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Helping people to help others



# **CHIEF OFFICER OVERVIEW**

The first quarter of the new financial year's report really highlights the reason why CVS exists. We have supported an increasing number of VCF (voluntary, community and faith) sector organisations with a whole range of issues. Feedback tells us that with the support of CVS they have been more likely to be successful in funding applications, recruiting and supporting volunteers, etc.

Our additional work projects are also seeing an increasing demand from people, and again are receiving great feedback.

Our remit to represent the VCF sector means we are able to take the feedback to strategic groups and provide case studies/stories to show the real value of the sector. I, with Wendy (Finance Manager) and Carol (Volunteer Manager), went to Birmingham to the NAVCA Annual Conference and spent a great day talking to others from local infrastructure organisations across the country and sharing experience, learning, and best practice.

CVS welcomed the team from the ICB (Integrated Care Board) leading on the Social Prescribing Review and four amazing community organisations (from across the three districts) joined us to share the incredible stories of their groups and the positive difference their activities make to help others. All of them regularly receive referrals from Social Prescribing Link Workers and Community Connectors.

I am so proud to be the Chief Executive of CVS and the work we are able to do thanks to all our funders. An amazing staff team and fantastic volunteers across Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale really do make a difference.

Thank you each and everyone.



# From Roots To Fruits: The Tree Of VCFSE Life.

BPRCVS supports people and families in the local communities of Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale. We do this through a wide range of services and by working on projects with partners in the VCFSE sector. Many of our projects and services are funded, but we also fund some ourselves to allow us to support as many people, families and communities as possible.

Our projects and services bear fruit only because of the partners we work with, our excellent staff and trustees and their compassionate, dedicated and enthusiastic support, and the vital funders who enable us to deliver important services to the communities, people and families of Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale.

Volunteers and volunteer-led groups are a hugely vital resource and of significant importance to BPRCVS as they are the shining light in our local communities. It is absolutely vital that these groups get the support they need to succeed and that's what we're here to do. Whether supporting a group to develop and grow, providing access to new volunteers, or by referring and signposting new clients and beneficiaries, we're always here to support local VCFSE groups.

After all, *helping people to help others* is our mantra





### **BPRCVS Staff Values**

We asked our dedicated staff to come up with 3 values which they believed represented BPRCVS.

Out of a large list of values, the following 5

values were the most common:

Professional

Reliable

Inclusive

Diverse

Empowering

These 5 values create a 6th organisational value:

PRIDE

Pride in our work

Pride in our communities

Pride in helping people to help others

# **Project & Service Performance**













Enzo Creative Arts & Crafts
Had ICB Funding - Pictures From Final
Report



Readstone Environmental Group'
Received Eric Wright Funding For
Balsam Bashing

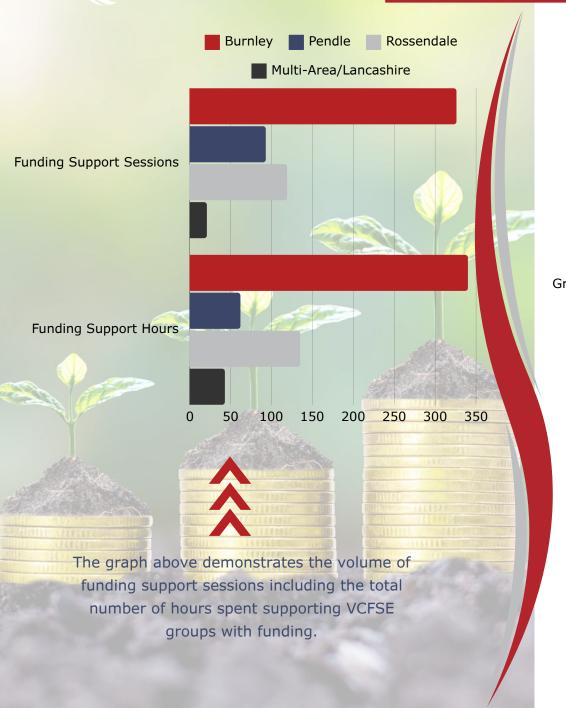
The BPRCVS Group Support Team provides support to VCFSE groups and organisations with policies and procedures, governance, best practice, funding and grant bids, DBS checks and much more.

**353** groups have received support this quarter - that's almost **120** groups every month!

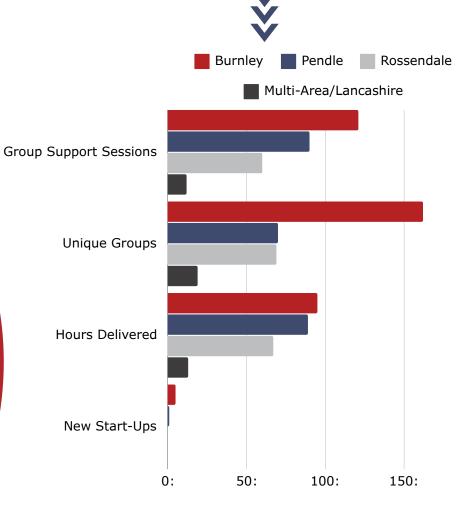
**559** sessions of funding support given to groups this quarter - that's almost **190** sessions of funding support on average given each month!

**84** DBS enquiries were received which resulted in the team processing **60** DBS applications.

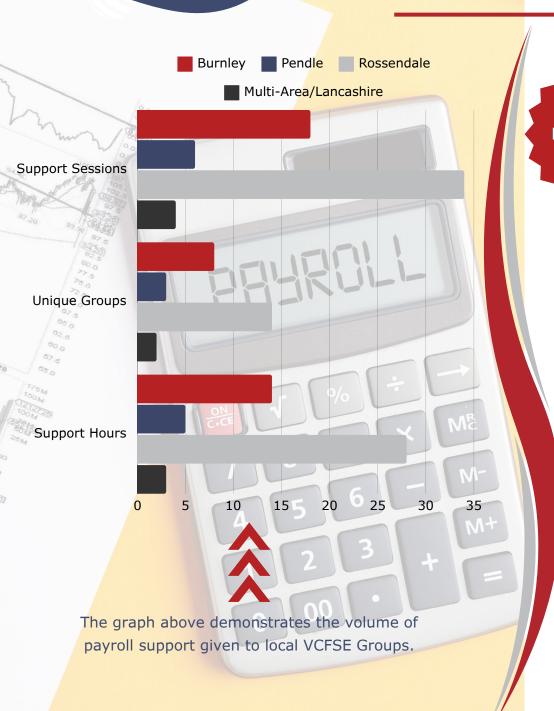




The graph below shows how many VCFSE groups have been supported this quarter, the unique groups include those who had funding support and the number of group support hours on top of the support given to funded groups.



