



CAFÉ K AND THE JACK KANE COMMUNITY CENTRE

SUMMER PROGRAMME REPORT 2008



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Background:

Summer holidays bring about many different thoughts and experiences, the enthusiasm of not being at school for a while is tempered by the thought of being bored after the first few weeks. Calls for diversionary activities whereby young people and children will have opportunities which will stimulate them reach fever pitch.

Each year Café K, in partnership with the Jack Kane Community Centre, strive to acquire funding and implement a programme which will offer young people a range of leisure, educational and recreational opportunities. The need for such activities, was identified by children and young people from the Greater Craigmillar area, through a range of mechanisms i.e. previous evaluations of summer programmes and through detached youth work. From feedback acquired young people identified that activities had to be access free of charge, on at different times and lastly and more importantly they had to be fun. In line with participatory techniques groups within the centre decided how best to spend the funds on activities and resources that they would like to participate within. In addition, monies were also allocated to the delivery of diversionary activities within the Community Centre. Therefore this year's programme included additional centre based services.

**Funding:**

Café K and the Jack Kane Community Centre applied for funding from City Edinburgh Council Children and Families Department and the East Neighbourhood Partnership. As a result of this, Café K and the Jack Kane Community Centre were subsequently awarded funds from these various funding sources allowing a comprehensive programme to be implemented based on the articulated needs of the children and young people.

Programme:

The programme was constructed by the views of the children and young people through previous evaluations. Additionally the contents would need to reflect the needs of those who had participated previously. Bearing this in mind, the programme would also have to be developmentally relevant in order to stimulate participants. In order to fulfill these criteria's, activities offered a range of leisure, recreational and educational opportunities.

Additionally, this year was the first where Café k and the Jack Kane Centre worked in close proximity with the Childrens and Families Department to provide additional outdoor education excursions. As a result of this, Café K and the Jack Kane Community Centre were able to provide four specific outdoor based activities for those children and young people whom had not had such opportunities before.

Participants:

The following is a breakdown of the children and young people who participated in the Café K/Jack Kane Centre Summer Programme 2008:

Centre Based Service

MALES	FEMALES
257	150

From these figures the number of individual children and young people whom participated within the centre based services was **113**.

Excursion Based Service

MALES	FEMALES
53	51

There were over 400 contacts over the summer programme, in total **217** individual children and young people benefited from the activities with the age range spanning between 8 – 16 years of age.

Additionally, a total of 22 centre based sessions and 14 excursions were provided, with a total of **36** sessions carried out over the course of the summer.



Evaluation:

Reflection and evaluation forms the cornerstone of the work which the centre carries out with young people and to this end all activities on offer to children and young people were asked to complete an evaluation. The following details contain some thoughts and feelings regarding a selection of the programme and highlights any changes that individuals would like to see implemented. Additionally the evaluation also shows what the children and young people would be doing if they were not participating in the programme. This question is of vital importance as it reinforces the need for such provision during school holidays.

- **What young people liked most about the activity:**
 - 'The whole day.....everything'*
 - 'Trying things that I had never done before like abseiling'*
 - 'Having a laugh and being out with my pals'*
 - 'Getting something to eat- the sandwiches were good'*
 - 'Was good having fun'*

- **What young people liked least about the activity:**
 - 'Wish it was longer'*
 - 'Getting up early in the morning to go'*
 - 'Nothing'*
 - 'Getting really hot'*

- **What would children and young people be doing if they were not participating in this activity:**
 - 'Hanging about the streets'*
 - 'Still in my bed'*
 - 'In the hoose on my computer'*
 - 'Being bored and annoying my mum'*
 - 'Going up to the bing'*
 - 'Playing on my motorbike'*

All the children and young people who participated in the summer programme were asked whether they felt it was a good idea that activities were made available during this time, all those asked responded **'Yes'**. When asked why they thought this, children and young people provided the following answers:

- *'Coz Café K and the Jack Kane keeps things on when most things are shut, and should be open more when its the school holidays'*
- *'Saves us from getting bored and are good and you don't need money to come'*
- *'It's a good experience, get to do things I haven't done before and go to places that I've never been to'*

Although the above only offers a selection of the evaluation carried out it highlights that most children and young people, if they were not involved in these types of programmes, would be suffering from boredom during these times. Additionally children and young people's health is high on a variety of agendas and these activities and programmes offered children and young people an opportunity to take part in fun, physical activities that they would otherwise not have the opportunity to access.

Conclusion/Recommendations:

Overall the monies made available to implement a variety of activities on offer are of enormous benefit to children and young people. Once more the evaluations coupled with the high level of young people attending reinforces the belief that a strategic funding approach should be implemented at the earliest possible time. Indeed increased levels of funding with the sustained commitment to young people should be implemented for all school holidays.

In conclusion, Café K and the Jack Kane Community Centre strongly feel that funding should continue in order to provide diversionary activity programmes during **ALL** school holidays. In addition these programmes should be developed to a high standard to meet as many children's and young people's needs as possible within the Greater Craigmillar area.