

2021  
-  
2022

# IMPACT REPORT

our year in review



We do things differently...



# OUR YEAR IN REVIEW



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF OFFICER

**It's been a year of unique challenges in an evolving climate and we are tremendously proud of our trainees, clients and staff who have made so much happen.**

We developed new ways of working creating new programmes to maximise our impact. This included working with our employer partners to deliver 8 new employment academies and the contract for Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council's catering provision to increase social impact.

In 2021 / 2022 I am pleased to report that we over exceeded all of our targets for employment, participation and training.

Working with our employment and community partners we supported **82 people** with barriers to employment and learning to get paid jobs - that's **457% over our projected target**. In this year, **215 people received employment support, 116% over target**.

Supporting people to develop new skills, confidence and increased social inclusion is a core part of our work. Our training unit engaged those furthest removed from the labour market through a variety of community training including mental wellness, first aid, online safety, health & safety and food safety. We are pleased to report that **we exceeded our training targets by 119%**.

The year ahead will present new challenges as ESF funding in Northern Ireland comes to an end. We have had a great year and will continue to strive to deliver high quality services to ensure that people with learning difficulties have the best service, live their best lives and have a future with purpose.

Paula Jennings  
Chief Officer

## IMPACT SNAPSHOT

# 215

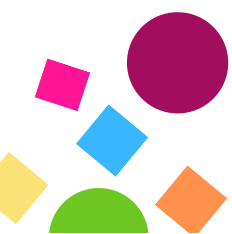
People received  
employment support

# 82

People supported to  
secure paid employment

# 63

People with learning  
disabilities benefited  
from our services





## OUR VISION:

"A SOCIALLY ENRICHED WORLD WHERE EVERY INDIVIDUAL CAN TAKE PROUD STEPS TOWARDS A LIFE FULFILLED"

# DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY

## WORKING WITH EMPLOYERS AND THE COMMUNITY

This year we worked with a range of employers to create eight new academies. Together with employers we provided training and employment opportunities across a range of disciplines and industries for people who experience barriers to learning.

Our team also partnered with community organisations to reach people who were furthest removed from the labour market. This programme delivered training courses that increased confidence and enhanced employability skills.

### IMPACT SNAPSHOT

**433**

training units delivered

**29**

Young people engaged

**8**

New academies

**100%**

Employer satisfaction



## OUR MISSION:

"TO NURTURE THE POTENTIAL OF PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY TO THRIVE IN A SOCIALLY INCLUSIVE SOCIETY"

# Creating Opportunities

**Our social enterprises serve as realistic training platforms for people with learning disabilities to gain new skills and qualifications.**

Trainees are guided and supervised by industry professionals working in our five social enterprises which include The Courtyard Cafe, 2nd Avenue Cafe, The Gatelodge Cafe, Picture Framing and Pink Elephant Wedding Stationery.

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

**100%**

Trainee satisfaction

**100%**

Parent / Carer satisfaction

**95%**

Staff satisfaction

2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Cafe



THE GATELODGE CAFE



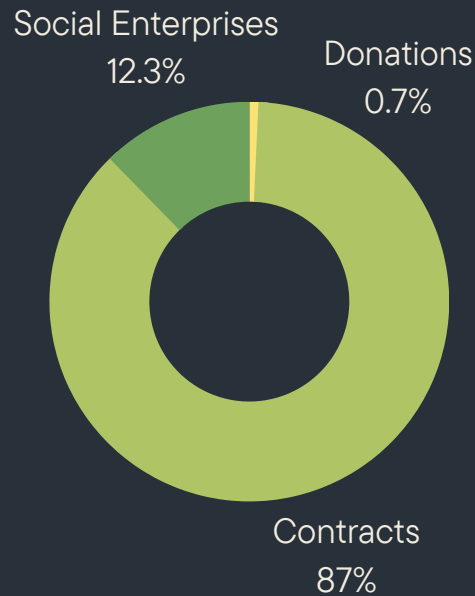
PINK ELEPHANT WEDDING STATIONERY



## INCOME GENERATED IN 21/22

# £1,550,778

Our income is generated from a mixture of contracts delivering programmes under ESF and match funders as well as money generated from our social enterprises and donations.



## Project Outcomes

### PROJECTS

Employment Academies

### DETAILS

Partnering with employers to create employment opportunities

### OUTCOME

- 8 academies ran with 42 participants who have barriers to learning and employment. 30 secured jobs across a range of sectors
- 100% satisfaction level

Loving Life Programme

Focusing on mental health and wellbeing

- 14 people with learning disabilities benefited from physical activity, mindfulness, creativity and socialising.
- 100% satisfaction level

YOU Service

Tailored to suit the needs of young people 16-24, building confidence, new skills and employment

- 29 young people with learning disabilities/difficulties engaged with 9 securing jobs and 24 progressing into further education and training
- 100% satisfaction level



# WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT EVERYONE'S

*support.*



## Thank you

to all our funders and  
supporters.


We know that with the right support we can change the lives of people who experience barriers to learning and employment. Every year we support a wide and diverse group of people. It is our passion and mission to support each and every individual to reach their full potential.


We are extremely grateful for the support received from our funders, employers, parents, carers and the community. Together we make an impact and change society for the better.



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Operating across the following council areas:



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