200:





1 New Membership For Burnley 3 New Memberships For Rossendale

2 New Memberships For Pendle

A Total Of 7
Membership Support
Sessions Delivered

With 3.5 Hours
Of Support
Provided

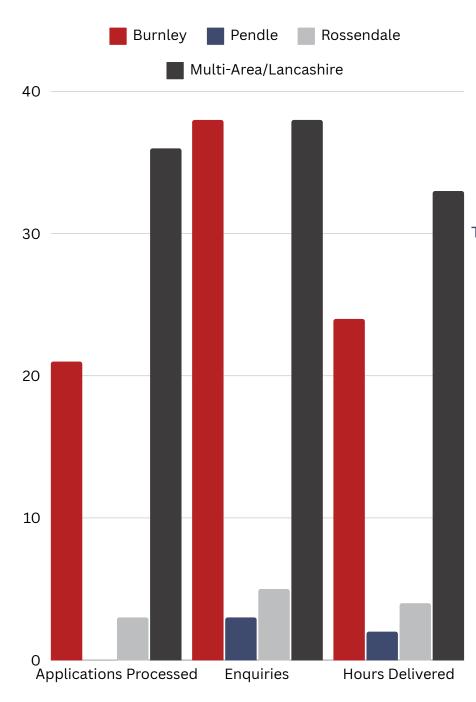
#### Media & Communications Group Support

222 Groups Provided Content 155 Of These Group Were Unique 86.5 Hours

Spent

Supporting

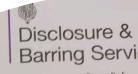
These Groups



# Disclosure & **Barring Service**

The DBS team underwent a very intense review of our processes and procedures in August 2023, and passed with 100% compliance.

63 hours of support was delivered from 84 enquiries, and 60 applications were processed.



F011246

PO Box 3961 Wootton Bassett SN

keep your DBS certificate up to date why not also join our Update Service at www.gov.uk/dbs

ased to apply for a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE CY. DO NOT COMPLETE SECTIONS d, w, x, y OR z. If you require help in completing the form, you or 200 190 , visit our website on www.gov.uk/dbs or talk to the person who provided you with this form

aplete this form correctly will delay your application. Applicants need not enter names relating to the must contact the Sensitive Team on Sensitive@dbs.gov.uk if this option is to be exercised

#### YOU MUST NOT

- Write over the edges of each box.
- Place stamps or stickers on the form
- Staple anything to the form. plete all sections marked in YELLOW - if you do not, your form

  - Strike out a section that is not applicable. Please le

#### Use correction fluid.



fter you have completed sections a, b, c and e please return

Provide all addresses where you have lived in the last 5 years. If you have lived overseas within this period please include these addresses

# GROUP SUPPORT CASE STUDY Lancashire First

Lancashire First is a registered charity that provides support and opportunities to people with learning disabilities living in Lancashire. Lancashire First applied to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund in April to support their work in Burnley. The application process was incredibly competitive, and although the panel were supportive of the organisation and the work they do, the application was not approved. The panel offered feedback and advised that they could re-apply for the next round.

Lancashire First contacted BPRCVS to discuss the feedback received from the panel and to seek some advice to improve their chances of success in the next round. We know that applying for and securing funding is very challenging, and it can be disheartening when funding applications are not approved. Lancashire First were happy to take on board the feedback from the panel and take the time to put together another funding bid.

We discussed different ideas for projects, and together identified the project that best aligned with the funding priorities. Lancashire First then sent a draft application and asked for advice about how to strengthen the application before it was submitted to the panel for a final decision.

Lancashire First applied again to the UKSP Fund in June with a project called 'Improving Lives in Burnley'. Their hard work and perseverance paid off and the second application was approved. Lancashire First were awarded £20,000 to deliver a volunteering programme that will promote social skills and improve health and wellbeing for adults with learning disabilities in Burnley.

Lancashire First added, "Thank you so much for all your help with the UKSPF grant, I'm so delighted to have been successful."



BPRCVS attends strategic and community networks regularly so that we can stay informed on future plans and developments, and in turn provide the relevant representation and support to communities and residents.

Community networks include: *Burnley Linked, People of Pendle, and Rossendale Connected* 

Locality meetings within areas include: Gannow Big Local, SW Burnley Together, etc.

Strategic networks include: East Lancashire VCF
Leadership Group, Primary Care Network meetings,
Integrated Neighbourhood Teams meetings,
domestic abuse forums, partnership meetings,
NAVCA Conference, etc.

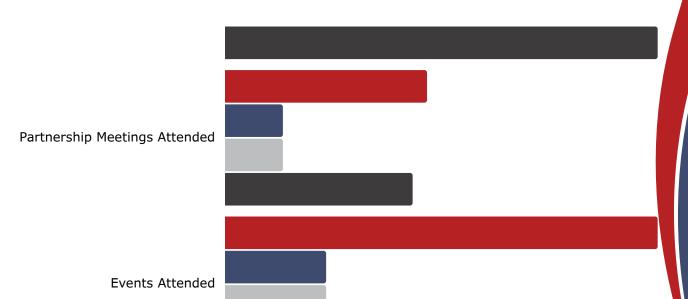
Events include: Gannow Big Local 10 Year
Celebration, BPRCVS Funding Fair, Family Fun Day,
Volunteers' Week, and Volunteer Recruitment Fair
to name just a few!



# NETWORKS & EVENTS Burnley Pendle Rossendale Multi-Area/Lancashire

# Community Networks Attended

Strategic Networks Attended



10

15

20

25

30

5

# COMMUNITY NETWORKS



22 PEOPLE ATTENDED 9 NEW GROUPS REGISTERED

#### People of Pendle

Working Together

9 NEW GROUPS REGISTERED

24 PEOPLE ATTENDED

# NETWORK & EVENTS PHOTOS











On Friday, 17th May 2024, BPRCVS hosted a Funding Fair at BPRCVS' Gannow Community Centre. The event was put together after consultation with funders and voluntary, faith and community groups and organisations working across Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale.

Over 50 people representing more than 30 groups attended the Funding Fair which included presentations from BPRCVS about the services we offer, the funding we administer and the support we can offer to small groups. There were presentations from The Lancashire Environmental Fund, Crowdfund Lancashire, and The National Lottery Community Fund who all fund projects across Lancashire. After each presentation, there was the opportunity for questions and answers, as well as time to speak to funders one-to-one.

The morning also provided an opportunity for representatives from charities and community projects working across Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale to come together and share with one another the amazing work they do in our communities.

We received really positive feedback and some great suggestions for future events. Here is some of the feedback we received: "Great event, thank you." "Very informative, thank you!" "Excellent and informative. Thank you." "Thank you. Really relevant and helpful." "Very good networking."

If you would like to keep up to date with future funding opportunities and events, please sign up to our Info Share newsletter at bprcvs.co.uk



### **SOCIAL PRESCRIBING**



The Social Prescribing Team has 16 members of staff comprising an Operations Manager, Team Manager and Project Support.

