



Street Teams
Annual Report 2014

Executive Summary

2013/14, proved to be another challenging year for Street Teams financially, with more competition from voluntary organisations seeking funds from Charitable Trusts and Foundations to replace cuts in local government budgets. Street Teams wasn't immune to the impact of these changes, and we have had to work very hard to meet our financial requirements to ensure that we were able to deliver all of our programmes and not have to restrict our service provision.

Additionally, in the last quarter of this period we learnt that our long-term contract with Walsall Council would not be renewed in 2014/15, and that it had been placed with a national charity. We have received assurances that the change of contract was not down to any failure by Street Teams, but purely a financial opportunity to cut costs further, whilst acknowledging that there would be a reduction in service from the new provider when compared with Street Teams' delivery. Subsequently, we have been offered a new contract by Walsall Council to deliver training to professionals around child sexual exploitation and explore gaps in local service provision.

To manage the financial challenges of the past 2 years, Street Teams agreed new managerial systems and streamlined its costs to deal with the income shortfalls. As a result of careful budgeting and natural staff loss, Street Teams reduced its expenditure by 6% whilst also increasing its income through an improved funding strategy. Although this period reports expenditure greater than income, it is almost half of the deficit of 2013, and shows that the Charity is now moving in the right direction financially. Once again, Street Teams was able to manage its shortfall through its reserves.

By the end of the financial year 2013/14 we revised both our Business Plan and Fundraising Strategy, and are therefore are moving into 2014/15 on a sound footing.

As we move into 2014/15, we continue to manage our costs and work hard to increase our income. We have already secured a major three year grant from The Henry Smith Charity towards core work which began in March 2014.

Total cash funds carried forward from the previous year were close to the boards target establishing a firm basis to support the work of the charity during the ensuing year.

The trustees are satisfied that the income over the year has been at a sufficient level to support the activities of the organisation during the year and will provide a firm basis for the coming year.

Our reputation, the quality of our service delivery and improving financial position are all pointing towards a positive future enabling us to continue offering the vital support and services required to help exploited and at risk young people escape from the abuse they experience.



Mark Harland
Chief Executive Officer

*2013 NCVO photography competition winner
"Touching Hands"*

Our expertise lays in our local knowledge and understanding of the communities we work with, and our experience and insight into the needs of vulnerable and sexually exploited young people.

During 2013/14 we achieved the following:

- **Received 141 referrals** to work with boys and girls at risk of or affected by sexual exploitation, aged 10 years upwards
- **Worked directly with 109** of the referrals and the remaining 32 were signposted to other services
- **Delivered 42 intensive workshops** sessions over 7 courses to 19 young people, of which 9 gained an ASDAN qualification
- **Delivered outreach workshops to 45 young people** in 6 different settings including hostels, schools and care homes
- **Delivered 250 1:1 support sessions**
- **Took 3 clients on a day trip to the seaside**, of which 2 had never experienced a beach before. The trip aimed to build confidence and trust with Street Teams project workers, and helped each person to engage with the process of changing their behaviour through a positive experience
- **Worked with 916 young people** across 10 educational settings to raise awareness of the risks of sexual exploitation
- **Delivered training to 824 people** (parents/professionals/hotel staff/taxi drivers) to raise their awareness of sexual exploitation, and help them to identify young people at risk, or who are being exploited
- **In 2013, a Street Teams client won the 2013 National NCVO photography competition**, and a second client's work was highly commended. The boys who took these photos were participating in Street Teams 'PhotoVoice' project. This enabled them to take professional cameras home and capture scenes of their lives to create a "storyboard" to express and reflect their emotions, behaviour and circumstances.
- **2014 Winner** of Walsall Housing Group VIEW Community Chest, Outstanding Personal Achievement, Award for services to local young people.
- **Runner up** in Community Award Category, Birmingham Foundation Community Awards 2014

As a result of monitoring over the past 12 months:

59% were at risk of exploitation for a variety of reasons
45% were in inappropriate relationships
31% had been missing or frequently absconding
26% lacked sexual boundaries
16% had been seen in areas where sex is sold
3% were selling sex

**Concerns for
children and
young people at
the time of referral**

63% had increased their awareness to risk
37% had positive changes in their behaviour & relationships
17% had improved their attendance in education
16% had reduced missing episodes
21% had addressed sexual health concerns
18% were signposted to other agencies to receive additional specialist support

**Outcomes
following support
from Street Teams**

Plans for future periods

Street Teams has an enviable reputation for its level of skill and expertise in the field of child sexual exploitation and trafficking, and is considered locally as a centre of knowledge and a point of referral for many agencies working with young people. Through our work we have spotted gaps in services and support which expose young people to greater risk, and we would like to develop new programmes to fill those gaps over the next few years.

However, our main focus will be to continue to deliver our tried and tested frontline work to individual children and young people through our Keep Safe programme, whilst continuing to build up funding. However, we have submitted a new bid to the Big Lottery to develop some of these new areas of work, and we hope to be able to report back in 12 months time that we were successful.

What we plan to deliver in 2014/15

Via our **'Keep Safe'** programme we plan to deliver:

- Flexible tailored, intensive one-to-one support, dependent upon the level of vulnerability and emotional damage of each young person
- Education work with schools aiming to raise awareness of the problem of sexual exploitation, and to teach young people to recognise the early warning signs of an abusive relationship. To date we have worked with over 30,800 young people
- Training for health and education professionals and parents, to give them the knowledge and skills to recognise abuse and intervene appropriately



New areas of work that we would like to develop

- Alternative education programmes for clients refusing to return to full time education
 - Working with boys and gangs, and youth offender institutes
 - Building relationship with black and ethnic minority communities to build trust and disclosure
- Develop workshops for children and young people with learning disabilities to enable them to understand their risks and rights

Finances 2013-14

Income

Grant Making Trusts: £161,533

Contracts and Income Generation: £58,067

Total Income: £219,600

Expenditure

Charitable Activities: £153,596

Support Costs: £78,590

Cost of Generating Income: £8,063

Governance: £4,403

Total Expenditure: £244,652



2013 NCVO photography competition runner up
"Split Personality"

Thank You

Street Teams would like to thank all those who have supported the work over the last year. This includes the Board of Directors, the Members, the Staff and Volunteers, the Intercessors and those who gave financially, either personally, through contracts or through a Grant Making Trust.



Without your help and support none of this vital work would be possible.



Thank you for helping to keep young people safe from sexual exploitation.



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