



working for a better community

# The Hangleton & Knoll Project

## Youth Service End of Year Report 2011-12

The Hangleton and Knoll Project has worked with 211 individual young people through 2011-2012 aged 13-19yrs, through various projects and pieces of work that are discussed below. However this statistic does not account for young people that have 'progressed' from projects into other pieces of work requiring higher participation. So within each of our different projects the numbers of young people that have engaged is as follows:

- Universal music project, 1/week - U-studios – **34 individual young people.**
- Supporting the delivery of a weekly youth club at Hangleton Youth Centre- **30 individual young people.**
- Supporting young people to engage in a variety of positive activities such as day trips and residential- **155 individual young people.**
- Delivering one detached session per week- **168 individual young people.**
- Supporting the development of the Hangleton and Knoll Youth Forum/participation work- **76 individual young people.**
- Supporting young people to gain their Brighton and Hove Youth Awards and other accreditation- **see page 10.**

### Hangleton Youth Centre.

In partnership with Brighton and Hove Youth Service, the Hangleton and Knoll project provides one worker every Friday night to support the delivery of a youth club session from 7-9pm. This session has been attended regularly by 12-15 young people and has worked with 30 individuals over the year. Workers meet to plan the session and evaluate it together. Work taken place has included alcohol awareness education, supporting young people to enter the youth arts festival, addressing community safety issues, healthy relationships and sexual health and supporting older members to become peer educators.

### Detached.

Over the past year, the Hangleton and Knoll Youth team has worked with 108 young people overall, 88 of whom fall into the 13-19yrs old, through our detached work. However, this figure **does not count unnamed contacts**, which makes up a large part of our detached work. A conservative estimate of this number would be another 80, totalling 168 young people.

Detached work continues to be one of the best methods to engage new young people and build on existing relationships. It continues to prove to be an effective way of supporting young people to explore various personal issues and encourage their involvement within the community. The work taken place has ranged from;

- Exploring alcohol and drugs issues with young people
- Supporting young people to plan a Christmas Party
- Supporting a group of young people to apply for various funding towards various skating trips, to improve their skills, due to the lack of skating equipment in the Hangleton and Knoll area. This small grant was successful.
- Supporting individuals with a range of issues, from homelessness, peer pressure and family relationships
- Delivering Healthy relationships and C-card work.

### **Young people participation- Youth Forum work.**

In July 2011, the youth team supported a group of 8 young people to plan and organise a launch party to celebrate the great achievement of raising £56, 985 to improve Knoll park sports court by fitting an Astroturf, new fences and lighting. This Project had taken 3 years to achieve and involved 48 young people in total, 12 achieving their Brighton and Hove Youth Gold award. The launch was a great success with over 100 residents and young people attending. U studios delivered a great performance and a football tournament was held to celebrate the new facilities. The Mayor attended the event to officially open the court and award the young people their Brighton and Hove Youth awards for their amazing commitment and participation to the Project.

The new facilities have transformed Knoll Park, with many more families, and young people now accessing the park to use the Astroturf. What once was a dark, dis-used and prone to ASB area, is now a positive and exceptionally well used community facility.

Community Action and the Police have noted substantial decrease in ASB from this project. Local councillors have publicly commended the local young people for their activism and community impact through the community action forum.



Young people are clearly now proud of their park and a very real sense of ownership over it. For example, during our detached sessions workers consistently listen to young people's feedback about how it has changed the area and how they spend their free time ie. 'I am really proud of this park, when someone now drops some litter, I actually ask them to put it in the bin! May sound silly, but I don't want it getting back to the way it was before' (YM 15 yrs) and 'I always know there will be some people playing football, so go down to the park



to see who is about, rather than hanging out on the streets getting bored' (YM 14yrs)

Other work the Youth Forum has been involved with is planning the holiday activity programme with youth workers and providing support at various events and activities. It has also worked alongside community action, a local resident steering group to install 2 new bins in the park, to combat the littering taking place there. Current work involves the youth forum creating a manifesto, that builds on the consultation report circulated earlier this year. The manifesto will include key issues and practical changes the young people of Hangleton and Knoll feel are most important and would like to address.

### **Positive activities.**

The Youth Team has supported 155, 13-19yrs to engage in positive activities through April 2011-March 2012.

The team works hard with young people to offer a diverse programme of activities to young people. These activities offer a range of learning opportunities for young people that include meeting new young people, planning and budgeting skills, building confidence, having new experiences that may otherwise be unavailable to them and building meaningful relationships with the youth team.

Below are a few excerpts of evaluations written after the events to demonstrate some of the work taken place.

### **Intergenerational Karaoke at St Richards, Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2011.**

There was a high level of attendance at the event, with 39 participants in total. There was a nice feel to the evening, and a lot of people participated in the karaoke although it started slowly and took people time to get on stage. Refreshments worked well in terms of amounts and prizes. We need to think more about the stage lighting next time, but in general it was an excellent event.

In total 6 young people volunteered at and supported the activity. We held a short meeting beforehand to discuss roles, which included making signs, doing refreshments and signing people in. One young woman in particular helped in the kitchen for the whole evening. Young people helping were also involved in starting off the karaoke on stage.

As part of the evening, ideas were also taken from participants about potential other intergenerational events.