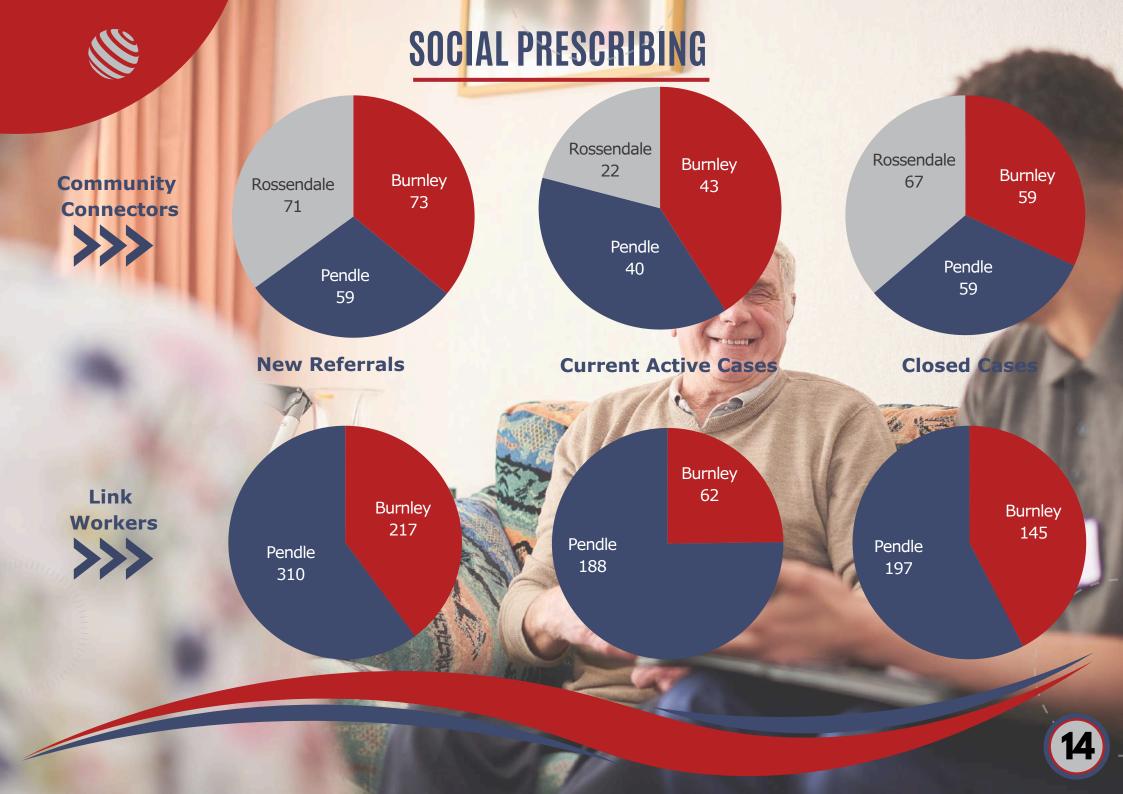
We have 6 full time and 6 part time Social Prescribing Link Workers (SPLWs)/Community Connectors.

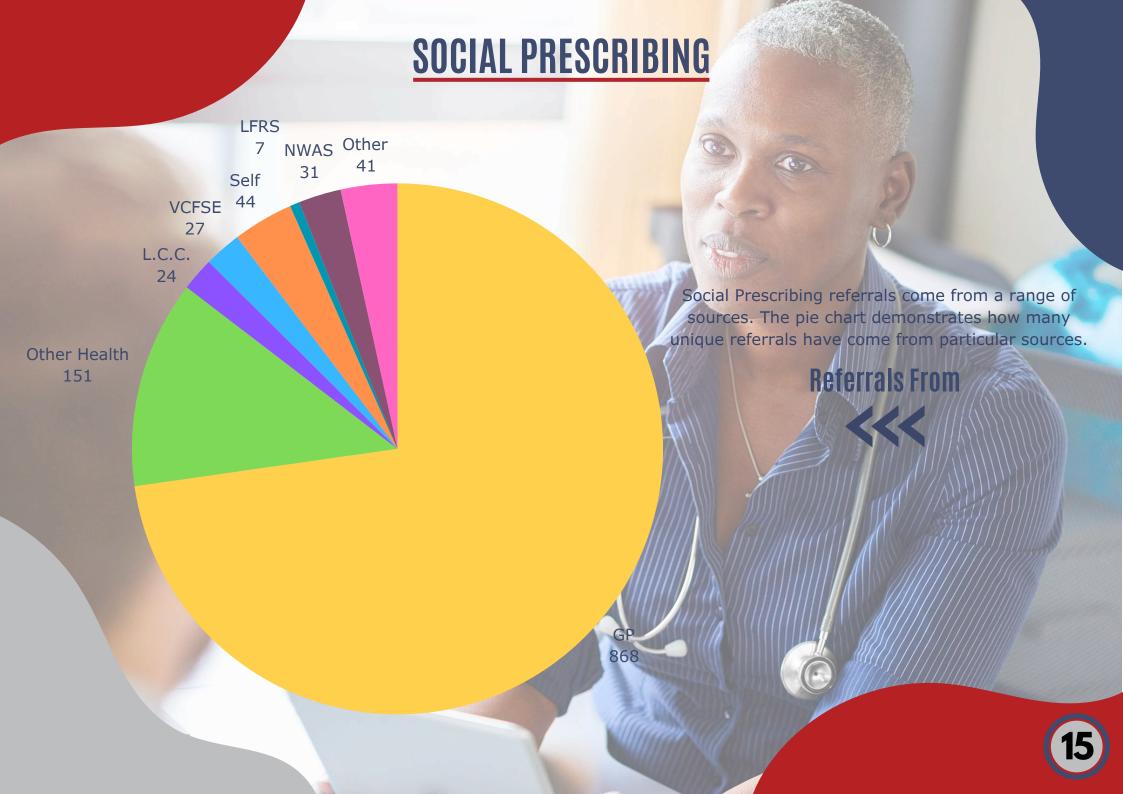
Each locality team are meeting and integrating well with health care professionals as part of the PCN process.

Co-location of Health and Wellbeing Teams is now being considered across all areas due to the successful integration of the SPLWs with Integrated Neighbourhood Teams and other healthcare teams in some areas.

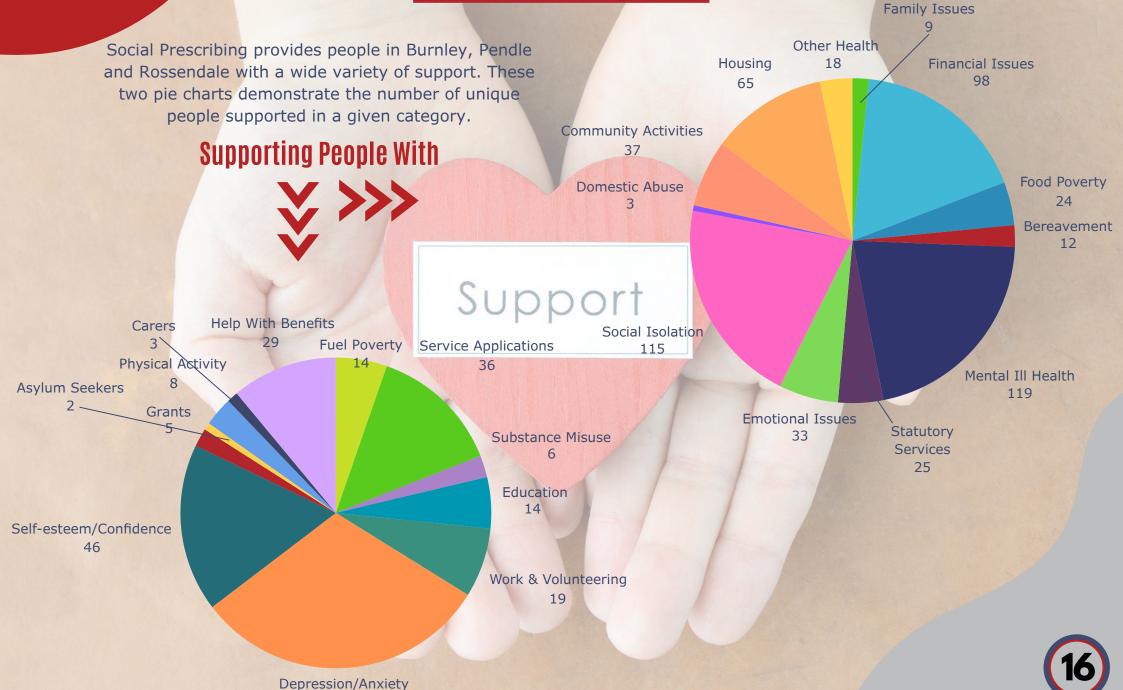
Cases are increasingly complex - the cost-of-living crisis is impacting on our communities and so increasing referrals substantially. BPRCVS' Chief Officer continues to be the voice of the sector on a local, regional and county level as a trustee of NAVCA (National Association of Voluntary and Community Action).

