

X SO WE DID THIS



WHAT'S
INSIDE...

2023
2024

IMPACT

OUR STORY

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**+ WHAT
MAKES
US**

**feel
PROUD**

EMMA HUTCHINSON
CEO BLGC



THE BLGC IMPACT: A BEACON OF HOPE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

In a world that often overlooks the potential of its youngest members, BLGC stands as a beacon of hope, illuminating pathways to brighter futures for countless local young people. It's increasingly crucial for organisations in the youth sector to advocate for the importance of youth work and its profound impact on young lives. Now, more than ever, as the cost of living climbs, and services are cut, the pressure on young individuals and their communities intensifies.

The work of BLGC is a lifeline for many. This year, we supported over 5,000 young individuals with over 55,000 engagements...numbers representing real lives transformed.

I am proud to present our first full year of impact data, providing rich insights to enhance our efforts. This data not only validates our work but also guides future improvements, inspiring others to champion youth empowerment.

Reflecting on our achievements, we know the work continues. Each interaction moves us closer to a society where every young person can flourish. BLGC is a charity that empowers and transforms, and we invite you to join us in building a future where every young person achieves their dreams.

Thank you for believing in the power of youth work. Together, we can light the way for the next generation, ensuring they have every opportunity to be the best they can be.

WATCH THE
PROUD PROMO





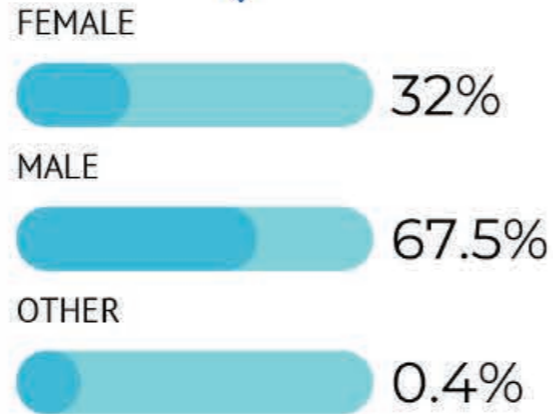
PLAY ALWAYS SPORT

WIN



+ ACTIVE MEMBERS

3134



OVER 50,000

HOT MEALS PROVIDED TO YOUNG PEOPLE



+ HOLIDAY CLUB

3030

ATTENDANCES



infinity

1467

HAF Funded Attendances

+ BLGC SITE VISITS

32,152



INFINITY SPA ROAD BOLTON

21356

HACKEN LANE SPORTS FACILITY

10796

+ OUR
IMPACT

WE ENABLE
RE THE REST THE

TARGETED

Woman

SERVICES

WATCH ME



+ ACCESSED OUR TARGETED YOUTH SERVICES

1474



HOURS DELIVERED HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH OUR ASPIRATIONS MENTORING FOR CHILDREN IN CARE AND CARE LEAVERS

699



74



RECEIVED YOUNG PEOPLE RECEIVED BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT



INDEPENDENT VISTOR HOURS DELIVERED

2102

135



YOUNG CARERS SUPPORTED



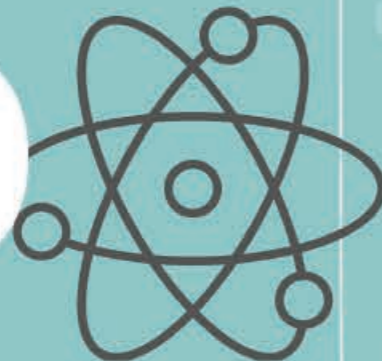
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ACCESSED OUR SAFE ZONE

2442



HOURS DELIVERED IN EDUCATION BY OUR TEAMS AROUND SCHOOLS

350



33



FAMILIES HELPED THROUGH OUR FAMILY ASSIST SERVICE

+ COUNSELLING SERVICES

CONTACTS MADE BY OUR COUNSELLING SERVICES

870



GOAL

73% + OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

+ **IMPROVED PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING**



FEEL HAPPIER ABOUT THEIR LIVES AS A RESULT OF ATTENDING OUR UNIVERSAL AND TARGETED PROVISION



Providing opportunities for children and young people to take part in stimulating and inspiring opportunities and activities that improve the physical, emotional and mental wellbeing will underpin our curriculum model through our universal open access provision programmes. Our provision will transform young lives through sport and physical activity, emotional health and wellbeing services and bespoke non clinical mental health provision.

