

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BAILDON COMMUNITY HUBS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ACTIVITY REPORTS (6-monthly)</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Name of Hub:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The St Hugh's Centre</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Date of report: 08/04/2024</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Covering period 01/10/23 to 31/03/2024</p>

Plus: please send a current programme of activities at your premises or arranged by you in your neighbourhood.

<p>1.</p>	<p>What evidence do you have that your activities are meeting the needs of the community? (E.g. requests, surveys, attendance numbers, special factors, local knowledge and feedback)</p>
	<p><b>SURVEYS and DISCUSSIONS</b></p> <p>We use various tools to find out what users want from the project, what they are gaining and what changes would benefit them. One method is regular written user surveys. At our last survey, we had 43 contributions. When asked 'What difference has coming to St Hugh's made to your health and wellbeing', the response was overwhelmingly positive. Some examples of replies are:</p> <p>"I've made so many friends here. I came to leave some donations for the food bank and from there I now attend Carers group, Oasis and the Warm Space".</p> <p>"I love being able to share lunch with like-minded people. We talk about all sorts".</p> <p>"The support I've received from the Food Bank – honestly, it's been life saving!"</p> <p>"If St Hugh's wasn't in our community, where would we go? It's given me somewhere welcoming and warm over the coldest and loneliest part of the year".</p> <p>As CD Worker, I regularly sit in on Centre activities to talk to users about their experiences and invite views and suggestions. Recently, some of the outcomes from these discussions have been:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supporting the Craft Group to set up and run special workshops.</li> <li>2. Setting up 'Beat The Winter' Campaign to address the issues users identified about keeping themselves and their houses warm and saving money on energy.</li> <li>3. Expanding the Warm Space menu to provide a more substantial meal for those who told me it was their main meal of the day.</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Understanding the local need for an older person’s exercise class and finding a suitable teacher.</li> <li>5. Encouraging food bank claimants to talk about wider issues affecting them and then offering solutions.</li> </ol> <p><b>ATTENDANCE FIGURES</b> We keep registers for all our activities. Levels of regular and consistent attendance demonstrate that the activities offered are being well received.</p> <p><b>FOOD BANK</b> We know that providing a food bank is meeting the needs of people in this community because we receive referrals from social services, doctors surgeries, adult services and other agencies who refer people who have nowhere else to turn. We also know from personal experience how grateful claimants are when they receive help. We interview each food bank claimant and keep a running narrative about their issues so that we can follow-up on subsequent visits.</p> <p><b>CHRISTMAS HAMPER SCHEME</b> We know that our Christmas Hamper scheme helped some of the most vulnerable families in our community because all four Baildon primary schools worked with us to identify families in crisis.</p>
2.	<p>What steps do you take to make sure that newcomers or vulnerable people are welcomed into your activities?</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Website – Our website <a href="http://www.sthughs.org">www.sthughs.org</a> is kept up-to-date with the latest activities, room hire rates, contact details etc. Prospective visitors can find out more and make contact before they arrive at the Centre.</li> <li>2. Social media posts – St Hugh’s Facebook page contains news and information which is circulated among the wider Baildon community. New users have been encouraged to make contact/attend through this avenue.</li> <li>3. Staff and volunteer training – our staff, group leaders and volunteer workers are trained to recognise new faces, make them feel welcome, encourage other users to befriend. We also look out for barriers to inclusion like mobility issues or mental health challenges.</li> <li>4. Food bank volunteers/worker – Training is given to make claimants feel welcomed and safe. This is our most vulnerable group and we offer quiet times for claimants to visit if they prefer.</li> </ol>
3.	<p>Please give details of any new activities which have started in the current reporting period.</p>
	<p><b>BEAT THE WINTER CAMPAIGN</b> £3000 was secured from Combined Funding streams to offer our community energy saving solutions, home insulation and warm clothing. We bought and distributed a supply of: Air fryers – which use a fraction of the energy of conventional cooking</p>

	<p>Thermal hats, scarves and gloves Thermal blankets Draft excluding strips Draft excluders for under doors</p> <p>This scheme ran through the coldest part of the winter and was accessed by 53 households, making 113 positive new contacts.</p> <p><b>WARM SPACE</b> Once again we received Bradford Met funding to open the Centre as a Warm Space from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023. The Warm Space runs once per week on Wednesdays. We have served an average of 38 people at each session and expanded our volunteer base to facilitate this.</p> <p><b>CHRISTMAS HAMPER SCHEME</b> – From mid-October to the beginning of December we planned and rolled out a scheme to provide help to local families in crisis in the form of Christmas Hampers. The scheme cost £975 and this was covered by securing new funding. In total, 25 families received a large hamper containing food and shopping vouchers.</p> <p><b>CRAFT WORKSHOPS</b> – We held specialist craft workshops and invited members of the local community. This introduced new members to our weekly craft group.</p>	
4.	Please give details of any activities which have ceased during the current reporting period, and explain why?	None
5.	<p>What advice or signposting services are you offering?</p> <p>We continue to offer signposting information on debt, mental health, family issues, housing, disability, job seeking etc. to our food bank claimants. Every new claimant to the food bank has an interview in which we ascertain the long-term needs and provide advice and suitable signposting. This advice often spills into our other groups when a concern or worry is aired.</p> <p>We offer signposting in the Welcoming/Warm spaces weekly session too.</p> <p>The new Police Contact Point gives the local community an informal opportunity to seek advice and guidance from a member of the police.</p>	
6.	How many volunteers (formal or informal) are currently involved in delivering your activities (approx).	24 formal and approximately 16 informal.