Teams are regularly engaging with the community at various events, which is proving successful in building relationships with other services and raising community awareness of the service available.





**SOCIAL PRESCRIBING** 



81



Social Prescribers attended UCLAN with an information display stand, for a "Dying Matters" event organised by Pendleside Hospice to showcase services available.

Medical students at UCLAN attended and we spoke to them about social prescribing and the additional support and services at BPRCVS.

It was also a good opportunity to network, and we made some useful connections with the Pendleside Hospice team.

Carole Williams, one of the Rossendale Community Connectors at a DWP event at Rawtenstall Jobcentre to explain how Social Prescribing works and what we can and cannot help with.



## **SOCIAL PRESCRIBING CASE STUDY**

#### **Pendle**

#### **Background of Client**

The patient had suffered a stroke two months before and was at home and receiving all care and support with daily living from their partner. They were open to receiving support from the Stroke Team for physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech and language. They had recently been referred to the Integrated Neighbourhood Team for coordination of services.

#### **Initial Assessment, Findings and Support Provided**

I did a home visit for my initial assessment with support from my colleague. They were living in a private rented property, and had already referred to Housing Standards for some damp and repair issues that had not been addressed by the landlord. They hadn't heard anything about this and felt they would like to move house, but were unsure where to begin with this.

They said they were struggling financially, they had some debts, but they said these were well managed. They were unsure if they were receiving the correct benefits and the partner had some worries about exploring this in case they had a decrease in income because of it. They did agree to a referral for support after a little reassurance.

Information on a Carer's Link referral to support the partner in their caring role was offered as was a referral for therapy due to some long-term anxiety, and a referral to Welfare Rights for support with benefits. I supported in liaising with Housing Standards and obtained copies of letters from them. Advice on different housing options was given and we discussed what would be best for them. Support to do a BwithUs application was given.

Support in liaising with the Stroke Team was also provided. The Care Coordinator has provided ongoing support with monitoring bloods and blood pressure, and with appointments and referrals, providing a link between the patient and the GP practice. The Care Coordinator has also referred the patient to Adult Social Care for a care assessment.

#### **Client Outcomes**

We have worked as a team with this patient and had some great outcomes. The patient has now been awarded the enhanced rate for Attendance Allowance which has helped with financial issues.

After involvement from Housing Standards, a lot of work has been carried out to the property and it is now a cleaner, safer home and they have decided that they are happy to stay there.

Due to involvement from the team, the patient's health is much better managed, and their mobility and confidence is improving. The Stroke Team, INT and Social Prescribing have closed the patient, but they are currently still supported by the Care Coordinator who can provide an ongoing link while awaiting the Social Care referral.

#### **Client Comments**

"We are so grateful for the support you have all given. Both yourself and Lynn have been amazing."

# **COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**



Communicars is a community transport service delivered by BPRCVS for the people of Burnley, Pendle, and Rossendale. The service is reliant on volunteer drivers who use their own cars to transport passengers. The service helps the socially isolated, disabled and elderly get to groups, lunch clubs, trips into town, and so much more.

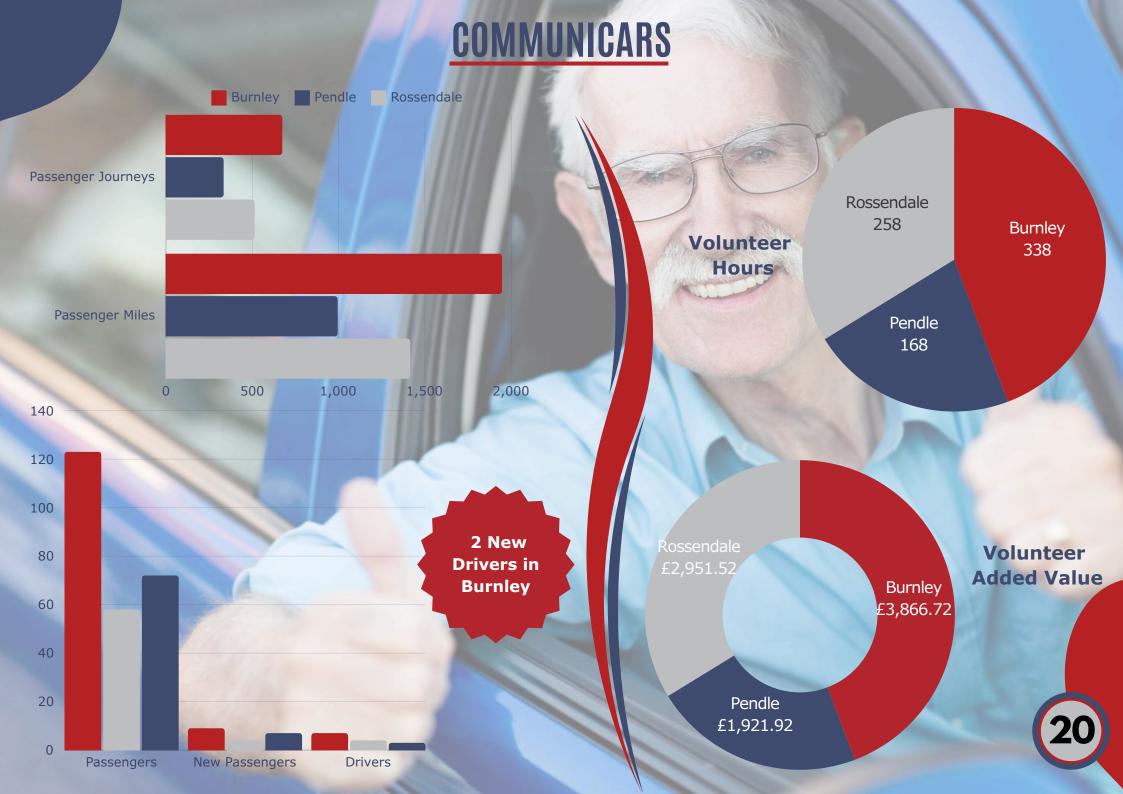
The service currently supports **253** active passengers, and completed **1,522** journeys covering **4,357** miles.



The minibus is driven by volunteer drivers and is available for hire by any of the VCFSE groups and organisations in Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale.

The day trips from Gannow Community Centre have restarted and have proved to be very popular.

**3** groups have accessed the minibus this quarter for a total of **3** trips covering **125** miles.





# COMMUNITY TRANSPORT CASE STUDY

#### **Improving Independence & Confidence**

CH joined Communicars as a passenger to help for transport, and so she was able to volunteer in her local community. CH has disabilities and struggles accessing public transport.

She was able to attend the local group and volunteer, giving back her independence and confidence to get out and about. This put her in a positive mind set that then helped her recovery come on in leaps and bounds.

Being able to access Communicars stopped her from being isolated and gave her the ability to socialise.