+ CASE STUDY

GARDISA

WATCH **GARDISA**



COMING TO BLGC HAS MADE ME MORE CONFIDENT.

Gardisa is a relatively new member of BLGC, having moved to the UK from Ethiopia 4 years ago. He only joined the BLGC basketball programme about a year ago and lacked experience, skills, confidence, and concentration. However, his love for the game and his desire to get better every day has been outstanding and has resulted in him being one of the most improved members of the group.



Another area of improvement is G.W.'s ability to take in information and put it into practice. He is more focused and does not hesitate to ask questions about how he can improve his skills and learn new things. He is always looking for new challenges and is not afraid to step out of his comfort zone, setting an excellent example for the rest of the team.

Notably, he has completed a course, earning qualifications as a boxing activator, a testament to his expand skill set and newfound self-confidence. Beyond sports, his academic performance has flourished, and his social skills have blossomed, highlighting the holistic impact of his journey. Gardisa's story is a powerful testament to the transformative influence of sports on personal development.

He has attended all the sessions and taken part in the outings and other team activities. His commitment to the sessions has helped him to build resilience and confidence. G.W. explained that "last year I was bad, and I couldn't beat anyone and the young people laughed at me...now I play with them and I win and it feels so good".

GOAL

+ STRONGER AND RESILIENT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE



+ OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

We want children and young people to thrive with the love and support of their families and carers. But sometimes they come up against challenges or adverse experiences that makes this difficult. Through our broad provision and by working with external partners we support them to overcome these challenges and help families build on their strengths.



77%

YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ATTEND UNIVERSAL ACCESS SESSIONS SEE AN AVERAGE 77% INCREASE IN THEIR OVERALL CONFIDENCE & RESILIENCE





CASE STUDY

ANISSA

ANISSA FELT HEARD AND SUPPORTED, ULTIMATELY AIMING TO IMPROVE HIS WELLBEING AND ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE.

In June 2023, Anissa’s GP referred the 12-year-old due to ongoing anxiety causing headaches, stomach aches, and IBS flare-ups, impacting her school life. Accommodations like a toilet pass were necessary, and her father’s early-onset dementia and Parkinson’s added to her stress.

Anissa and her mother attended the first session together. While Anissa was unsure about the support, her mother was eager. Emphasizing the service’s voluntary nature, Anissa was given a week to decide. She returned, willing to try the support.

Anissa attended seven sessions at BLGC to address her school anxiety. These sessions focused on his anxiety and anger, identifying triggers, and coping strategies. Practical strategies included a toilet pass, an exit pass, and identifying a supportive teacher. Discussions also addressed leaving school early due to family needs, leading to the suggestion of more social care support at home.

69

YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE ANISSA ACCESSED OUR COUNSELLING SERVICES IN THE YEAR 2022/23

We informed the school of Anissa’s situation and suggestions via email. The school responded, agreeing to address these with the Pastoral Team and Head of Year, which reassured Anissa and her mother.

Anissa was hesitant to discuss her father’s health and her caring responsibilities but agreed to use the coping strategies. We referred them to the BLGC Young Carers service for additional support.

By the end of the sessions, Anissa and her mother felt supported, especially regarding school challenges. Over the summer, her symptoms subsided, and she felt more prepared for the new school term with the coping strategies and anticipated school support.

This case underscores the importance of a comprehensive approach to a young person’s anxiety, involving family health issues and school challenges. Collaboration among the family, school, and supportive services was key to improving Anissa’s wellbeing and academic experience.

GOAL



**INCREASED
CONFIDENCE AND
ASPIRATIONS FOR A
POSITIVE FUTURE**



**OUR
STRATEGIC
GOALS**

We want young people to have the best chances early in life in order for them to achieve their full potential in later life. It can be hard for some to access the right support to get them started and many experience setbacks which they struggle to move on from. We will provide a range of opportunities and programmes that help them deal with what can be a challenging transition to adulthood.

