

Future Changemakers Report

In February 2018 three young men were tragically stabbed in Camden, two of them fatally. Young people in Camden face rising violence, poverty and cuts to the youth services that protect them. Camden Giving's response to this is the 'Future Changemakers' programme.

The Future Changemakers programme worked with 16-25-year-olds living in Camden to make decisions on which youth services we fund, putting power into the hands of those who understand the challenges best.

We were supported by 5 businesses and The National Lottery Community Fund to create our Future Changemakers Fund. Thank you to Argent, Camden Town Unlimited, Camden Watch Co, Euston Town BID, The National Community Lottery Fund and The Span Trust for funding this ground-braking work.

We're delighted to be delivering these grants with our partners Somali Youth Development Resource Centre who led on safeguarding and attended all sessions.

Awarded Projects

| Organisation | | Amount Awarded | Summary of Project |
|---------------------------|--|----------------|---|
| AYBI | | £7000 | Outside the Ring: a series of workshops surrounding the aim of raising awareness of youth violence in Camden – through film and dramatic re-enactments of previous experiences of such. Teaching young people self-defence as well as promoting creativity through media. |
| Coram's Fields | | £10,000 | The continued support of young people who attend youth clubs/sessions at Coram's Fields. Emphasis on the desire to address pressing issues with young people through regular youth club sessions and activities. |
| Fitzrovia Youth in Action | | £9788 | Peer to Peer Empowerment: The young people participating essentially create awareness campaigns on their own decided topics of focus – with support of qualified staff they get to showcase their projects to their peers and at FYA events. |
| hFoundation | | £10,000 | Head Start 7: Providing young people with the opportunity to meet with experts and leaders from industries of interest, as means of having relatable role models with careers that the young people are interested in. |
| Performing Production CIC | | £9056 | The Music Creative Development: Bringing young, disadvantaged people together with workshops in which young people can express themselves and express their experiences, using different mediums and forms of media – mainly music and film. |

| | | | |
|--|--|----------|---|
| Pro Touch SA CIC | | £9220 | Be the Change – Health and Wellbeing: Promoting good physical and emotional health, through various sports and community activities – from school services to youth club activities. |
| SYDRC | | £9968 | The Keep It Up Project: To continue reducing the amount of young people engaged or involved in gang-related crime and violence, through their already-established youth advisory group; the youth advisory group is made up of mentors, youth workers and young people as means of providing positive and relatable role models for their attendees. |
| Urban Community Projects & Somers Town | | £9976.22 | One Mic One Life – Involving young people in the creation of an app that will allow them to not only create/video film and music, but to also share it with others – allowing young people to share their experiences, creatively. The project allows opportunities for young people to develop better inter-personal and creative skills – that they can outside of the project too. |
| The Winch | | £8503.80 | Take Back the Power: Working with young people who have been previously or still are, affected by youth violence. Providing safe spaces in the form of 5 events for young people to come together, talk about past youth-violence experiences and support one another. |

List of unsuccessful Projects and amounts requested:

Dragon Eggs Digital CIC (£10,000)

London School of Mosaic (£7680)

Sexplain (£9460)

STORE Schools and Projects CIC (£6000)

The CARAF centre (£5325)

The Talk for Health Company (£10,000)

The Visionaries (£9990)

Total amount unsuccessful: £58,455

Beneficiaries:

Total young people benefitting from the funded projects: **908**

Data on our Future Changemakers – Initial and Post-programme data.

The 10 Future Changemakers took part in training, designing the grant call-out and deciding which applicants should receive funding. Whilst on the programme the Future Changemakers were paid London Living wage. Camden Giving carried out before and after surveys with the young people and this is what they told us*:

*of those surveyed.