With her increased confidence and new outlook on life, she has now secured herself a job.



### **EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT**



BPRCVS supports the people of Burnley to find employment or if the individual is lacking employment-related skills, we can support them with writing a CV, volunteering for work experience, or improving skills and knowledge through suitable training courses.

BPRCVS can help people achieve their goals with a range of projects.

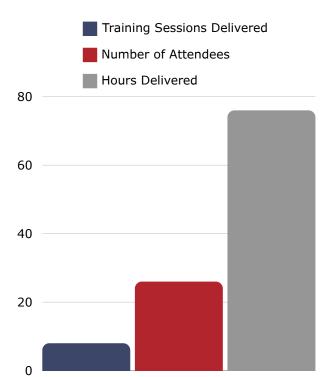
Our new employment project funded by the **UK Shared Prosperity Fund for Burnley** started on the 1st of October 2023.

This project is for those who are classed as economically inactive and supports them back into employment through training and skills development, volunteering, and employment-based support e.g. application writing, CV writing, interview skills, etc.

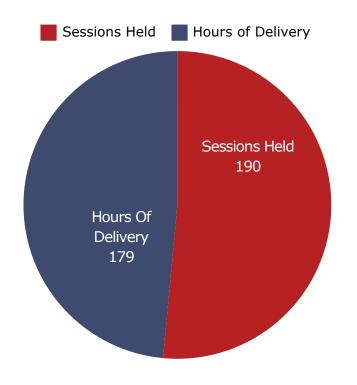


## **EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT**

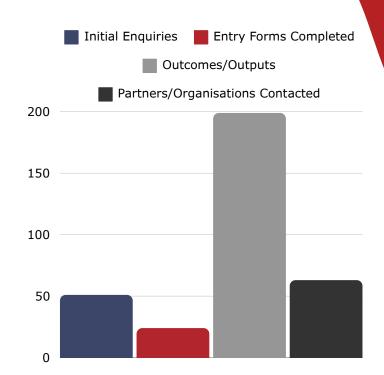




#### **UKSPF** Delivery



#### **UKSPF Enquiries & Outcomes**



#### **Working With Thrive**





# **EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT CASE STUDY**

Christina came to us through a chance meeting with us already knowing each other for many years prior to her disability becoming acute. By Christmas 2023 she was unable to work or even walk unaided, using a walker. Her mobility and pain were a barrier to her leading a functional life. We discussed lots of possibilities and decided to take a multi-pronged approach, understanding this could be a journey to get to a position where she can be in full time work. Little did we realise how quickly this journey would lead to her working again and thriving.

We signed Christina up with the accredited Volunteer Hub and she started volunteering one day a week at BPRCVS reception. This started to give her something to get up for; she had been stripped of a focus for so long. We utilised the Communicars programme to help Christina attend her volunteering.

We encouraged Christina to attend the passive income training and she came along and threw herself into developing a business selling crystals and crystal jewellery. This is a passion for Christina. Her business was a quick success, attending events and selling from her online shop. She started to gain confidence and her self-esteem improved too.

She has really enjoyed volunteering and said, "it gave me a lot of confidence and reminded me I can be useful". Through this and her business she realised she had the strength and motivation to maybe do more. The UKSPF recruiter role came available and after conversation and some support she applied for the role and was successful in interview.

Christina is now 3 weeks into her post and tells us she feels she is living her life again. She is positive and feels motivated. She feels that without volunteering and the support offered by the project, she would not have even applied for this role feeling it was too far from her capacity. She is having continued support in the role to ensure she is able to work alongside her disability to develop a good routine and build her confidence. She describes the experience as "amazing", and feels this next part of her life is enabling her to find herself and mould her new future.



### **EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT CASE STUDY**

During April, a 4-week passive income course with 8 participants began. 5 of these participants are now selling their products and skills, with the other 3 being supported further to being their journey.

All have reasons they cannot hold down a traditional full-time role from autism, disability, mental health, caring roles, and other barriers. They all felt the information and the delivery was on a level they could understand and use, and all worked very hard at home between sessions setting up their businesses.

As a result of the course, we now have:

- Tom Happy Tails, a dog sitting business
- Petals & Polishes, bespoke and off-the-shelf special event accessories
- Chrissy's Crystals, making off-the-shelf and bespoke crystal decorations, and also delivers reiki sessions
- Domfiruu, a social media-based artist live streams creating artwork, and also offers pay-to-view gaming
- Love At First Scent, an online shop selling wax melts

The success of these sessions has led to being asked by Burnley Together to offer it again in June, as well as the Jobcentre showing interest to put it on for their EI clients.

Our participants told us:

- "This has been a life changing experience; I feel this was beyond my reach only a month ago."
- "I can't believe in 4 weeks I have gone from an idea to a business with customers, this has been amazing."
- "Just selling that first item made me realise how far I had come. I realise how much confidence I have."
- "I literally popped in to get some bread and I have left the centre with 2 business ideas and someone to support me through this."

Being able to offer something which feels within the reach of people who may have amazing ideas, but are not sure they can fit it in around their commitments has been a big success of this training. We have developed positive mindsets and showed that it is quite easy to get going. We have pushed for those early sales so their motivation stays strong. We will continue to support at arm's length.









# VOLUNTEERING FOR WELLBEING & COMMUNITY HUB

The Volunteering for Wellbeing & Community Hub is a brand-new project funded by the National Lottery Community Fund which began in July 2023. BPRCVS is revitalising volunteering in Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale.

The Hub is the place to go for all things volunteering.

What we don't know about volunteering isn't worth knowing!

Whether you're an individual looking for voluntary opportunities or a VCFSE group or organisation looking to recruit volunteers, we can help.

The Hub is busy getting out and about in the community at many different events. We also have a monthly forum where existing, new and potential volunteers as well as VCFSE groups and organisations are welcome to attend to discuss all things volunteering.

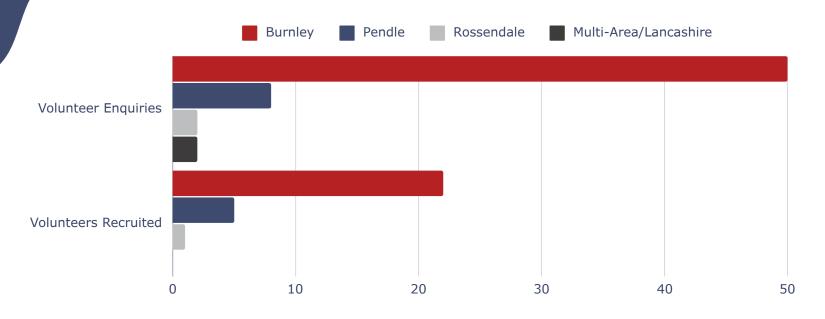
During this quarter we have recruited **24** new volunteers into CVS projects and services. Overall we received a total of **62** enquiries for volunteering opportunities.

The Hub has supported **13** new VCFSE groups via our brokerage service.

