



BARCA-Leeds Children and Young People's Service

Youth Work

What we do:

BARCA-Leeds Youth Work Team offers a range of services for young people aged 11-19 yrs in West Leeds, working with young people to raise aspirations and provide positive opportunities to build skills for life.

Our service aims to:

- Increase young people's opportunity to voice, participate in and influence their community.
- Provide an alternative to anti-social behaviour and crime.
- Increase access to positive activities and opportunities.
- Increase access to sexual health services.
- Increase access to accredited opportunities for young people.
- Increase numbers in education, employment and training.
- Ensure that the most vulnerable are protected.

We do this by:

- Offering a varied youth work programme for young people to access.
- One-to-one support
- Providing regular sexual health drop-ins including access to services on a weekend.
- Confidential advice.
- Healthy Young Person's Clinic.
- Young Person's Accreditations and volunteering opportunities.
- Partnership work with Targeted Connexions Service.
- Interview skills and confidence building sessions with young people.

Locations we work in:

We are predominately funded to work in the Bramley and Stanningley ward.
The locations we deliver from are:

- Young People's Info Space – Bramley Town Street
- Leeds West Academy – Healthy Young Peoples Clinic
- St Catherine's Children's Home
- Fairfield Community Centre
- Youth Inc Building, Broadlea Hill
- Summerfield Estate – Mobile Provision
- Valley View Community Room, Valley View Primary School
- Lazer Centre
- Swinnow Community Centre

Partnership Working

Some of our key partners that we are currently working with are:

- Leeds Youth Service

- Platform (specialist drug and alcohol service for under 18s)
- School Nursing
- Leeds West Academy
- Bramley Family Support Team
- PCSO's
- Bramley Cluster
- Area Community Safety Co-Coordinator

Statistics

Last year we supported 945 individual young people. Young people attended a total of 3664 sessional activity places. We also supported 22 young people with an accreditation.

Our Annual Targets and Priorities April 2012 – March 2013

Outcome Indicators	Annual Targets
Support school attendance and achievement	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to sexual health services. • Increase/support school attendance. • Increase access to accredited opportunities for young people. • Increase opportunity for voice, participation and influence. • Reduce number of young people engaged in crime and anti-social behaviour. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver Healthy Young People's Clinic (West Leeds Academy) over 39 weeks engaging 150 young people. • Deliver 48 positive activity sessions in school setting (out of hours) engaging 70 young people. • Accredite 30 young people dependent on personal choice (UK Youth). • Youth Bank/Peer Education Focus Group – engage 20 young people. • Deliver 48 positive activities in high crime community engaging 100 young people.
Support reductions in the level of NEET young people	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to employment, education and training opportunities. • Increase access to targeted IAG services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach Youth Workers to support partnership NEET Sweep engaging 40 young people. • Deliver 10 sessions using the West/North West Careers Bus engaging 50 young people. • BARCA-Leeds have targeted IAG Personal Advisors for young people to access.
Support to Looked After Children	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to positive activities for LAC young people. • Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour targeting LAC young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver 48 positive activities engaging 25 LAC young people in West Leeds. • Engage 25 identified LAC young people in diversionary workshops e.g. drug and alcohol use.

Encourage activity and healthy eating, including the promotion of free school meals where relevant.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce obesity among young people. • Reduce number of young people using drugs and alcohol. • Increase self-esteem and body image/confidence, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver health and well being workshops engaging 50 young people. • Deliver drug and alcohol awareness sessions engaging 100 young people. • Accredited/engage 60 young people in healthy eating/cooking programmes. • Engage 100 young people in active exercise/physical activity.
Promoting Sexual Health	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce number of STI's among sexually active young people in West Leeds. • Reduce number of pregnancies in West Leeds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a 3in1 service x 3 weekly sessions • Engage 200 young people per year (3in1) • Deliver in sexual health awareness and learning training for young people (engage 150)

Youth Offer

We recognise that the needs, aspirations and circumstances of children, young people and their families will vary throughout their lives. There will always be times, especially when unanticipated events occur, when we need support or help to overcome difficulties. This could be a result of bereavement, health crisis, self-doubt or loss of employment. Sometimes we need to provide access to information that is easy to understand. We firmly believe that young people growing up in Leeds should have somewhere to go, someone to listen and something to do. BARCA-Leeds aims to provide a youth offer that delivers this support, recognising that early interventions can achieve better outcomes for young people.