In regard to how much our Future Changemakers knew about charity processes:

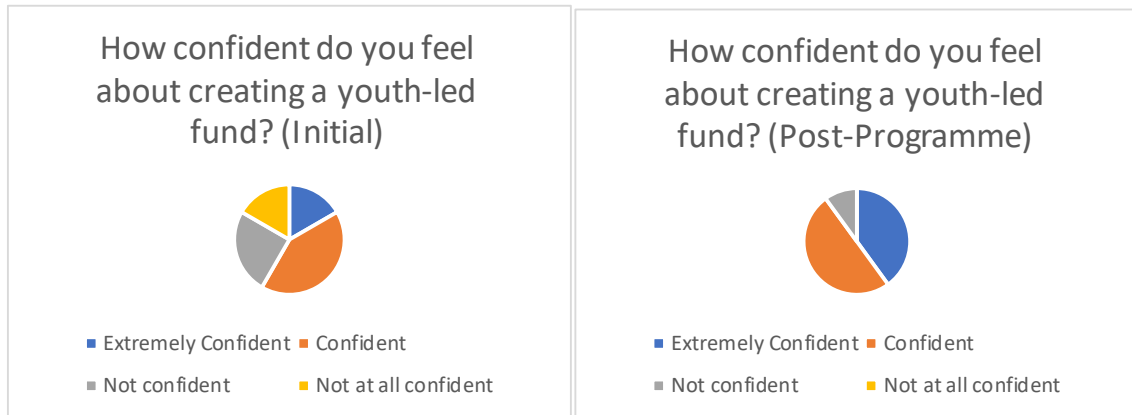
How much do you think you know about the charity sector?

| Prior to Future Changemakers programme | Post-Future Changemakers programme |
|--|--|
| "I know a little" | "Not a lot, but my time here has helped me learn a lot more" |
| "I know somewhat - that I learned at school" | "Not much, but my knowledge has been expanded since my time here" |
| "I know a fair amount as a business studies student" | "I'm still learning but I would say I know quite a few more things" |
| "Just a little but hopefully I will gain more knowledge throughout my time here" | "Before working [with Camden Giving], I barely knew anything however, I'm now more aware and have much more knowledge" |
| "I'm no expert, far from it, but I know a bit" | "I have adequate knowledge – I don't know enough to teach someone else, but I know a lot more than pre-Camden Giving" |

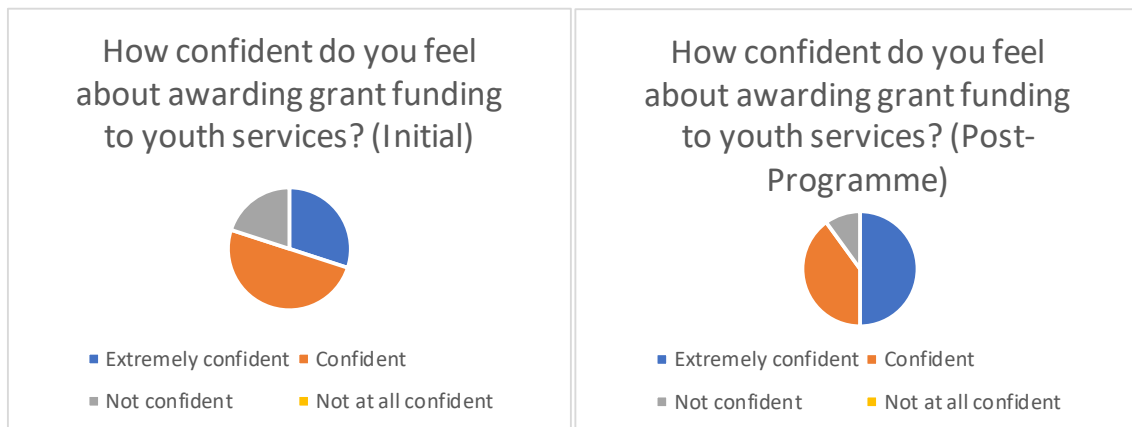
How much do you think you know about fundraising?

| Prior to Future Changemakers programme | Post-Future Changemakers programme |
|---|---|
| "The seeking of financial support for a charity or cause/other social enterprise" | "I know so much more than I did previously, working with you all has really helped" |
| "Not enough" | "I feel a lot more confident in that I know how to fundraise" |
| "Whatever I had learned at school" | "A lot more than I used to know" |
| | |
| "Quite a bit" | "A little bit more" |
| "Somewhat" | "Quite a lot" |

