



Nottinghamshire
Carers
Association

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Young Carer Health and Social Care Liaison Service Case Study



Youth Service - Introduction

The Youth Service provides access to high quality, safe and enjoyable social education activities for young people. It provides a structure for children and young people to voice their opinions and to shape the services provided for them. They offer focused youth work intervention, and supported referrals for children and young people with additional needs. The Youth Service engage with young people from age 10 to 19, the Looked After cohort until the age of 21, and disabled young people up to the age of 25. Youth Work is structured to make a positive difference to young people, their families and their local communities.

The Challenge

The challenge was to help identify young carers within the Youth Service and to ensure staff were aware of support services available for young carers. Prior to working with NCA, the Youth Service did not really know much about Young Carers, or do anything specifically to identify or support them. They did not know about the recent changes to the support services available to Young Carers.

Work completed

NCA started working with the Youth Service in December 2023. NCA worker, Beth, met with Andy Allsopp, the team manager for the Youth Service, to talk about the NCA Young Carer Awareness training and to find out more about the Youth Service District Forums. It was decided that 3 dates would be scheduled to deliver the Young Carer Awareness Training to the Youth Service Team. A total of 25 Youth Workers attended over the 3 sessions.

Following the Young Carer Awareness Training in February, Shane Butkeraitis volunteered to be a Young Carers Champion for his team in Worksop, Bassetlaw. He continues in this role and receives regular updates from NCA about Young Carers and other relevant services and organisations.

In June 2024 Beth met with Andy Allsopp again to arrange further training sessions for those who had missed out in February. The Action Plan for the Youth Service to receive NCA'S Young Carer Friendly Quality Mark was set at this time. Andy put himself forward to be the Young Carers Champion for the Youth Service and continues to receive regular updates from NCA.

A further 13 Youth Workers attended the NCA Young Carer Awareness training over two sessions, making 38 in total.



From left to right Andy and Shane wearing their Young Carers Champions Badges with pride.

Next Steps of progress

In August 2024 Beth met with Andy to review the Quality Mark Action Plan. The majority of the staff team have now received the Young Carer Awareness Training and Andy continues to promote the ongoing NCA training webinars with his team to ensure that as many receive the training as possible. All of the Young Carer resources that have been shared for the Young Carers Notts Service have been printed and displayed in the Youth Service Centres. As these are updated Andy will continue to share them with his team. Beth has sent over Facebook ready Jpeg images to promote the Young Carers Notts Service so that they can be shared easily on the Youth Service social media pages.

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Outcomes and Impact

Young Carer Training course

Following the Young Carer Awareness Training in July, Jason Stanley from the Misterton Youth Group in Bassetlaw contacted Beth to ask for support in running a 7 week course with his Youth Group. He plans to run a course all about Young Carers, who they are, what they do, and the impact of caring, to take place in the second half of the autumn term. Beth met with Jason to discuss this with him. She was able to provide him with all of the resources he needs to create the course material aimed at young people, as well as introduce him to Tracey Enticott, the Young Carer Support Worker for Bassetlaw from YCN. Tracey is going to attend the Misterton Youth Group to introduce herself and talk about the Young Carers Notts Service as part of their course. If there is enough interest following the 7 week Young Carer Awareness course, Jason plans to run a Young Carer support group at his Youth Group in Misterton one night a week.

Young Carers added to the website

Andy put in a formal request for the Youth Service section of the Nottinghamshire County Council website to have a description and a link to the Young Carers Notts Service. This has now been added.

[Click here to see the Youth Service website:](#)

Health and Wellbeing day

NCA are in the process of planning a Health and Wellbeing day package for secondary schools, and plan to deliver a pilot at Retford Oaks Academy. Jason Stanley and Heather Cowley from the Youth Service in Retford, Bassetlaw have agreed to take part in the day and run a workshop session to promote the Youth Service within the school.

Young Carer support groups and Halloween event

Since starting to work with NCA and the Young Carers Notts Service there are now 5 of the Youth Service buildings being used for monthly Young Carer Support Groups run by YCN. There are also another 4 under discussion to begin over the next 6 months, including Retford and Misterton.

In October they ran a Young Carers Halloween Party at the Youth Centre in Worksop.

Young Carer Friendly Award

The Youth service were presented with the NCA Young Carer Friendly Award in November. This award is in recognition of their ongoing hard work and commitment to identifying and supporting young carers in all of their youth work across the county, as well as supporting and working with Nottinghamshire Carers Association and the Young Carers Notts Service. There has been some brilliant partnership work happening amongst these services, with Young Carers at the centre of the collaboration.



The Youth Service receiving their Young Carer Friendly Award



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