As well as Youth Work, BARCA-Leeds Children and Young People's Service is made up of the following teams:

- Platform – Platform is a partnership between BARCA and DISC and supports young people with identified drug or alcohol misuse in making informed decisions and diverting them from misusing substances as adults. Platform provides intensive one-to-one support, low level intervention outreach sessions and a Harm Reduction Service that provides drug and alcohol awareness sessions, group work and peer-education programmes.
- Youth Inclusion Project – Provide support to young people to find alternative choices to offending and anti-social behaviour. They provide targeted group work, restorative one-to-one support, behaviour workshops and diversionary activities.
- Connexions – Lead by Igen, BARCA-Leeds provide targeted (IAG) Information, Advice and Guidance services for young people in West Leeds to support young people from NEET (not in employment, education or training) to EET (education, employment and training.) Connexions provide one-to-one intensive support, easy access points across West Leeds, careers bus, positive activities, group work, advocating for young people and signposting to other agencies.

- Targeted Play Service – Working with children aged 5-13yrs who are at risk of social isolation, have low attendance, attainment and are at risk of becoming NEET. The service provides targeted group work, open-access play activities and small group work in schools.



BARCA Youth Work Case Studies

Case Study 1

I first met TW when she came to the 3in1 drop-in one Sunday; it was the first time TW had accessed our service. She came needing a pregnancy test which we provided and the result was negative. We talked to TW about the risks of unprotected sex and offered her a Chlamydia test; we also signed her up to have a C-Card so she could access free contraception from us on a regular basis.

From this initial visit TW accessed the drop-in regularly for contraception, she told us her Chlamydia test had come back positive so she was pleased we had offered her one. Over the weeks we built up a positive relationship with TW, she started to confide in us about her regular use of substances, we advised TW to receive some support around this. She accepted that she needed help around her regular drug use and gave us consent to make a referral to Platform. Platform picked up the referral and worked with TW over a number of weeks on a one-to-one basis.

TW finished with Platform and is no longer using substances. She continues to access our drop-in. TW is coming up to 16 now and we have started having discussions with her about her plans for the future. TW would be a suitable referral to BARCA's Targeted Connexions Service due to her attendance in school and vulnerability.

Case Study 2

MW attends one of our youth groups. He attends on a weekly basis and sometimes his behaviour can be challenging but engages well with staff. In May 2012 MW came up on the Bramley Support and Guidance Meeting. School had made the referral needing support with his anger and behaviour in school. Because I knew MW attended BARCA Youth Provision regularly and had quite a positive relationship with our staff I suggested that one of our Youth Workers carried out some one-to-one mentoring with MW in school. This was agreed by the group.

This piece of work started the following week and went well. MW engaged well and was open to talk about his behaviour and how it was affecting people around him. MW admitted he was getting in trouble a lot with the PCSOs on an evening and when he wasn't at the youth group he was often causing trouble on the estate.

Because of his anti-social behaviour, his youth work mentor thought MW would be an appropriate referral to BARCA's Youth Inclusion Project. The Youth Inclusion Project picked the case up and involved MW in a project called Revizit which was a 12 week programme based around crime and ASB which included issue based activities and trips to Armley Prison. MW engaged well in this.

MW continues to be supported by the Youth Inclusion Project. His mentoring in school has ended but he still attends the evening youth provision. Bramley's Support and Guidance Group were pleased with the support we had offered and were continuing to provide.