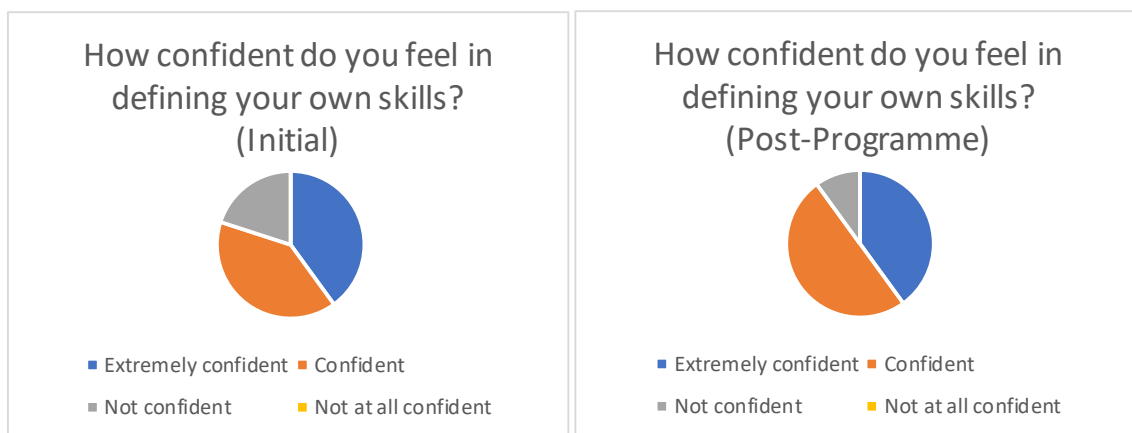
How confident do you feel about creating a youth-led fund?



How confident do you feel about awarding grant funding to youth services?



How confident do you feel in defining your own skills?



How confident do you feel talking in front of other people?



Additional quotes from our Future Changemakers post-programme:

- "It's been an amazing experience to actually see the impact we've had on young people like us"
- "I am really proud to be part of a new community of Future Changemakers who all have one mutual aspiration - to be a voice for young Camdeners and influence positive change through the grants we give. Young people are not taken seriously enough and often shut out of decisions that affect them. I feel strongly that we should be part of the solutions to create a safer and brighter future for everyone. I hope this fund will leave a legacy and inspire other young people to be involved in shaping opportunities to help them become leaders of Camden."
- "I felt like I was helping the wider community and making a difference to the lives of young people"
- "Growing up in Camden, I have seen first-hand the positive effects that local charities make to our lives. It's so important to me that we grasp all the opportunities available to us through grants as I want to make sure everyone younger than me still has the opportunities I did. Being a part of my local youth club transformed my life and gave me somewhere to be, and it's very hard to see that option being taken away from my local community. I'm excited about being one of the first to be involved in this ambitious project, and I'm really pleased I've been chosen to help deliver it in Camden."
- Another young man told us he "felt important", this is such a wonderful thing to hear from him, because I don't think he's felt important before.
- "Knowing that my team members and I have had an impact on the lives of young people like us means a lot because, we live in a place where sometimes we feel like

we don't have much control over our futures or the quality of our lives. This project was really eye-opening for me and I hope to do something similar in the future!"

- "I loved working with such a diverse spread of people from different areas"

Employment/Volunteering

Prior to the programme 2 of our Future Changemakers were employed part time whilst studying at college/university, with another Changemaker working full-time – 9/10 of our Changemakers are currently students.

Post-programme, 2 of our Future Changemakers who were previously unemployed or underemployed, have received employment through connections we have made, and 2 are currently being interviewed or have been shortlisted.

- 1 chair who is now working at CG until she goes to university
- 2 have interviews lined up with 2 different local businesses following introductions by Camden Giving.
- 1 panellist has since now taken up the role of Charing another fund managed by Camden Giving

Although not the purpose of the programme, we it is nice that some of the Future Changemakers have formed friendships outside of the programme.

Learnings:

| Experience | How we'll improve |
|---|---|
| Finding a better way to help the Future Changemakers understand financial information | We'll consolidate each applicants financial info into a basic document for young people. |
| It can be challenging to communicate with young people via email | We have moved towards communicating in less formal ways, such as whatsapp and this had a better result. |
| Most of the young people asked to learn more about grant giving. | We are exploring the possibility of running a 'Funder Summer School' and have applied to London Community Foundations to cover the costs of this. |

As with all our panels the young people made very cost effective decisions. They showed a strong interest in the long-term finances of the youth sector, but on balance decided there was a need to give grants that would have a short affect. In some cases the young people made decisions that would have been different to those made by Camden Giving staff, a conscious effort was made not to train the young people to make the same decisions as experienced grant-givers, but to allow the young people to make decisions that weren't authentic.

