



Jupiter House Horticultural Skills and Training Programme

Monitoring & Evaluation Report July 2013

Green Corridor

Charity Number 1092093

1 Background Information

- Name of Organisation: Green Corridor (GC)
- Name of Person Completing Final Report: Jean Rolfe
- Position in Organisation: CEO
- Contact Information: email: jean@greencorridor.org.uk Tel: 01403 713567
- Project Reference: **36/926**
- Reason for funding application: To deliver a twelve week programme of horticultural activity and training (Level 1 Qualification) to a group of up to 15 young residents at Jupiter House (JH)
- Total Funding Awarded: £7,475
- Total Funding Spent: £7,475

2 Project Summary

Hillingdon Community Trust funding has been used to:

- Develop partnerships with Stonham/West London YMCA (WLYMCA) /Jupiter House/Old Vinyl Factory/Cultivate London, allowing us to engage with wider range of clients.
- Deliver a number of horticultural training programmes varying in length to meet learner needs
- Develop a GC internship programme, allowing a Hillingdon resident the opportunity to manage a small scale social enterprise programme at Jupiter with support from Green Corridor's project delivery team
- Develop Green Corridor's Youth Steering Group helping to advise and shape GC provision and activity
- Develop a Green Corridor Youth Hub – located in the Training Suite at Jupiter House

3 Beneficiaries

To date, the programme has engaged 49 young people, including Jupiter residents and young people from the wider Hillingdon community. They have been recruited both directly by the Project Delivery Manager and by other residents at Jupiter House, as part of Green Corridor's Youth Steering Group.

Of these 49 young people:

- 8 young people have achieved a Level 1 qualification in Horticulture Skills
- 2 young people are working towards their Level 2 (having completed their L1 at previous HCT funded horticultural training programmes)
- 4 young people are currently enrolled and will achieve their L1 by the end of July 2013
- 7 young people joined the Youth Steering Group (YSG)
- 28 young people have attended the training but due to other commitments not regularly enough to complete a Level 1 qualification

4 Project Outcomes

4.1 Significant Achievements

Client is able to find employment

- Five have gone on to find employment following course completion.

Client goes on to further training or education

- Eight have gone onto further education/training (of these four completed the qualification)

Client increases knowledge and is involved in active participation

- Forty-eight young people have actively participated and have increased their knowledge.

Increased Client engagement in the Jupiter House garden

- Forty eight have engaged with the Jupiter House Garden and incidents of vandalism decreased

4.2 Success Indicators (as per original funding application)

Outcome	Indicator	Anticipated Target % of Users	Actual Target % of Users
Client is able to find employment	Clients find employment within eight weeks of completing programme	25	50
Client goes on to further training or education	Clients begin other training/education	65	40
	Clients continue in horticultural training	5	10
Client reports an improvement in health and feeling of wellbeing	Clients feel more confident	70	90
	Clients are more physically active	70	90
	Clients have an increased interest in education/employment	70	90
Client increases knowledge and is involved in active participation	Client's level of attendance	80	90
	Client's level of punctuality	90	80
	Client's ability to communicate with colleagues	70	90
	Client's ability to complete practical tasks	80	90
	Number of Clients completing qualification (four still completing)	80	71
Increased Client engagement in the Jupiter House garden	Reduction in damage/vandalism	10	90
	Number of Clients involved in activities in the garden	60	53

5 How the project worked

5.1 Problems & Solutions

Removed for Data Protection purposes

5.1 Agreed Changes

Following a conversation with HCT it was agreed to trial a number of different delivery options for the clients at Jupiter House.

The following delivery options have therefore been tested:

12-week programme:

Works well for clients that can commit to the time frame but can cause conflicts with demands of Connexions and Job Centre Plus, who struggle to be flexible in relation to interviews/job searches as the training is voluntary

1-week intensive course:

Worked well for clients who were able to put aside one week – they have to be committed and prepared to get up early and work a long day – this was a challenge for some of the harder to reach JH residents

12 week rolling programme:

Currently running but already proving to be the most effective option, allowing clients flexibility in attendance and the opportunity to reengage if they miss one or two session. Can be a simpler step into commitment for the harder to reach resident.

The need for regular engagement led to the proposal of a Green Corridor Youth Hub at Jupiter House. A formal partnership with Jupiter House now enables Green Corridor staff to use the Youth Hub to engage residents and build appropriate relationships to support their needs. The Youth Hub also provides us with a fixed venue to work with our YSG.

5.2 Going Forward

The delivery of horticulture skills and training for young people is continuing with the City Bridge funding, which was awarded to Green Corridor this year.

HCT Evaluation report – Additional Information

How does the Green Corridor Training Programmes work?

Green Corridor is a registered Learning and Development Centre, with accredited status from two awarding bodies; Edexcel and ABC Awards. This allows us to run nationally recognized qualifications in a number of landbased disciplines, but primarily conservation and horticulture.

Learners enroll on a course (length varies depending on learner needs and situation) and through structured and supported learning undertake a landbased qualification. The qualification requires no exam but is dependent on a portfolio of evidence being created to show understanding and ability.

This portfolio is then internally verified to ensure it meets the awarding body standards and is then externally verified, if passing the qualification is approved.

This method of vocational learning suites many of our young people well:

- It does not impose exam pressure – an area many struggled with at school.
- GC staff develop the portfolios on our learners behalf and therefore the learner does not have to worry about any concern regarding writing or reading.

How does the rolling programme work, how do we manage a learner who joins the training towards the end of a programme?

Our rolling programmes allow our more disengaged/challenged learners to initially engage with a programme under their own terms. For many of our young people commitment is a real struggle so to have an opportunity to engage with a qualification programme that offers flexibility whilst building confidence and self-esteem is very beneficial.

The rolling programme allows learners to dip in and out and aims to progress them onto a more regular commitment of study, but under their own terms and wishes to achieve.

As the rolling programmes never officially finish it allows a learner to join at any stage of the course delivery.

Explain what the HCT funding has allowed GC to do?

In addition to allowing us to successfully run nationally recognized training for some very disengaged young people the flexibility of the HCT grant has allowed us to try different methods of delivery and identify the most effective. This has enabled us to refine our rolling programme into an effective means of training delivery appealing to very disengaged learners.

Describe how the individuals are assessed and monitored. Explain detailed portfolios provided for each student

Each learner is initially trained in the activities required to fulfill the qualification for example - Sowing, Weeding or Watering. Once each student regularly undertakes the activity to the same standard (as set by the Awarding Body) they are then assessed. Assessments are generally observations of the students undertaking the work required. The observation is then written up, with photographs and included within each student portfolio – forming an evidence record of achievement.

Give a summary of our engagement activities with Jupiter House?

Prior to commencing the course, we discussed the course structure and delivery with JH staff. We agreed to move the time of the programme to late afternoon on the advice of the JH staff who suggested this would be the most effective time for their clients. Posters were supplied to JH staff giving details of the programme for display in their Training Centre. We ran a taster session on site to give the clients a chance to experience the programme before starting. We maintained contact with the learners sending text messages to remind them of the course each week.

Green Corridor Outcomes

