

Jack Kane Community Centre

208 Niddrie Main Road

Edinburgh EH16 4ND

Tel: 0131 657 1595

Registered Scottish Charity

Sc020762

www.cafek.org

Oot N Aboot/Castle Rock Edinvar Housing Association

Project Summary Report

2008



Introduction:

Oot N Aboot, detached youth work project within Café K voluntary youth and children's project, was successful in acquiring funds of £1000.00 from Castle Rock Edinvar Housing Association in June 2008. These funds enabled the project to provide a detached youth work service out on the streets of Greater Craigmillar, and in particular the Hays neighbourhood.

The remit of this project was for staff from Oot N Aboot to go out on the streets and engage young people in informal educational opportunities as well as support and advise them on issues relevant to their needs. Furthermore, workers aimed to encourage young people to identify issues and opportunities for change within their community which would hopefully lead to positive contributions made to the wider community.

In addition, Oot N Aboot also developed partnership links with the Health Opportunities Team (HOT), in order to provide specialist support and advice to young people on the streets in relation to healthy lifestyles. A Senior Housing Officer from Castle Rock Edinvar also actively became involved with the project by shadowing workers whilst engaging with young people on the streets.

Project Achievements:

In total 12 detached youth work sessions were provided over a 3 month period, commencing on Tuesday evenings 6-9pm. In addition, 2 sessions were also held in relation to planning and evaluating the project. And in total **69** individual young people were reached. The following provides more information in regards to the project achievements:

Contacts with young people:

Males	96
Females	90
TOTAL	186

Age Range of Contacts:

12-13 years	30
14-15 years	94
16+ years	62

Main areas of Contacts:

AREA	TOTAL OF CONTACTS
Niddrie Mill	26
Niddrie House/Hunters Hall	19
Hays	92
Niddrie Marischal	20
Jack Kane Park	23
Greendykes	5
Thistle Foundation	1

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Key issues from young people:

- Housing – Tenancy support/advice
- Benefits/Money
- Youth Provision (incl. H.O.T. and Café K) and Football group
- Sexual Health
- Health - Smoking
- Employment
- Community Regeneration – skate park, houses and environment (green space)
- School/education
- Drugs
- Alcohol
- Safety – community and personal

Information/Follow up:

TOPIC	INFO/FOLLOW UP	AMOUNT
Youth provision over summer holidays	Summer programme leaflets	6
Youth Provision	Detail of local services and times open	12
Youth Provision – Football group	Group meetings and planning of work	4 (average of 6 young people per session)
Diversionsary activities	Physical education excursions over summer holidays	6 (average of 8 young per session)
Sexual Health	HOT text service and drop in flyers	8
Regeneration – Hays Skate Park	Initial group work sessions	3 (12 y.p. in total)
After school provision	Contact details for local services	2
Housing Support	Referral to CEC Youth Inclusion Worker	4
Sexual Health advice/support	Contact details for GUM Clinic	1
Health	Smoking Questionnaire	1

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Hays Consultation:

Within the project a consultation was held with **30** young people in relation to the physical environment and regeneration of the Hays area, this also included 3 group work sessions. Information sought from this stated:

- 25 young people stated that they liked staying in the Hays area
- 15 young people stated that they did not like how the houses looked, with one young person claiming '*It's like living in Balamory*'.
- 17 young people stated that they did not think the Hays was a safe place to hang out at night, with particular reference to; Bingham Tunnel, motorbikes and lack of lighting at Skate Park area.
- 28 young people stated that they did not think that there was enough to do in the Hays. Although they acknowledged that certain services were there, they felt that this was not always accessible due to opening times and personal grievances.
- When asked what they would like to see in the area, majority of young people stated that they would like to see more youth provision/places to hang out for young people over 13, as there were a few parks but these were mostly used by children and existing services were not relevant to their needs. Young people also stated that they would like to see less litter and vandalism as they felt it made the area not look like a nice place to live.
- 5 young people stated that they would like to see the Hays Skate Park turned into a BMX track/Park

Recommendations:

Overall the project proved to be a great success with high levels of engagement and acceptance by young people. The following points are recommended in relation to future initiatives:

- Investment should be made to future projects based upon a 16 week period over the summer months to allow lead in time and also to create a longer period to build consistency and group work. This would also result in more qualitative evaluation feedback.
- Young person consultation in relation to physical environment and regeneration should be researched further and group of young people established to advise on future developments/lead consultation process within community.
- Development and enhancement of partnership working, specialist services based upon young people's needs providing more information or workers to engage with young people on the streets – bring the services to them.
- Continue to build upon good practice already established from this initiative.