32%

**INCREASE IN YOUNG PEOPLE'S
LIFE SKILLS AS A RESULT OF
ATTENDING TARGETED SESSIONS**

X CASE STUDY

RYAN

Ryan was referred to Aspirations Mentoring by his social worker in November 2021. He needed someone outside his foster placement to help him engage in groups and activities. Although Ryan had a stable foster home and regular contact with his father, he wasn't participating in peer activities at referral.



Described as a “lovely, chatty young man with a good sense of humour,” Ryan indeed had a quick wit and great personality. This led to his match with mentor David in March 2022, who also experienced hearing loss, allowing them to discuss shared challenges.

Ryan set goals to:

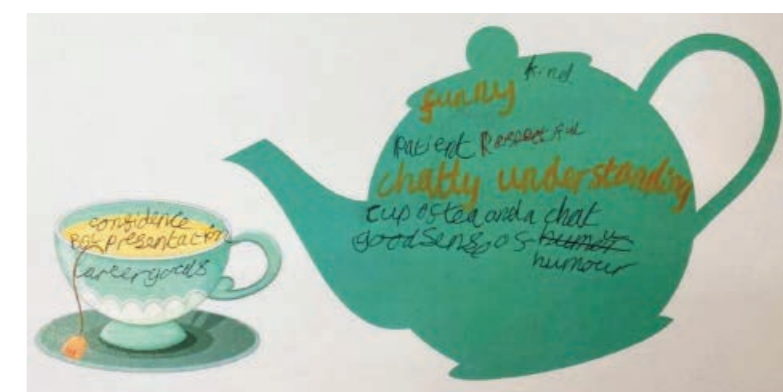
- Attend group activities,
- Develop social skills through youth groups,
- Identify future aspirations and interests.

David and Ryan frequently visited local coffee shops for tea and cake and joined group activities. Interacting with peers was tough for Ryan, so David set mini-challenges to improve his conversation skills, like speaking to three new people during an activity or learning a fact about someone new.

Towards the end of their match, David helped Ryan focus on his future aspirations. Initially, Ryan had no clear career goal, joking he wanted to be a “professional tea taster.” However, after attending career fairs and college open days, Ryan decided he might pursue a career as a British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter. To support this interest, Ryan agreed to deliver a BSL class to staff and volunteers, teaching them the basics of BSL.

Ryan's final goal was to create and deliver a BSL session. He and David developed an Introduction to BSL course, delivered to two groups: staff and volunteers, and young people from the Young Carers service. Ryan's confidence grew throughout the sessions, and positive feedback boosted it further.

Once this final goal was achieved, the match between Ryan and David was brought to a planned end. You can see from the image below - themed on Ryan's beloved tea - that delivery of this course was one of the main things that Ryan felt he 'got out' of the match (the teacup), along with increased confidence and identified career goals.



Ryan's journey from uncertainty about his career to a confident instructor with clear aspirations was inspiring. The skills he gained were significant, but the personal transformation was even more remarkable. The support from David and the BLGC community was crucial. Ryan's story highlights the power of mentorship, nurturing passions, and the impact of a supportive community. His success is a beacon of hope, showing that with guidance and dedication, remarkable progress is possible.

