

# 2019

URBAN PARTNERSHIP GROUP  
ANNUAL REPORT



## **INTRODUCTION TO URBAN PARTNERSHIP GROUP**

Urban Partnership Group provides a holistic programme of activities for people who live and work in Hammersmith & Fulham and the surrounding areas. Through our Children Centres, Nursery and Parenting programmes we aim to give children the best start in life. We promote health and wellbeing through our Community Champion programmes and help bridge the divide with youth and elders' programmes plus adult learning and employment advice. We are developing a community asset and centre strategy and a sustainable future through environmental change solutions including solar energy conversion. The following annual report gives a flavour on how UPG makes positive change on a range of fronts from childcare, youth and elderly provision to food poverty and employment opportunities.

### **A FEW WORDS FROM OUR CHAIR**

*"I am always inspired when I visit the centres and hear from staff, volunteers and participants about the activities they are involved in. It is not easy to deliver services at a time when a little funding needs to go a long way. It is even harder to invest in support services to keep everything running smoothly behind the scenes. Yet every day the Urban Partnership Group family makes a small amount of money go a long way. They listen to the community about what is needed, they get creative, they use their professional expertise and they pull together to make things work. So many people are grateful that these services are available, and I am so proud that I live in a community where these services can exist".*

**Kamini Sanghani, Chair of Urban Partnership Group**

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## A GREENER BOROUGH

### Working to become a more sustainable community organisation

In May 2019, thanks to the support of the City Bridge Trust, Donnachadh McCarthy of 3 Acorns Consultancy conducted an eco-audit of UPG. From his work we now have a clear action plan of how we can reduce our carbon footprint, be more responsible and thoughtful in our practice and save money. He also held a workshop with our frontline staff so they can help our vulnerable clients with low incomes reduce their day to day living costs using eco-tips. The Board and Staff have reiterated their commitment to reviewing and improving their current practices to become an ever more sustainable and environmentally responsible organisation.

### 'Make the Masbro Centre Run on Sunshine'

One of our big fundraising initiatives in 2019/2020, is to raise money to install 64 solar panels on the roof of the Masbro Centre. Not only will we be saving money, which we can spend on community projects, along with other green initiatives we have adopted, we want to play our part in tackling the climate change emergency.

### Why it's a good idea:

- Masbro will generate its own green energy source, approximately **19,000 kwh per year**
- Money saved or generated, estimated at **£65k over 20 years**, will be spent on community projects
- Over **11,000kg of CO2** emissions will be avoided each year

As well as helping to protect the planet, UPG will continue to serve the people of Hammersmith and Fulham, especially those who suffer from inequality and social exclusion. You can support this community green initiative by pledging from £2 by the 31st January 2020.

<https://www.spacehive.com/make-masbro-centre-run-on-sun>

## GIVING CHILDREN A BETTER START IN LIFE

### Masbro Children's Centre

Masbro Children's Centre is the main site for the Central Locality (one of five sites) and offers a wide range of activities and services for parents/carers of children under five years:

- The Central Locality (where Masbro is based) also covers the delivery of the Parenting programmes and Masbro Youth Services, including contracts with Shepherds Bush Families Project and Sulgrave Youth Club. Our services prioritise the most disadvantaged families living in our reach.
- As well as the new nursery (for children on the two-year offer) at Brook Green Family Centre we continue to run the Nursery at Masbro Children's Centre.
- The Family Outreach Team offers 1:1 support to all families, but targets support at families whose children attend the nursery, on a wide range of issues including benefits, debt and housing; hold a case load, work in partnership with other professionals such as Health & Social Services and also work closely with the Family Support service.

### Flora Gardens Children's Centre

Flora Gardens Children's Centre has continued to deliver a range of services and activities for children and families this year. Our annual Halloween party was a roaring success again breaking last year's record with over **175 families** attending. We have also enjoyed celebrating other key events and celebrations this year, including International Women's Day and World Book day. The Children have enjoyed the garden this summer, learning all about nature and planting a variety of herbs and flowers.

The Outreach team continues to support families with a variety of issues, including housing, benefits and reducing isolation. Our Rose Vouchers Cooking and Lunch group has gone from strength to strength with over **50 families** now registered.



### UPG Nurseries

Masbro Under 3's Nursery is in its 6th successful year, offering **16 spaces** to children whose families are eligible for the 2-year funding. We are rated 'Good' by Ofsted and are, in conjunction with the Children's Centre, working towards our Bronze award from Healthy Early Years London.

Masbro Brook Green Nursery is now in its second year after successfully establishing ourselves in the community. Our children enjoy a varied curriculum through a mixture of indoor and outdoor activities. We are proud of our 'learning through play' ethos and our 'free flow' learning environment.

This year both nurseries took part in Book Trust's Pyjamarama event. All children (and staff!) wore their Pyjamas to nursery for the day, we had great fun and raised awareness of the importance of reading to children at bedtime.

