

Insight

CSF Project Update

The CSF programme has reached a major mile stone and has now placed over 270 Ex-Remploy Employees into work i.e. almost 1 in 3 participants have now been placed into work.

11 projects have now completed and early indications are they have had a significant positive effect on participants' self-esteem and increased their skills and knowledge.

8 projects have been offered extensions and 2 more are being considered by the board.

Don't forget...

Please ensure your claim forms, invoices evidence and monthly updates are send in on time.

We would like to say a big thank you to every one for your help, patience and hard work during the last couple of months, while we were scrutinizing our finances.

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Welcome to the summer edition of the Community Support Fund newsletter”

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Good news stories from: Wansbeck CVS

Fred joined the Community Support Programme “Re-Mploy2work” at Wansbeck Centre for voluntary service in August 2013.

Fred was very keen to set up his own business, and started by reviewing the skills, training and experience he had gained at the Remploy factory. Following discussions with his colleagues at weekly meetings; he researched setting up his own company.

WansbeckCVS advised him about the support he could receive from Northern PineTree Trust, who specialise in self employment.

Fred was supported to secure a workspace on a local enterprise site which was suitable premises for his new welding business. Fred has now been running a successful business “Wheels & Welds” since January 2014 and his customer base continues to grow on a regular basis.



Useful Links

• Office of Disability Issues: <http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/>

CSF pages: <http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/odi-projects/community-support-fund.php>

• Strengthening Disabled People's User-Led Organisations Programme:
<http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/odi-projects/user-led-organisations.php>



Above: Shawn at Result CIC

New job and new interests

Shaun worked at Wythenshawe Remploy factory for 29 years. A deaf British Sign Language (BSL) user with limited literacy skills he felt his prospects were not good. So when he started the CSF programme, his morale, self-esteem and confidence were low.

Result CIC's Jane Cordell, who became deaf as an adult, worked with Shaun one-to-one to help him discover what he needed to regain his confidence and access a new job. Shaun enrolled on a BSL course at MANCAT (Manchester College of Arts and Technology) starting in September. He has enjoyed the course and meeting new people. His confidence started to increase.

Shaun managed, through people he knew, to get an interview, and secured a temporary full-time job at Countrywide Property lawyers in central Manchester, supporting the running of their central admin office – a responsible role involving picking up new skills. The company was so impressed with Shaun's dedication and thoroughness; they offered him a permanent contract. The company is now in the process of organising some BSL training for Shaun's colleagues. Shaun is now studying, has new full-time paid work and is enjoying life.

Saints Community Foundation

Saints Foundation project is a different kind of project. It was aimed at building confidence through sports; ex-employees took part in physical exercise and a variety of job ready and social activities.

The project completed in March and through wider understanding of the support they provided, their local council was impressed with the project. The Mayor of St. Helens now hopes to fund the project as a legacy, with help of a local employer.

Celebrating Success

We are keen to celebrate the success of the CSF and showcase the outcomes that have been achieved; we would love to get feedback from organisations on the positive work from your projects.

Please send in your articles/ good news stories/ feedback to us at: odi.businessperformance@dwp.gsi.gov.uk