### **Urban Night 19<sup>th</sup> August 2011**

Skating and 'scooting' are extremely popular activities but it is widely acknowledged that the ramps in Knoll park are a bit inadequate. So, as part of the 'Friday Night Park Events' during the summer holidays an 'Urban Night' was organised in Knoll Park where mobile skate ramps were hired and set up next to the sports court. Music was played through a PA system and artistic activities such as spray painting and stencilling happened off to one side.



With the new ramps in place we attracted 30 young people down and found that the whole event was very successful – local

young people are still asking us when the ramps are coming back! To follow up on the success of this night, youth workers have worked with twelve young men to apply to the Healthy Neighbourhood fund to fund two skating trips. The group was successful and trips to Skaterham in Catereham took place in February half term and Easter Holidays.

A video montage of the summer event can be found on Youtube at this address;



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymW-k1tvKDw>

### **Silly Sports, Hangleton Park, Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August**



We were really pleased that this event attracted a wide age range of young people to participate, from under 5s to the older teenagers. In total, around 30 young people took part, with adults/parents observing from the sidelines. The event was well organised (who would have thought that a sports day-type event would take so much organisation!) and featured a variety of races for people to engage in – the egg and spoon race, sack race and a team relay. A special adult heat of the egg and spoon race took place on request!

Organising people into different age teams worked well, although in general, the younger ones stayed engaged throughout the event more than the older ones. Hot dogs were provided for all those who took part.

3 young people supported the event, helping out with registration of participants, sorting into teams and the cooking.



### **Mountain Biking trip- October Half term 2011.**

Two youth workers supported 8 young people to attend a full day mountain bike session at the Cuckmere Haven Centre during October half term. 2 young people had previous experience and for the remaining six it was a new experience. The day consisted of learning about bike safety, techniques to ride rougher terrain and a six hour mountain bike ride! The group rose to the challenge and engaged exceptionally positively with the whole experience. The end of the day was finished with a well earned BBQ. The bike tutor's feedback to the group at the end of the day included praise for their participation and effort and encouragement for two



members of the group to apply for their part time summer tutor roles, due to their skills and motivation demonstrated.

Young people have increased self-esteem and broadened their horizons through participation in our positive activity programme: e.g.

- 'I have learnt something new'(YW12), "
- 'It's good to get off the estate'(YM17),
- 'I now have got more confidence'(YW13)
- 'I have made new friends'(YW14)

Peer relationships have also improved between two estates through our positive activity programme thus improving community safety/ cohesion ie "There has always been this divide, gangs, but now it's much better. Through this project we mix...when we wouldn't have before" (YM 16yrs).



### **U Studios.**

During 2011-2012 the u studios music project has worked with 34 individual young people. This statistic does not include the 90 young people (approximate) the music peer educators delivered to year 7's and 8's and Hove Park Lower. These young people have received peer education and performance training and have worked hard to achieve their Brighton and Hove Youth Gold award. Many young people involved in this project have complex needs ranging from substance misuse issues, teenage parenthood, complex home needs and not being in training, employment, education or training.

The progression of these young people has been substantial. For example, they have all reflected on their increase in confidence and motivation and many of them would have never conceived teaching other children how to write music. It has supported them to reflect on their lives through their raps and make positive steps towards change.



For example, it has assisted two young people to reduce their involvement in anti social behaviour and has supported a number of young people to reflect on their substance misuse issues, both through their raps and with the youth workers present.

For a portable studio, that comprises of only a few bits of recording equipment this project has met the needs of many vulnerable young people in the area.



## Young Women's work

The young women's group was initiated as a result of youth workers and young people recognising that the percentage of young women accessing our Summer 2011 Programme was relatively low compared to the amount of young men. So with two young women volunteers, a group was started in October 2011. This group has grown for strength to strength, with a weekly meeting where 10-15 young women (13-19yrs) now attending. The issues explored have varied from sex and relationships, self esteem, disability, aspirations and much more! The group are currently working towards their Brighton and Hove Youth Awards and their Youth Arts Awards. They also plan to run a consultation event in July 2012 to attract new young women learning outcomes section for the future.



Young people achieved a variety of 'accredited outcomes' and 'learning outcomes'. There were 121 learning outcomes achieved which achieved:

- ★ Problem solving
- ★ Developing a new skill
- ★ Planning and organising
- ★ Self Awareness
- ★ Personal reflection
- ★ Working in groups
- ★ Social participation
- ★ Negotiating

18 Young people have also gained Brighton and Hove Youth Award.

1 young woman also won the Co-op South East Volunteer of the year award in November 2011.

1 young woman won joint second place in the BH link Competition for her art work.

41 young people have volunteered in their community during March 2011-March 2012.

10 young women are currently working towards their Youth Arts Awards, due to complete in the next couple of months.

3 young people are undertaking an NVQ level 2 in 'Community Leadership' with support from the Hangleton and Knoll Youth team.

4 young people completed their Sports Leaders Level 1 course.



2 young people attended the CVSF Community Engagement Showcase.  
(see below)

The stall showcased different examples of the Hangleton and Knoll Project youth engagement work including – 100 Felt Tips, Youth Forum, Shout Out Consultation, ‘It’s a bit of a Mix-Up’ Intergenerational Film Project, U-Studios.

One of the young women commented “it was a good event and lots of people came up and were interested in the project and what we have been doing. When people just came up, sometimes it was hard to think of what to say, but as soon as they started asking questions, I could just talk for ages”.



One young woman was filmed for the ‘We Live There website.

Finally, we would like to say thankyou to all our funders and partnerships, without them none of this fantastic work could take place!



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**2011-12**

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