Our nurseries provide high quality care from a team of highly skilled, compassionate staff who look after children from 10am – 3pm three days a week.

### Confident Parent Happy Child

The Confident Parent Happy Child (CPHC) Project is a programme for parents/carers living in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (LBH&F) who have a child aged 0-18 years. The project aims to provide parents/carers with a safe space to learn new parenting skills and strategies to feel more confident in managing their child's behaviour and enhance the parent-child relationship. This year we delivered 24 courses and **212 parents** have completed parenting courses.



## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

### Edward Woods Community & Maternity Champions

Running Baby Massage sessions, cooking and serving in our Community Café, providing breast feeding support for new mums, peer mentoring, delivering Mental Health First Aid training, running womens' cultural groups, food distribution, gardening, supporting Baby Clinic, organising trips to Brighton, Bournemouth and Kensington Palace... Last year, the Edward Woods Community and Maternity Champions gave over **1000 hours** of their time to the Champions' programme-making a real difference to their community.

### Addison Community & Maternity Champions

During 2018/19, the project engaged with **2469 residents**, assisted by a team of 25 Community and Maternity Champions who **volunteered 1683 hours** to help local people make positive changes to their lives. Our monthly programme includes weekly keep-fit classes, training for Champions, courses and seminars for residents, outreach, family fun events and day trips during half-terms and school holidays. Delivered in Charecroft Community Hall, it offers a welcoming and thriving community space in the heart of Shepherds Bush. Addison Champions are true representatives of the diverse communities in our local area and help to develop activities that are meaningful to local people. They also engage with stakeholders to shape the provision and access to healthcare services. New additions to our programme include working with the Patient Experience Research Centre and hosting students from the Community Group Placements of the BSc Global Health, Imperial College London.



## **Parkview Community and Maternity Champions**

White City Champions joined the UPG family on 1st April 2019. The project established in 2015, delivers various regular activities that serve to improve the health and wellbeing of residents living in White City and Wormholt ward. On 1st April 2019 we launched our latest activity, an exercise club funded by Sport England. The aim of the initiative is to identify and connect with residents who lack engagement in activities and are likely to be experiencing social isolation. We also run a box fit class on Wednesday evenings. Over the last couple of years, we have addressed food poverty in the local area by delivering a Community Food Distribution Service. Each week with fresh fruit, vegetables and other food produce supplied by The Felix Project and City Harvest we can **feed up to 40 families**. During the summer of 2019, we took **94 residents to Bournemouth** for our yearly seaside trip. We are excited to become a part of UPG and look forward to developing our project, champions, residents and community over the next year.



## COMMUNITY ASSETS AND CENTRES

In October 2017 Hammersmith & Fulham Council transferred the freehold of Masbro and Edward Woods Community Centres to the Urban Partnership Group. This asset transfer has helped safeguard these properties in perpetuity. Last year working in partnership with White City Residents Association who were looking for an organisation to manage their building we agreed to take on the task. Though different tenures the centres all provide a range of facilities to the local community.

### Masbro Centre

Operating from the Masbro Centre UPG hosts a Children's Centre, indoor sports pitch, gym, youth club (three times weekly), office space for outreach workers and service management, borough-wide parenting and crèche services in community and children's centre settings, a volunteering service supporting older people, an adult learning and employment support service, art and pottery workshops, a display gallery and information foyer, and training rooms for adult education and associated training facilities. This holistic offer provides a unique service mix and has been referred to as the "jewel in the crown".

### Edward Woods Community Centre

This has been another busy year at Edward Woods community centre, with more activities and services available and even more people attending. The centre offers a broad selection of over **55 free or low cost activities** giving people of all ages and abilities the chance to socialise (Stay & Learn, Coffee mornings, Elders Christmas party), learn a new skill (Baby massage, What the Tech, beginners English, Cookery classes), be creative (Mosaic class, Creative circle), get fit (Women's keep fit, Step up circuits, Feldenkrais, Multi-sports, table tennis, Badminton, Taekwondo), focus on wellbeing (Child & baby clinic, Yoga, Meditation & mindfulness), get healthier (Diabetes prevention and One you club), get up and dance (Dancemix, Line dancing, Street dance, Tea dances), eat well (Community kitchen and food distribution), plus events, outings, gardening, women's groups, support and counselling services and advice sessions. The quarterly Community boot sales are growing in popularity with over 30 stalls selling/exchanging a variety of items and giving 100's of people the opportunity to recycle goods and socialise. We are planning a summer party for 2020.





## **White City Community Centre**

The Centre is a valued and popular place for organisations to run their activities for the local community and their staff training. Activities held over the past year have included, NHS Blood donor sessions, Diabetes Prevention workshops, Healthy Hearts cook & eat and weight management classes, Imperial Health staff training, H&F Carers Network, West London Zone, Ward councillor surgeries, coffee mornings, chair exercise, Zumba, yoga, Taekwondo, street dance and box fit. We are looking forward to building and expanding on this programme in 2020.



## BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

### Masbro Youth Club

What a year 2019 has been, with a new exciting staff team the Youth Programme has provided an array of exciting, interesting and informative projects and programmes. Club members have pulled off some amazing achievements, and the Youth Club passing some fantastic milestones. Partnerships with organisations such as the Jack Petchey Foundation, Young Hammersmith & Fulham Foundation, The Violence Intervention Project, StreetGames, QPR FC and LBHF council amongst others, has allowed us to form strong partnership and community links that have supported and made our work possible.

Notable achievements and successes for 2019:

- Jack Petchey Achievement Awards for individual club members
- Youth Committee Summer Leadership Residential to Avon Tyrrell
- Youth Committee led Research Project for LBHF & PCC on serious Youth Violence
- One member winning London Youth Table Tennis Championships
- Exciting trips to places like Jet Skiing, Paintballing, and more
- Push N Pull Academy continues to grow and push the healthy lifestyle message
- Employment Support Services have helped young people get ready for employment and education pathways
- Youth Leadership Exchange to Slovenia
- Employed a Youth Club Member to the role of Youth & Community Intern on a Full-Time post

Running Monday, Wednesday and Fridays every week from 6-9pm (except at the end of the summer and at Christmas) and supplemented by additional project work where possible along with half-term programming organised by our Youth Committee, there is something for everyone at Masbro Youth Club (MYC).



### Skills Factory

We supported **122 long-term unemployed individuals**. 61 individuals moved into jobs, 70 individuals completed volunteer work placements and 84 individuals achieved training qualifications. Through our partnership with Paddington Development Trust we have run employment programmes for women from BAME groups funded by Big Lottery Community Fund and ESF. We excelled in supporting women into volunteer work placements and achieved award for 'Best Work Placement Provider' in the partnership. We are helping people on zero hours contracts, particularly local taxi drivers through funding from Trust for London. Our adviser was honoured with the 'Quality Award' for achieving excellent results on the programme. We have started IFutures course for long term unemployed with complex needs and low ICT skills. The first course runs for 10 weeks from Oct - Dec '19 and will help students to develop computer skills for employment together with improving their employability skills so they are able and confident to search for and move into paid employment.

### Older People Service

The Masbro Tea Club provides a safe and inviting space for older people to socialise, meet new friends and engage with a raft of interesting activities, events and outings. This year we delivered over 50 Tea Club sessions which included trips out to Blythe House, Westminster Abbey, Leighton House, Chelsea Physic Garden, Broadstairs and Windsor. In December, **120 older people enjoyed a fabulous Christmas Lunch** at the Edward Woods Centre. For the second year running the elders Art Class participated in H&F Artsfest, exhibiting some excellent paintings, drawings and sculpture. We held our annual Summer Party in the beautiful surroundings of St Regis Close gardens in Muswell Hill. In May we were appointed the Bush Theatre's Community Associate Company for the year which will see our members working with professional drama practitioners, choreographers and musicians to create a bespoke piece of theatre for a public performance in March 2020 at the Bush Theatre. We continue to recruit and train volunteer Befrienders who help over **35 housebound, isolated members of the community** to enjoy a better quality of life with regular home visits providing companionship and practical assistance.

Our Elders Project aims to open doors to new and exciting experiences, create opportunities to find friends and encourage people to live life to the full.



## VOLUNTEER WITH THE UPG AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

At the Urban Partnership Group, we have a variety of volunteering opportunities to match people's skills, interests and existing commitments. From becoming a Community Champion to helping out in our community kitchen to visiting an elderly person on a regular basis or supporting an event in our local community-there are plenty of opportunities for everyone. Through our volunteer work experience placements, we can help you gain new skills, knowledge and experience that can help in your next job. It maybe you already have a specialist skill like fundraising, marketing, languages or legal support. Please do come to and see if you can help. Whatever you choose, and whatever time you have available you will be helping to make a positive difference in the lives of others in your community. Contact the team on 0207 7605 0800 or [info@upg.org.uk](mailto:info@upg.org.uk)

Thanks to all our friends, volunteers, staff and supporters Special thanks to Franco Chen and Adrian Phillips at Working With Images.

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## FINANCE STUFF

Year	2019	2018
Income	1,686,750	1,409,314
Expenditure	1,661,308	1,383,870
Surplus/(Deficit)	25,442	25,444
Reserves	607,892	582,450

## OUR FUNDERS

Hammersmith & Fulham Council  
Jack Petchey Foundation  
Hammersmith United Charities  
Trust for London  
City Bridge Trust  
BBC Children in Need  
London Councils  
European Social Fund  
Skills Funding Agency  
StreetGames  
UK Youth  
Young Hammersmith & Fulham Foundation