7.	Details of any outreach work undertaken within the current reporting period.																																															
	<p>Our main Food Bank volunteer and myself (CD worker) have joined other local organisations for <b>training in Domestic Abuse</b> so that we can be better prepared for vulnerable food bank claimants and how to help them. We also helped inform the organisers how this training could be rolled out to VCs more effectively.</p> <p>Working with a local police officer and PCSOs, we hold a regular <b>Police Contact Point</b> at St Hugh's. This gives local residents a monthly opportunity to seek advice from a member of the police and to be able to report crimes.</p> <p>We worked with all four of the <b>Baildon Primary Schools</b> to identify vulnerable Baildon families to benefit from the Christmas Hamper Scheme. We shared information, experiences and local knowledge which helped both ourselves and the schools discover ways that we can work effectively in partnership in future.</p> <p>I continue to work with Kate Bell of Baildon Methodists to organise and attend <b>meetings of BTC Hubs</b>. We have invited representatives from the other Hubs and also workers/volunteers who work within the Hubs.</p> <p>I continue to attend <b>Baildon Liaison Group</b> meetings organised by Shipley Area Co-ordinator's Office so that I am conversant with what is happening around Baildon and to make other organisations aware of St Hugh's offer.</p> <p>I have worked with Bradford Met's Emergency Response Team and enrolled St Hugh's and St James's buildings as <b>Emergency Contact Centres</b> in the case of a community crisis.</p> <p><b>Offering affordable room hire</b> is a very important part of the centre's work. We keep our prices as low as possible in order to attract new activities into this community. Occasional hire has been particularly high over the period.</p>																																															
8.	Number of residents attending your activities in an average week.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><b>Own Groups</b></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><b>Hirers</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yoga</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carers support</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 Rhythms</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zumba</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oasis Café/Warm Space</td> <td style="text-align: right;">38</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Craft</td> <td style="text-align: right;">22</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dance Class</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Toddlers</td> <td style="text-align: right;">42</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fencing</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Food bank/BTW Camp</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Police Contact Point</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Irregular</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">12</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTALS</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>128</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>118</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<b>Own Groups</b>	<b>Hirers</b>	Yoga		16	Carers support	10		5 Rhythms		18	Zumba		36	Oasis Café/Warm Space	38		Craft	22		Dance Class		24	Toddlers	42		Art		16	Fencing		8	Food bank/BTW Camp	10		Police Contact Point	6		Irregular		12	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>118</b>	
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9.	Anything you have been especially pleased about recently.																																															

	<p>I am pleased to start partnership working with Macarena Yunge who is the Community Centres Health Partnership Co-ordinator at HALE Project. We are presently setting up various methods of consultation to find out what gaps older residents in our community identify and then developing some new activities and services around health and wellbeing.</p> <p>I was delighted to secure a grant as part of the Combined Funding offer to be able to offer utility top-ups to people whose energy meters were out of credit. In total we distributed £500 of utility top-ups.</p> <p>I currently setting up a weekly exercise class for the over 55s and it's really good news for local people who have often expressed a wish for more local exercise that is affordable.</p> <p>I am really relieved to have been able to find a replacement for our Jolly Tots Toddler group leader. The weekly session is very depended upon by local parents and carers and offers a play session for their pre-schoolers at a highly subsidised price.</p> <p>I was pleased to hear that St Hugh's is again being offered the funding to continue Welcoming Spaces which replaces Warm Spaces during the spring/summer months. We will continue to offer free food and drink on Wednesdays alongside our usual breakfast and lunch café.</p>	
10.	Any concerns or difficulties that you want the Town Council to be aware of.	
	<p>We have lost quite a few of our volunteers recently due to ill health and age-related issues. It seems increasingly difficult to secure committed volunteers as the older generation steps down. I have spoken with other organisations in Baildon who have felt this trend to some degree but it seems more prevalent in lower Baildon. I am trying to better understand the reasons, whether they are associated with socio-economic factors, occupational experience, different levels of health and mobility etc so that we can make our volunteer base more sustainable going forward.</p>	
11.	Any gaps or plans identified for the future?	<p>Opportunities to exercise for older people have been requested and I hope to start a new weekly class in the next couple of weeks.</p> <p>More activities around health, wellbeing and friendship have been requested and I hope that my partnership working with Macarena Yunge of HALE will offer new opportunities.</p>

Signed:



Sarah Baxter, Community Development Worker for the St Hugh's Centre