

Leicester City BCF Programme

2023/24 Report

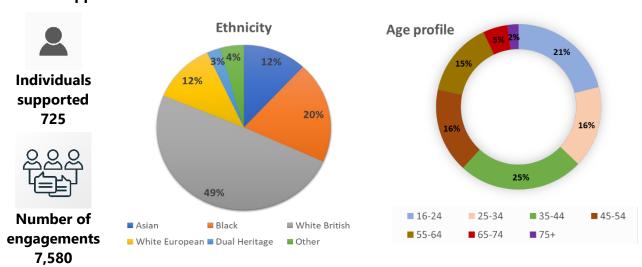
About us

The Centre project provides six core services for the local population from a hub located in the city centre, Baptist Church (1 Alfred Place, Leicester LE1 1EB).

- Day centre (warm space) One of our primary aims is to provide an open-access, warm & welcoming space for people facing loneliness, mental ill health, homelessness, food insecurity, poverty and new arrivals to the city.
- Social Activities-A range of activity sessions such as Arts and Crafts, table tennis, pool and coffee social gathering sessions are hosted weekly. The purpose of these sessions are to support an individual's mental health and wellbeing.
- Food Bank-A food bank is hosted weekly to provide those in need with access to nutritious meals.
- Freedom Youth Club-On a twice a week basis, a youth club is provided to young people in the City of Leicester. This club supports individuals to meet others, complete a range of social activities as well as discuss future educational/career opportunities.
- Support work/ information & sign-posting Across five days a week, The Centre provides support to access universal services (such as the NHS/Universal credit) and back to work support.
- Preventing Homelessness-To support those without a fixed abode, pastoral care, advocacy, meaningful meals and tenancy support.
- Health and Wellbeing-Ad-hoc support for individuals in need and at a time of need. People seeking support from us always have multiple needs and our aim is to ensure that people feel safe, supported, enabled and satisfied when coming into contact with other services.

The Centre Project also provides a number of soundproof pods to enable the provision of virtual/telephone appointments with organisations such as the home office, NHS providers and potential employers.

Who we support



The Centre Project primarily provides services to those located in LE1 and LE2. LE1 and LE2 as a population contains the highest volume of those living in the lowest Indices of Multiple Deprivation 1 and 2 i.e. the most deprived.

Funding from the Better Care Fund enables The Centre Project to support a general increase in health literacy, implement a variety of preventative measures related to community health and offer help to deal with a wide range of life experiences such as unemployment, debt, poor housing or bereavement which contribute to poor mental health.

In addition to the regular activities of the charity, some of the targeted events provided to date include:

Event/Activity	Description	Numbers
Alcohol awareness day	Alcohol awareness week event. Invited Turning Point to deliver alcohol awareness session.	85
Best start in life	For a chat, discussion and information with specialist NHS, Public health professionals and Peer support networks about having the 'Best Start in Life' for our children from pregnancy to 2 years. Including breast feeding, mental health, healthy lifestyles and immunisation.	65
Blood pressure checks	Delivered by a local Pharmacist - health checks for long term conditions: blood pressure checks offered during the Foodbank session	54
Breast cancer screening awareness	1-2-1 and group session. NHS cancer specialist nurses a session exploring the challenges people face when thinking/talking about cancer and attending appointments at UHL	16
Cervical cancer screening awareness	1-2-1 and group session. NHS cancer specialist nurses a session exploring the challenges people face when thinking/talking about the importance of attending appointments when invited	13
Eye tests	Free sight tests and prescription glasses. Offered by Kind-sight	77
Fuel Poverty support	Working with Leicester Energy Action & NEA advisors on fuel poverty. Providing information, practical support and sign-posting people who are facing fuel poverty.	
Get in the know campaign	Hyperlocal Get in the Know promotion. Direct 1-2-1 leafleting and information sharing about use going to A&E and alternative services	210
Gambling awareness	Working with GamCare to raise awareness of the risks associated with gambling and offer support to anyone affected by problem gambling. GamCare running information sessions and 1-2-1 meetings at the Centre	10
Hepatitis C testing	Working with Hep C Trust to provide testing and support in community	35
NHS digital access	Using volunteers from Reaching People's Health+ project, promoted NHS digital platforms such as SystmOnline, AirMid, NHS App and GP online services and assisted people to register for the services.	30
Look Good Feel Good Days	Mental health wellbeing day. Promoting self-care to boost self-confidence and contribute to overall wellbeing	180
Oral health promotion	Oral Health promotion. 2 Oral health promotors from Leicester City Council provided 1-2-1 information about oral hygiene, effects of alcohol and smoking on oral health.	85
Prostate cancer awareness	Partnering with Prostrate Aid charity. information, talk, 1-1 conversation, leaflets/information diagnosis/treatment shared life experience talk, myths signs/symptoms	28
Vaccine confidence promotion	Promoting the Super Vaccinator Service and supporting people in our community to access it. - Young people aged 13 – 19 years, mainly refugees and asylum seeking young people, - People over 65 year old and older.	46

Our community objective is to make it easier for people to access services through information and digital routes and prevent or delay people needing more resource intensive care arrangements.