3 Forums have been held with 37 people attending.

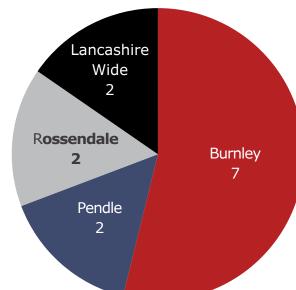


# VOLUNTEERING FOR WELLBEING & COMMUNITY HUB



24
Volunteers
Recruited Into
CVS Projects
& Services

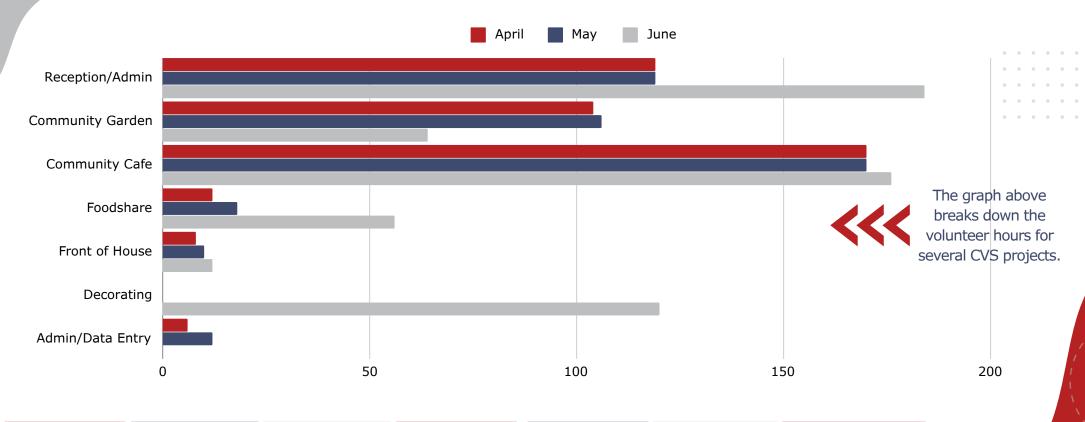




3 Brokerage Roles Filled In Burnley 4 Brokerage Roles Filled In Pendle



# VOLUNTEERING FOR WELLBEING & COMMUNITY HUB





1,465

Total Volunteer Hours for CVS

Projects & Services

£16,759.60

Total Volunteer Added Value









**COLUNTEERING FOR WELLBEING & COMMUNITY HUB CASE STUDY** 

P is a veteran and has been a resident of Healthier Heroes CIC since October 2023. He is dealing with homelessness, recovering from addiction, and mental health issues.

As part of the Healthier Heroes Health and Wellbeing programme, a collaborative project was formed between Healthier Heroes CIC and the Volunteering for Wellbeing & Community Hub's Community Garden Project at Gannow Community Centre. The residents and the Education, Training & Wellbeing Coordinator for Bancroft House attend weekly to nurture and maintain the Community Garden and Community Centre Gardens forming a longer-term small produce allotment supporting the wellbeing of the veterans as well as distributing produce to the local Gannow community, and maintaining the established Memorial Garden.

The Volunteering for Wellbeing & Community Hub created good relationships with the staff of Healthier Heroes CIC to establish this collaborative partnership and spent many weeks building on the dynamics and confidence of the veterans in understanding and getting to know the community, staff, residents, and grounds.

P works closely with the Education, Training & Wellbeing Coordinator at Bancroft House and attends varying volunteering opportunities with other groups and organisations alongside his support services for addiction recovery.

P was invited and encouraged to speak at the April Forum, where the theme was 'wellbeing', about his volunteering journey and varying volunteer roles, some of which include, Inspire Champion, Veterans Retreats, and Hawes Farm CIC. Although he felt nervous, he successfully delivered an informative and heartfelt talk about his volunteering journey and how volunteering helps to improve his self-esteem, confidence and knowledge of community support.

P attends the Community Garden Project weekly and carries out varied tasks around the garden and Gannow Community Centre, and he enjoys them all. The interaction, productivity and positivity in turn is helping to boost his self-esteem and connections to the community.

He is a volunteer Inspire Champion and supports other people who are struggling with addiction and homelessness to access support.

P is now an established, familiar, friendly face at Gannow Community Centre and is viewed as such by local residents of the community. He always brings an air of positivity to all he achieves.

P said, "I really enjoy being part of varying volunteer roles. It helps me with my self-esteem, confidence, and recovery."

# HEALTH & WELLBEING FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Our aim is to empower children and young people, build their confidence, help them to learn new and different skills, promote physical and mental wellbeing, and enable the making of new friends all while having fun.

We work with young people aged 8-18 and support them in finding the appropriate groups, support and activities by carrying out an initial assessment which helps to develop an action plan or need, and identify VCFSE groups, activities and interests that we can encourage involvement in.

Some group activities are provided and delivered by BPRCVS, which we vary according to the different needs of the children and young people we support.

Due to high referral rates, referrals have been placed onto a 4–6 week waiting list.

The team has attended a number of events this quarter to spread the word about our service and to network with others.

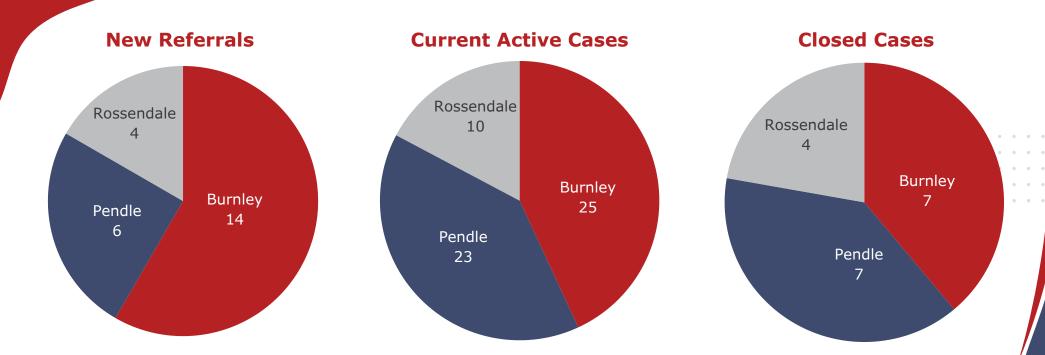








## HEALTH AND WELLBEING FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES



Below are the figures for Pendle East PCN's pilot Social Prescribing for Children and Young People Project





### **HEALTH & WELLBEING FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES CASE STUDY**

#### **Educating Children & Young People On The Dangers Of Recreational Drugs**

We Are With You delivered a 70 minute presentation to the group. The group had a great time taking part in fun activities and interesting discussions about their knowledge on common drugs, the dangers of drugs and alcohol, and what to do in certain situations.

The group engaged in the presentation. Working in small groups, each group discussed what they knew about the most common drugs known to young people – Cannabis and Ketamine, and the associated dangers.

Working together as a whole group, the group placed drugs into an order of least dangerous to most dangerous. We provided lunch – sandwiches and juice to the group.

We then walked the group over to Air Unlimited, Burnley to enjoy a 60 minute session at the indoor trampoline centre.

We received good feedback about the presentation from the group. We are in the process of organising something similar for an upcoming activity possibly in the October 2024 half-term school holiday because we all enjoyed the presentation attached with the activity. It was informative and interactive, and we were all able to learn something new from the presentation.













Administered by the BPRCVS Projects Support Team on behalf of the funders.

The last of the **Eric Wright Charitable Trust Small Grant Fund** is now open again and available to groups with a turnover of less than £50K; groups can apply for up to £1,000.00.

The groups funded this quarter: Ponies for People, Readstone Environment Group, Phoenix RDA, Friends of Haslingden Cemetery, Advocate Neurodivergence Educational Consultancy, Enzo Creative Arts, and Spectrum of Light Rossendale.

