

Reaching People



Commitment to
Lasting Change

REACHING PEOPLE



Annual Report 2018 – 2019

Celebrating Achievements

15 Wellington Street, Leicester LE1 6HH

Registered Charity Number: 1072595 Company Limited by Guarantee 3576786

Reaching People is the trading name of Leicestershire Voluntary Sector Resource Agency

Activity and projects

Introduction

Reaching People does things differently. Its innovative structure and operating methods means it can respond quickly with in-depth and well-tested responses. Our clients get a high-quality service. Funders get efficient and effective delivery provided by experienced professionals. Crucially, the Reaching People model can leverage the resources of its member organisations to achieve much greater impact than they could do on their own.

This section highlights some of those achievements throughout the year, showing how much more has been delivered than would have been possible through conventional organisational structures.

Reaching People builds capacity, builds resilience and brings communities together

Interactivity and cross-pollination of activities and best practice is hard-wired into the Reaching People model. Our staff, trustees and member organisations are active across the voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. We share ideas, contacts, leads and resources. That leads to fruitful partnerships and the ability to bring communities together.

Zinthiya Ganeshpanchan, who for nearly ten years has run Zinthiya Trust, one of Reaching People's member organisations, this year co-ordinated the design and development of our place-based leadership programme. Thanks to funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, we partnered with Clore Social Leadership in an initiative which resulted in a valuable research and design model for leadership training and the opportunity for collaborative working.



Bringing communities together is also a feature of our ambitious and innovative Bread Sharing+ project. The offer to local organisations is tempting and tasty. In return for a commitment of staff hours and attendance at workshops, local projects receive training in both bread making and in practical ways to challenge extremism and division in society. The skills are designed to be transferable, and can be passed on within the organisations and beyond.

Venue hire, and all equipment, trainers and training resources are supplied by Reaching People.

Bread Sharing+ is delivered in partnership with community bread business Planet Leicester Bakers. It is funded by the Home Office's Building a Stronger Britain Together programme.

As well as specific projects, for which we attract external sources of funding, Reaching People staff, trustees and members maximise our influence by representation on local strategic groups. These currently include the Feeding Leicester partnership, the Fair Finance partnership, De Montfort University youth and community degree steering group and the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership European funding forum.



Reaching People improves communications, inspires staff and enhances service provision

It is not enough to do good work. That work also needs to be shared. By communicating what we do widely we help ourselves and others improve services and processes, inspire staff and volunteers and benefit those who need to access services.

So this year has seen us continue to develop and improve our website and our regular communications, in particular, with funding from National Lottery Awards for All.



Member meetings also play an important part in enriching the Reaching People eco-system. Part information sharing, part networking, and part inspiration and confidence building, the meetings have continued quarterly.



The biggest and brightest of the year's meetings was our November AGM, at which more than 70 people celebrated the collective achievements of the past year. The afternoon included a moving award ceremony which saw Moneywise Plus project participants recognised for the various ways they had overcome disadvantage to regain control and direction over their lives. The key note speaker was Natasha Mina a local inspirational kick boxer who uses her sport to empower herself and others. A persuasive advocate of the power of health, fitness and nutrition, Natasha moved the audience by her account of her decision to waive her right to anonymity as a survivor of sexual abuse in order to inspire and help others.

Reaching People expands skills, generates income and achieves more with less



An advantage of our close network of organisations and consultants is that we can offer tailor-made training designed around specific staff needs. When one local member organisation reported difficulty getting training for staff on minute writing, we were able to organise a local trainer to supply a day's training just as they wanted. Designed around the needs of the staff at Shama Women's Centre, it took place at their premises and also attracted participants from other Reaching People organisations.

During the year we also provided similarly successful training on good safeguarding practice. A very successful half-day workshop was designed to help staff and volunteers identify risks and deal with concerns or incidents.

In terms of generating income, one of the pressing challenges for our voluntary sector organisations is to keep on top of bid writing. The aim is to be informed well in advance about relevant grants and awards and to respond to likely opportunities with a well-researched, well-targeted bid. This requires committing resources, which are overstretched in all organisations. Reaching People is determined to help organisations improve their success rate and avoid wasted effort. We have a multi-pronged approach that includes practical training, bid writing and preparation, and pooling of resources in joint bids so that projects can be delivered collectively.



As a simple example of the cost savings that come from the Reaching People consortium model, during the year we relocated our head office. By moving to premises rented from one of our member organisations, we saved money, contributed to the organisation's income and freed up our previous workspace for our member organisation. Such flexibility and efficiency is made so much easier, and so much more valuable, as a result of the links we have between our organisations.

Reaching People delivers services to those with complex needs, makes lasting differences to people's lives and helps in the best way possible



The biggest project delivered by the Reaching People consortium continues to go from strength to strength. The Moneywise Plus project develops the digital and financial skills of people who are currently out of the jobs market, moving them closer to finding education, training or employment opportunities.

The success of the project is evidenced in many ways, not least in the faith of the funders, the National Lottery Community Fund which matches funds from the European Social Fund. Initially a three-year project, it now runs until July 2020. Crucially the consortium reaches people with the most complex needs, who are furthest from the labour market. This is challenging work, and sometimes frustrating because of the multiple disadvantages that many of our clients are experiencing. What makes it a success is the co-ordination of ten grass-roots, established projects working together alongside the city and county councils.



Another of our projects which brings together three local organisations and reaches out to neglected and isolated members of the community received funding this year. The Co-op Foundation funded a 12-week programme delivered by three member organisations focusing on approaches to youth loneliness and isolation. A short film explored solutions, including art, music and computer gaming.

An important dimension of Reaching People's work is the added value that comes from decades of accumulated experience of working in local communities. For instance, a food bank on its own does the vital job of providing food to families in need. But it becomes so much more when food bank users are provided with additional information and services.

The Leicester Food Bank Plus Project is based around four existing local community food projects. Its purpose is to ensure that those accessing emergency food services also have easy access to high-quality information and advice to help them tackle some of the key underlying causes which lead to food insecurity.



The following pages are extracts from the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019. Full accounts are available on our website.

LEICESTERSHIRE VOLUNTARY SECTOR RESOURCE AGENCY

TRADING AS REACHING PEOPLE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2019	2018
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>						
Donations and legacies	3	-	-	631,498	631,498	547,595
Investments	4	154	-	-	154	1,349
Other income	5	22,194	-	1,495	23,689	13,271
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income		22,348	-	632,993	655,341	562,215
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>						
Charitable activities	6	21,071	-	632,993	654,064	587,607
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		1,277	-	-	1,277	(25,392)
Gross transfers between funds		(1,277)	1,277	-	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/						
Net movement in funds		-	1,277	-	1,277	(25,392)
Fund balances at 1 April 2018		<u>20,000</u>	<u>99,833</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>119,833</u>	<u>145,225</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2019		20,000	101,110	-	121,110	119,833

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities. The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Miriam McKee - Treasurer (Independent)
Gaynor Quilter - Chair (Independent)
Kathryn Burgess - Vice Chair (Member organisation)
Tony Cusack (Member organisation)
David Ahlquist (Independent)
Mandy Wardle-Mcleish

Secretary

Jennifer Hand

Charity number

1072595

Company number

03576786

Registered office

Floor 3
15 Wellington Street
Leicester
LE1 6HH

Independent examiner

David T Mayfield
Mayfield & Co (Accountants) Ltd
2 Merus Court
Meridian Business Park
Leicester
LE19 1RJ

Bankers

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Mailing
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Reaching People Members of 2018-2019

