Connecting with other organisations, supporting each other with the burden of assisting the community through this time
- Being able to access free training for our staff and volunteers in advice and sign posting, Mental Health awareness and safeguarding.

The Springfield Project – Virtual Springfield

- 139 engagements / 28 citizens accessed on line arts and crafts
- 371 engagements / 25 citizens accessed online cookery group -
- 1 citizen accessed online IT training
- 2 referrals to Foodbank
- 12 citizens received telephone befriending support from our volunteers



What is the impact?

- Our participants have commented that they are learning new skills which makes them feel as though they are learning and growing even in the midst of lockdown.
- 100% of participants reported an improvement in mood due to participating in the group(s)
- 100% reported improved mental wellbeing - feeling better being part of something bigger rather sitting home alone.
- We have seen the rapport amongst the group members growing and broadening out into more generally sharing their lives together.

"The Springfield Project has brought great joy and pleasure to our hearts. With this wonderful support network we are able to come together to unite and share our talents and ideas.



*"The Springfield Project is a **place of warmth, conversation and most importantly, friendship.***

Bethel Health and Healing Network – Rapha Listening Service

What went well?

All of our volunteers have developed transferable skills as a result of the training received and direct experience of working with clients.

We have been able to recruit a diverse volunteer team with language skills in Urdu, Punjabi, Bengali and Romanian.

All clients have been satisfied with the support received and indicated that they had benefitted through having someone to talk to and being listened to.

28 beneficiaries

91 listening sessions

82% of service users aged 50+

47% of service users from a Pakistani, Indian, Bangladeshi or Other ethnic background

What is the impact?

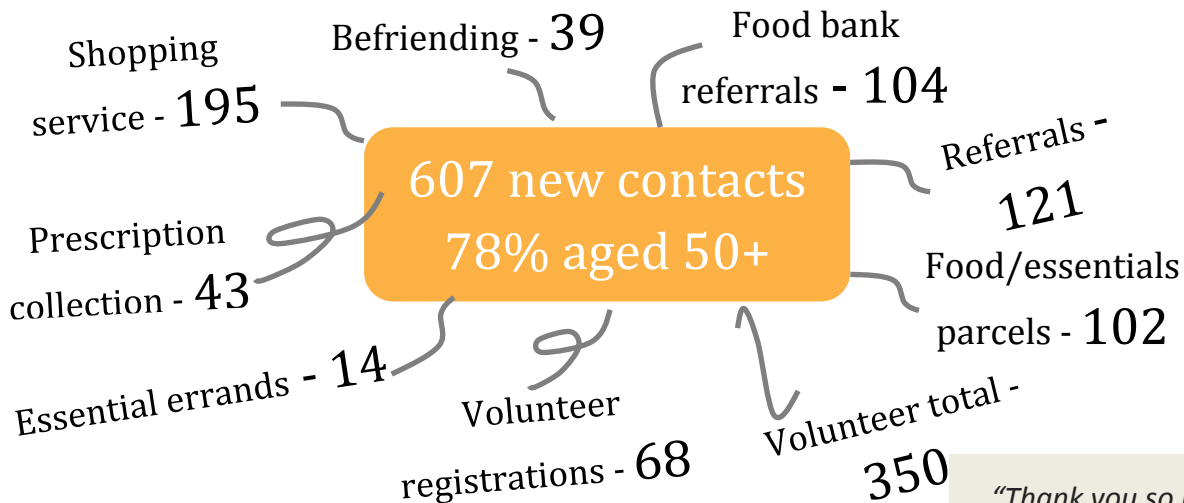
100% of those completing feedback forms reported an increased sense of self worth.

81% stated they had more confidence to connect with other people.

38% have been supported to access other services.

86% of service users felt less lonely and isolated.

Moseley Community Development Trust – Community Hub



98% satisfaction levels of citizens accessing the service

80% satisfaction levels of volunteers

"Hi Team, That's really lovely of you. I don't need a cake thanks, but I do appreciate the sentiment. **Big pat on the back all round!**"

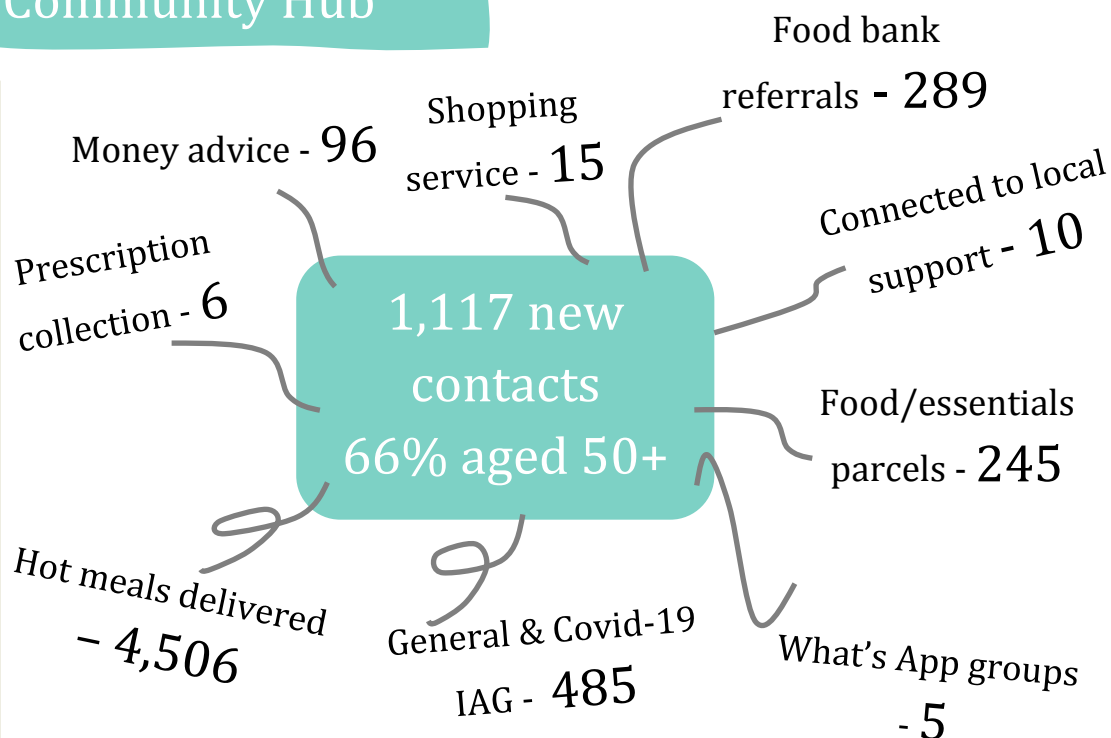


"Thank you so much for the work you have been doing. I have given out your number and **patients have found the service invaluable**. One of my patients who needed support for a limited time is now thinking of volunteering with you. Others I call have made friends with the volunteer who is helping them which has the added benefit of strengthening the community."

"You are full of **nice thought and actions** you all

Muath Trust – Community Hub

"Originally I agreed to help and volunteer in order to pass some spare time. However whilst actually doing the food deliveries and seeing the smile and appreciation on peoples faces I fell in love with helping people! I do this not just to help others but to also get a **personal satisfaction that I honestly would recommend to everyone** out there. It is addictive!"



Services provided: Free hot meals delivered once a week // Delivery of food parcels // General IAG & Covid-19 advice // Befriending service // Provide support in a number of languages including: Arabic, Urdu, Punjabi & Bengali // Recruited Urdu & Panjabi and Bangladeshi's speaking befrienders // Prescription & shopping service