#### **Lancashire And South Cumbria ICB**

This quarter we received the final reports for the most recent round of funding.

#### **UK Shared Prosperity Fund**

This quarter we had new applications for year 3 of the fund, and those successful have either had the full amount awarded or the first part awarded and they will be given the second part in October.

The groups and organisations funded this quarter: *Padiham Sports club, Burnley Youth Theatre, Burnley Tennis Club, Blaze Arts, Get Creative, Charter House Resource Centre, West End Burnley CIO, Sion Baptist Church, MS Angling & Education, and Phoenix RDA.* 

The second round of the panel was held on 25th June with the results of this round going out not long after.

#### **NEW Upcoming Funding**

As soon as we identify any new opportunities the first place they go are on our website and in our Info Share. If you're not subscribed, please go to https://bprcvs.co.uk/subscribe-to-our-newsletters.html

With a focus on community groups, and small and newly formed groups, support is given to help these organisations apply for these funding opportunities as well as external funding streams appropriate to their aims and objectives.





## **FUNDING**

## LEVELLING UP —

**UK Shared Prosperity Fund Burnley** 

Eric Wright
Small Grants
awarded
£1,250 to 3
Burnley
groups

Eric Wright
Small Grants
awarded
£930 to 1
Pendle group

Eric Wright
Small Grants
awarded
£1,365 to 3
Rossendale
groups

10
Groups received funding for this latest round

Adult Personal Health Budget £731.00
awarded to 4
families in
Burnley

Chidren & Young
People Mental Health
Personal Health
Budget

£530.00 provided to 2 families in Rossendale

The amount awarded was £126,847.77

## **FUNDING CASE STUDY**

The Group Support Team have been busy administering the third year of UK Shared Prosperity funding for Burnley on behalf of Burnley Borough Council.

The funding was open to community projects across Burnley and Padiham who are working to restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging. The aim of the fund is to improve the places people live, support communities and improve people's aspirations.

Groups could apply for between £5,000 and £20,000 to deliver community projects in Burnley.

Funding was available for projects that addressed the following:

- Funding for improvements to town centre and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people
- Funding for new, or improvements to existing community and neighbourhood structure and infrastructure projects
- Creation of, and improvements to, local green spaces
- Support for existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions
- Support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities
- Funding for impactful volunteering and/or social action projects
- Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues
- Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups, town and parish councils

The application process was incredibly competitive, with many more applications submitted than could be funded. Just over 50% of applications were successful, with a total of £688,000 allocated over the three-year programme. 41 groups received offers of funding with an average grant size of £16,780.

Congratulations to all of the successful projects! We look forward to hearing all about the projects as they send in their reports throughout the year.





### **FUNDING FEEDBACK**

#### Enzo Arts & Crafts CIC

"Received full and thorough support throughout the application process which resulted in my bid for funding being successful. I feel that I am able to seek support from BPRCVS in respect to this as well as other funding streams. Their help was invaluable in building my confidence in an area which was new to me. I have recommended BPRCVS to a number of people seeking funding streams for CICs."

Spectrum Inclusion Rossendale

"BPRCVS have been excellent in supporting with the funding application and sorting any issues. Friendly, but professional emails, and a great deal of understanding. Will apply again if there is any relevant funding available and would recommend to others."

#### Lets Talk Project

"We have received support to access funding, and to complete DBS checks. We would not be able to run this or other projects without this support, and we know where to go for help when we need it. We have already recommended CVS to other organisations seeking help."

#### Harringtons Learning Centre

"BPRCVS is a godsend to an organisation such as us. We have received advice and support by means of information, conversation and direction when filling out the application and understanding the process better."

Was the support you received timely?
"Yes, BPRCVS are always returning calls, sending out emails, and keep us up
to date with newsletters, etc."

Has the support you received increased your confidence in applying for funding in the future to this or other funding streams?

"Yes, 100%. We are grateful for all the staff members we deal with on a regular basis."

Would you recommend BPRCVS to others?

"Without a doubt. Without BPRCVS, there would be a huge gap that even the local authority would not be able to fill. We are so happy that we can access such meaningful support via BPRCVS."

## MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

The Media & Communications team is responsible for promoting BPRCVS and our projects and services across a variety of channels. The team also does this for VCFSE groups and organisations to help spread the word on their behalf.

Work continues on the new website, but it is now live and open to visitors. The new website will become an information sharing portal similar to the old website, but we think you'll find this one a much more visual experience. Watch this space as we look to develop the website to contain even more information than before!

Social media performance continues to be impressive. We've amassed more than **1,000** organic 'Likes' on Facebook and a total greater than **5,000** unique 'followers' across our channels. Distinct audiences are forming across our social media channels enabling us to target specific demographics.

Newsletter performance remains steady and is an effective way of sharing information with sector colleagues by providing a weekly round-up of the latest news, opportunities, activities, and events.

The department will be developing our marketing and comms practices over the next few months so watch this space for new content and promotions coming your way very soon!



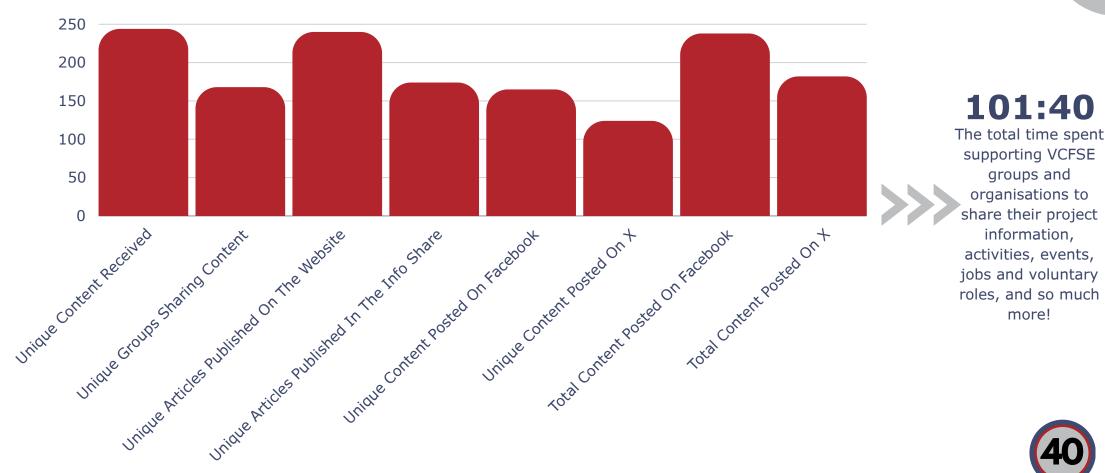
#### MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS 67,591 **Overall Facebook Reach 306** Views = 5,862 Total Followers The total reach across all pages and 675 Minutes Watched groups is almost a fantastic 70,000 Across all our social media Of video content hosted on people per quarter - that's practically platforms and pages. our channel. the population of Burnley! CVS Community Group **5** New Subscribers = 1,147 Gannow What's On Group **36** Total Subscribers 18,675 To the BPRCVS YouTube channel. 121 Total Retweets Equivalent to more than half of tweets posted. **225** Total Tweets **BPRCVS** Promoting BPRCVS, but also sharing key information 34,911 from VCFSE groups and organisations. Gannow What's On Group 627 CVS Community Group Gannow Big Local 24 7,884 Children & Families 4,974 Gannow Big Local 5,245 770 **Overall Facebook Engagement** Over 5,000 likes, **BPRCVS** 3,254 shares, comments and Children & Families interactions across all 570 pages and groups.

## MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

#### **Group Support**

The Media & Communications Department spends a good chunk of time supporting not just BPRCVS' projects and services, but those of other VCFSE groups and organisations throughout Burnley, Pendle, Rossendale, pan-Lancashire, and even further beyond.

The bar chart below demonstrates how much content is received by BPRCVS and how we disseminate that information to the marketplace and target audiences.





# MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

**Newsletter Performance** 



371
WEEKLY
SUBSCRIBERS

56% OPENED & ENGAGED



424
MONTHLY
SUBSCRIBERS

40% OPENED & ENGAGED



355
WEEKLY
SUBSCRIBERS

61% opened & engaged





## BPRCVS BUILDINGS





Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service welcomes thousands of visitors per quarter to our buildings.

The CVS Centre is based in the centre of Burnley and houses **4** organisations as resident tenants.

With meeting spaces available, The CVS Centre is open to all VCFSE groups and organisations. During this quarter we've had **175** room bookings.

Gannow Community Centre is a thriving community centre serving the local people of Gannow as well as residents from all over the borough and beyond.

With a wide range of groups delivering activities and sessions, there is always something for everyone happening at Gannow Community Centre. This quarter we have had **380** room bookings.

Our Community Café is open every Wednesday and Friday morning through to lunch for a fantastic full English breakfast!

The Gannow Food Share supports individuals and families with access to food bags to provide sustenance for a few days.

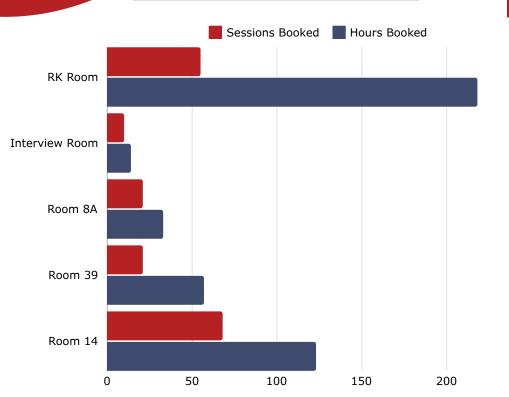


CVS BOOKINGS

**Number of Volunteers** 8

**Volunteer** Hours 646

Volunteer Added Value @£11.44ph £7,390.24



Number of Burnley **Together Food Parcels Issued** 

88

250

**Number of Resident Groups**  **Number of Visitors** 1,529

Number of Regular **Groups Using The CVS** Centre

Number of People **Signposted** 

36



I began volunteering at The CVS Centre in February after my work coach (Work and Health programme) suggested applying for a volunteer role.

BPRCVS staff are friendly and welcoming, and the tasks given are easy to learn. BPRCVS allow space for you to grow in your own time.

The centre's visitors are from such a diverse background, and it is never the same day twice. Tasks range from volunteer enquiries to being a friendly face for the homeless. Each visitor is just as unique as the next and I love the variety in my day. The visitors really give you a unique perspective on life – and the sense of achievement when someone leaves with a smile rather than the frown they came in with, is beyond words.

I have now been volunteering for around 2½ months and it has changed my life. During the Covid pandemic I woke up paralysed and eventually, after 2 years, I was diagnosed with degenerative disc disease, severe arthritis from the waist down, moderate arthritis from the waist up, and functional neurological disorder (FND).

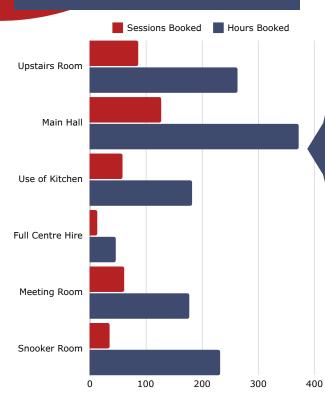
I was told I would never walk again. This hit me hard emotionally and mentally. I felt like a failure to my family and society. Some issues I suffered during this time were social isolation, PTSD and domestic abuse in the family. I was entirely stuck in my own head. I fought so hard to get on my feet so I could visit Gannow Community Centre to meet the Social Prescribing Team. I had just learned what FND was, and through the SP programme I began my path to recovery. I was referred to the treatment needed – physiotherapy and talking therapy. My treatment needed a collaborated, long-term solution and the SP programme provided it.

After a lot of hard work, our family was hit with a huge loss. When I lost my uncle, I lost my safe place and myself. He was (in my eyes) the last thing that kept me clinging to life and I thought I was losing what little fight I had left. I signed up for the reconnect group and they gave me the emotional and mental reboot I needed. They provided me with a space to get away from the awful things our family was struggling to cope with.

My work coach suggested volunteering when I was starting to feel stronger in myself. It was implied that I should do this to gain a better understanding of my strengths and weaknesses as I continue to recover, but in reality, I think volunteering for BPRCVS has done that and so much more. I have met new friends and no longer suffer with social isolation. I know I have skills and knowledge that can be used in a workplace and have confidence in my own ability. I now engage in more services, and I have the space I need away from family. I am finished with pitying myself, I believe in myself, and I know I am not done fighting for every single ounce of recovery from FND I can get!!



#### ROOM BOOKINGS



Number Of Volunteers

Number Of Volunteer Hours 875 Volunteer added Value @NMW £11.44 £10,0100.0

Community Café Meals Served 1,225 Total Number
Of People
Benefiting
From Food
Bags

Number Of Families Given Food Parcels Number Of Regular Groups Using The Centre

12

Community
Café Visitor
Numbers

Number Of Food Parcels Issued

89

Number Of Individuals Given Food Parcels

Number Of Events

4

45



## **TESTIMONIALS**

"Thank you so much for welcoming us! We had such a fantastic day volunteering and look forward to more volunteering days in the future."

Wellocks

"Just wanted to say well done on a fantastic report!
So lovely to see you all and the work continuing, in spite of the many challenges.

Very proud of you all.

Take care."

Michelle Pilling NHS England

"Really enjoyed this, thank you from all us at Healthier Heroes."

Liam Hammett Healthier Heroes "Thank you Julie and Heather for your help and encouragement taken applying for this grant."

Deborah Rolls Bowling Club

"Thank you for taking the time to gather this information. It's very much appreciated."

Zac Musker Social Care Support Worker L.C.C.



"That's amazing, thank you so much."

Lauren Jackson Nelson & Colne College Group "It has been great seeing our news shared within the newsletters for all these years and thank you for your continued support."

Julie Pharaoh-Gan HAPPA

"That's great, we really appreciate your help."

**Smile Mediation** 

"Wonderful, thank you Shaun.

I promoted it at the Nelson POP meeting, and Lorna has already shared that a few weeks ago.

Much appreciated."

Kayt Horsley L.C.C.

"That's great, thank you so much!"

Asma Shajat Pendle Women's Forum

"Wonderful, thank you so much Shaun, it's greatly appreciated. I hope we get a decent response."

Judy Yacoub
Citizens Advice East Lancs



- The CVS Centre, 62-64 Yorkshire Street, Burnley, BB11 3BT
- CVS Office: 01282 433740
- www.bprcvs.co.uk
- Gannow Community Centre, Burnley BB12 6RB
- Gannow Office: 01282 436396
- info@bprcvs.co.uk