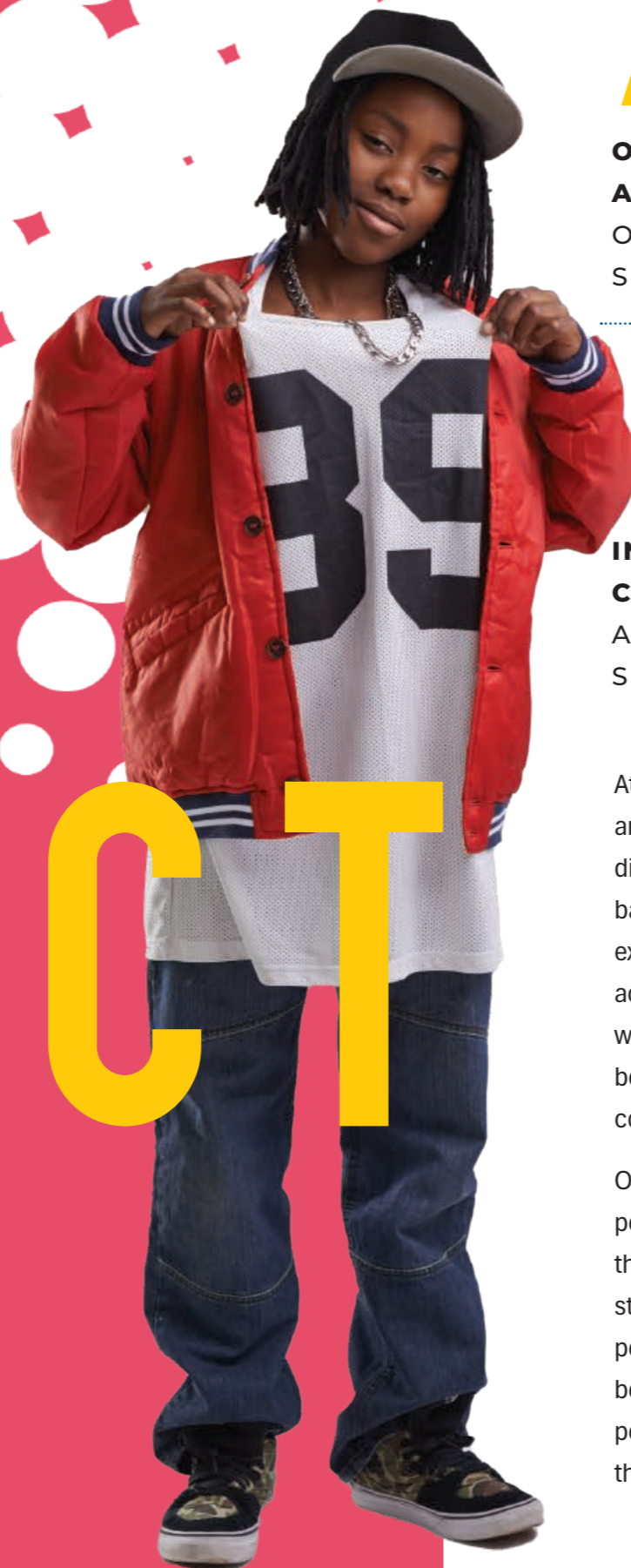


WE STRENGTHEN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY BY SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE EMPOWERED, ACTIVE, RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS

community

IMPACT

FIND OUT MORE



70% 

OF YOUNG PEOPLE SAY THEY ARE HEALTHIER AS A RESULT OF ATTENDING OPEN ACCESS SESSIONS

77% 

INCREASE IN YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONFIDENCE AS A RESULT OF ATTENDING OPEN ACCESS SESSIONS

At BLGC, we believe in the power of inclusivity and community. We draw members from diverse socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, creating a melting pot of experiences and perspectives. Through open access sessions, we provide safe spaces where young individuals can find a sense of belonging, fostering connections within the community and promoting positive behaviors.

Our offer is designed to empower young people by offering leadership opportunities that build essential citizenship skills and strengthen social cohesion. When young people are given the chance to lead, they become more active and engaged, driving positive change within their Youth Zone and the broader local area.



73% 

OF YOUNG PEOPLE FEEL LESS ISOLATED AS A RESULT OF ATTENDING OPEN ACCESS SESSIONS

Awareness and understanding of different communities and cultures are at the heart of what we do. Our projects celebrate diversity through events like Pride, Black History Month, and various religious and human rights activities. These initiatives challenge stereotypes and promote empathy, helping young people appreciate the rich tapestry of our society.

We ensure young people have the opportunity to be heard at both local and regional levels. Through collaborations with partners, patrons, and government bodies, we amplify their voices and advocate for the issues that matter most to them.

Join us in making a difference. Together, we can empower our youth to build brighter futures and stronger communities.

VISIT US AND SAY *hello*

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