

Congleton Partnership Buddy & Befriending, Second year **second quarter report**

Jan 2023-March 2023

Summary

Completed a Radio broadcast with Suzy firkin on January 18th with Congleton Radio to advertise and promote our service

Reengaged with the Old Saw Mill, replenished up to date leaflets and exchanged contact details

Engaged with the local Veteran's organisation who are opening a new veteran's café close to Morrisons, met with the organisers and we are planning to visit once up and running.

Our targets are all being met and we expect these to rise further over the next two quarters. Our expectations are that we will exceed all targets set for this year.

Social Prescribers

We continue to work closely with social prescribers from all the local GP surgeries in Congleton. With regular communication, updates and discussions regarding patients we ensure a steady flow of referrals to reach those that need our services most.

We have been invited to attend a session at Laughton house surgery to promote our scheme and if this proves to be successful will look at attending other local surgeries in turn.

Attending the Wellbeing Fayre in March gave us a good opportunity to meet up with social prescribers and gave us the chance to reengage as a number of previous referrers have now left.

We are planning to meet with social prescribers after Easter via teams as new social prescribers have been employed to re-establish our service and promote what we have available as we have now greatly reduced our average waiting time to match clients to 14 days.

Volunteer Quote

Jenny G - "my calls are going well from my perspective. We speak weekly and I really enjoy our calls. I am currently away but when I come home, I would like to chat to another client if possible"

Congleton Events attended

Makers Market Saturday January 28th, Health & Wellbeing Fayre March 29th

We attended Congleton Makers Market January and the Health and wellbeing fayre in March. Both events were useful in regards to volunteer recruitment and networking. The wellbeing fayre was also a wonderful opportunity to network with other organisations and meet with previous and potentially new social prescribers. We will be attending the next Congleton Makers market on Saturday 29th April.



Client Quotes

"I look forward to my calls every Thursday with Yvonne. She's a lovely lady. It's me that does all the talking but she doesn't seem to mind that. I'd be lost without her now" Judith C

"I missed talking to my volunteer last week, when she was poorly. We always have a laugh and a giggle together. She is a lovely friendly lady" Jane C

“My calls are really important to me because I live in sheltered accommodation and there is no staff to chat to at the weekends. I look forward to the call. Hannah is only 30 so it’s lovely to chat to someone who is young!” Val B

Agreed Targets From SLA

1. To actively promote the Buddying & Befriending Scheme across the Congleton area to increase awareness of the service to potential referral sources and clients.
2. To recruit 17 volunteer Buddies and Befrienders to support Congleton residents
3. To match an additional 20 clients in the Congleton Town area referred into the Scheme with a Volunteer Befriender over and above 2022 baseline figures.

Overall Referrals Target	Referrals Second quarter	
20	7	12

Overall Matches Target	Matches Achieved Second Quarter	Matches Achieved to date
20	6	12

Overall Volunteer Sign-Up Target	Volunteer Sign-Up Second Quarter	Volunteer Sign-ups to date
17	7	16

Third quarter report meeting due July 4th 2023