

Impact Report

Over the past three years, GMYN has been a beneficiary of the Michael Josephson Charity Ball, receiving £42k of funding for three amazing projects and experiences. Thanks to the very generous support from Dr Michael Josephson MBE, GMYN has helped changed the lives of many young people. We really appreciate his support and kindness to make our ideas and support offers come to life.

2022 - £10,000



In 2022, this donation allowed us to take 40 young people to a residential in the Lake District. This included young people facing various challenges and issues such as Asylum Seekers, Care Experienced Young People and Disabled and Neurodiverse Young People.

The residential gave young people confidence, an opportunity to make friends, provided respite from their day-to-day issues and in some cases, the first ever opportunity to see and experience the serenity of the Lake District

2023 - £7,000



In 2023, the donation helped GMYN to transform the lives of 18 children. These children were all young people in care and young people with social, emotional and mental health needs (SEMH). This residential was different as all the young people were aged 10-16.

The residential was focused around mental health and the 5 Ways of Wellbeing, helping children to gain confidence, new skills and make friendships. The whole team involved with running this residential said it was one of the best experiences they have had as youth workers.

2024 - £25,000



The donation in 2024 allowed us to deliver a brand new mental health and wellbeing programme for the whole year. This vital service provided emotional wellbeing support and development activities for young people that needed it the most.

The programme directly supported 70 young people, providing various life skills activities including cooking, budgeting, and focussing on healthy lifestyles. We delivered sessions on music, art and took young people to outdoor events and wellbeing experiences. It was heartwarming to be able to provide tailored emotional support that was vitally needed.



The £42,000 of donations has had a huge impact. We have been able to directly support over 130 young people, helping them learn vital life skills, improve their mental health and well-being, and build a support network outside our provision. The difference this has made is huge!

Examples of what the funding has enabled us to deliver:

- 60 young people taking part in walking, canoeing, gorge walking, climbing and more, supporting children to form healthy relationships with others, reduce isolation and improve their mental health.
- Excting workshops and discussions on improving young peoples well being and mental health awareness. Helping young people to have a postive focus on their lives.
- Providing 1-1 support and group activities to support young people to build confidence, make new friends, improve their social skills and enable them to develop resilience for the future.
- Providing direct support to 70 young people with Life skills activities: including cooking, budgeting, money management, healthy lifestyles –all skills young people need to live independently.
- Safeguarding – helping young people deal with any safeguarding needs and working with social care/support workers to deal with any urgent crises.

What young people said...

Coming along to the group has helped me mentally a lot, GMYN gives me a place to relax, forget about the bad and do what I love and enjoy doing, I don't know what or where I'd be without this, even mentally.

GMYN has had a positive impact, helping me develop skills, develop building relationships and getting out of the house, its good to have a goal to works towards to see your progression.

I always found the sessions at GMYN relaxing, and it really helped my mental health. The creative well being sessions have been amazing and very fun to be apart of.

GMYN has helped me to build my resilience a lot. It motivated me to do new things in life. Their support when I was in a bad mental state was brilliant, it helped me get back on my feet again..

The impact

For many young people, moving towards a positive future isn't easy. GMYN believes all young people deserve access to positive experiences.

GMYN bridges a gap between young people and where they could be. This is through helping them build key life skills, increasing their confidence, improving their mental health and wellbeing and building a support network. Once these essential foundations are in place, young people have greater stability and can start to look to the future.

Funding enables us to deliver our young person-centred approach across Greater Manchester. Allowing us to provide a flexible support offer so young people can opt to participate when needed. Young people receive tailored support to meet their short and long-term needs.

This asset based approach means young people facing multiple barriers can engage with our services and help transform their lives.

With our help... **#YoungPeopleCan**



A comment from our Programme Coordinator, Liv

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The Creative Wellbeing programme has been an amazing experience to run. I've been so honoured to watch the young people who get involved flourish and find some respite from whatever may happen in their day to day lives.

There's nothing more rewarding than thinking of the difference between young people when they first engaged, and how confident they now are. The young people have clearly found so much benefit from the ability to not only express themselves with art and music, but to learn new skills, meet people and feel supported by regular staff who they know they can reach out to.

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Why GMYN is needed...

Through this funding over the past three years, GMYN provided a safe space for young people to connect with their peers, gain confidence and participate in positive shared experiences. However although we have changed things for some young people, the situation remains. Across our work, we're drowning in stories from care-experienced, disabled, neurodivergent, and unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people facing overwhelming loneliness, low mood, trauma, and poor mental health.

These lived realities reflect a national emergency: the UK has the lowest youth wellbeing in Europe, a crisis deepening over the last decade. In 2022–23, nearly one million young people were referred to mental health services; yet 28% were still waiting, and 39% were assessed and denied support. For those furthest from power, the system is failing. Shame, isolation and invisible barriers leave our most marginalised young people unheard, unsupported, and increasingly at risk.

Through our consistent focus on wellbeing, we provide opportunities for young people to connect with others who share similar experiences to them and to gain emotional support. GMYN provides help in times of crisis, as well as signposting to specialist services. This is why GMYN is needed now more than ever.

A thanks from our CEO

It has been wonderful to be able to work with Michael to change young peoples lives. Being able to be creative and listen to what young people want, and then make it actually happen is transformative.

I am always grateful for the support and guidance Michael brings and for his sheer generosity. We always appreciate the chance to create new opportunities for young people to enjoy their lives, feel safe and have the chance to progress.

I look forward to what we can do together next.

Thank you Michael.



Alex Fairweather
CEO

