

Thank you

for giving hope and a
future to the children
who need it most

**Spurgeons
Impact Report
2020**

NO CHILD should face life's struggles alone

Thanks to you, they don't have to

In 1867, Baptist preacher and writer, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, was inspired by his faith to found an orphanage in London, offering vulnerable children care and education. Today, his work continues through Spurgeons Children's Charity.

The way in which we support children and families has changed enormously over 150 years.

We started with six boys and a single 'Matron'. Each year we will typically have contact with around 30,000 children and young people and protect hundreds from harm. We employ over 400 staff supported by more than 200 volunteers. In 2019 we partnered with over 400 different groups, organisations and agencies to help provide vulnerable children and young people with a better present and a more hopeful future.

Through every strand of work we do, the wellbeing of the child is what drives us forward. We expect our work to make a positive difference and help each child we work with to flourish. To know how good we are at achieving this aim involves measuring and listening to those we work with, our partners and our team. If we do not get something right, we learn and strive to be better next time. Where something works well we seek to share our success.

In the following pages you can read about the breadth of Spurgeons' work and the positive impact we make daily to thousands of young lives. Thank you for being vital partners in this work. Because of your commitment - through volunteering, sharing, your financial support and/or your prayers - thousands of disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people have hope, with the opportunity to thrive and achieve their God-given potential.

"Spurgeons has helped me overcome things I didn't know I could overcome"

Wolverhampton Young Carer

A better present, a more hopeful future for every child

On the following pages, we explore how your support has enabled us to give children a better start in life.

Spurgeons' mission, rooted in the Christian faith, is to provide support for vulnerable children and their families, so that they have a better present and a more hopeful future.

We do this by working with three groups where we know our expertise will make a difference. Families who are disadvantaged or struggling to cope with their difficulties; children who carry heavy burdens and responsibility; and young people who have been, or who are, at significant risk of being harmed or exploited.

To make sure we keep investing where it makes a difference, we take the measurement and evidence of impact and the difference we make very seriously.

In Spurgeons there is an expectation that every project should have a Theory of Change – that is, a clear plan for the positive difference our work should make in the lives of children and families.

Sometimes how we measure this is determined by those who fund the work, but we have also developed our own Spurgeons Outcomes and Impact Framework. This model has taken our ambition to give vulnerable children a better present and a more hopeful future, and developed it into a series of outcomes for those we work with. The language we use to define these outcomes comes from our service users and guides the choice of evidence-based programmes we use to realise defined outcomes.

This report draws on the evidence we have collected during 2019 across the breadth of our work. We use this information to keep learning and striving to be effective in transforming vulnerable lives.



55

Spurgeons services delivered



943

Children safeguarded through our intervention

44

Adults safeguarded through our intervention

98%



Said they were treated well by Spurgeons

75%



Were confident that the learning will help their family's future

86%

Are more likely to use support services in future



Together for Families

general family support provided by communities

Cutbacks have made it hard for some parents to access general support around caring for their children and helping them to develop. What's missing is a local friendly space where parents can spend time with their babies and children, safely share their experiences and concerns, get ideas and reassurance, and make supportive friendships.

Together for Families (T4F) is an innovative project where T4F staff based at Children's Centres partner with churches and community groups to bridge that gap. We piloted the programme in Peterborough and East Northants. Local Children's Centres were closing, so we worked alongside new and existing T4F church and community groups to identify the needs of local parents.

These needs included language and communication, attachment and relationships, sensory and messy play, healthy eating, cooking and holiday activity sessions. We supported each T4F group with a bespoke programme of training and support to enable them to offer appropriate activities.

For example, parents of new babies can struggle with social isolation and mental health issues, so we supported churches to deliver our "New Parent, New Baby" and Baby Play sessions in venues where families could then move on to good quality parent and toddler provision.

By the time the 3-year pilot ended in December 2019, three part-time T4F staff had helped 40 churches and community groups to support 1,500 families.

Churches speak of T4F's wider benefits. "It enabled us to reach different families," says one church leader. "We also got to know families better as they were coming to an additional smaller group, and one of the mums went on to help lead a group. It was great to feel part of something bigger than one church, to share ideas and realise we're doing things well!"

There are also T4F groups operating alongside Spurgeons Children's Centres in Birmingham and Wiltshire. The advantage of having the two co-exist is that T4F groups can easily connect those parents needing additional professional support to the Children's Centre - and we can refer parents stepping down from more intense Children's Centre-based support to their local T4F group.

Families who are disadvantaged or struggling to cope with their difficulties

Parents on how they benefit:

"You showed me the importance of interacting with my baby."

"Provided support and friendly faces to me when I was going through a difficult time."

"I made a lot of friends. They helped me with some difficulties considering my son's behaviour. I don't go to any other groups."

"I'm a lone parent. Thank you for the opportunity to meet other families in the area; it's been very important for me."

"Knowing that what I am doing is 'normal' and 'okay'."

"Helped me to get out of the house. As a first time Mum I found it quite daunting venturing out. Thank you."

What the professionals say:

"A very warm and welcoming service, still needed in our area... offering friendships, learning and fun...a safe environment where parents can extend their early learning experience. It's lovely to see the excitement on the children's faces when they see different toys or another baby to play with."

Health Visitor

"The impact on the families was very positive, they learnt new things and met new friends. Some of the mums carried on and formed a group to meet up - this was very much missing in Rushden." Family Nurse

"Knowing that what I am doing is 'normal' and 'okay'."

Saturdads

a little extra support to help dads be good fathers

Even from birth, children who have an involved father are more likely to be emotionally secure, be confident to explore their surroundings and, as they grow older, have better social connections¹.

But fathers don't often get the support they need. "Men can find it hard to get help with being a parent - we can get left out at home," says Ben, one father from Peterborough.

To help dads like Ben, Spurgeons founded Saturdads, a regular Saturday morning club in Peterborough for fathers and male caregivers, particularly lone parents. It helps them learn parenting skills and support their children's learning and development. Between September 2019 and March 2020, 18 dads attended up to 11 sessions.

Ben has been going to Saturdads with his daughter since 2013 when she was six months old. He says, "Last year, my partner and I split up.

Saturdads was a lifeline - it helped me rebuild my relationship with my daughter after not seeing her for a while.

"It's really friendly, safe and relaxed - we've both made friends there. Most weeks we do something fun together like woodwork, den building or gardening. I've shown some of the other dads how to cook, and they've helped me learn new skills too. It helps us bond with our kids and with each other.

"Sometimes we have a talk on useful things like children's first aid or how to spot if a child is ill and what to do. I've learned so much, and it's given me much more confidence about parenting."

Around 250 dads and more than 400 children have benefitted from Saturdads since it began. Saturdads was a finalist in two categories, the 'Early Years Award' and the 'Play Award' at the 2019 Children & Young People Now Awards ceremony in London.

"it helped me rebuild my relationship with my daughter after not seeing her for a while."

Around 250 dads and more than 400 children have benefitted from Saturdads

Children's Centres

more intensive support for parents with higher needs

“Soon Jess was comfortable and confident enough to go to sessions alone.”

Families who are disadvantaged or struggling to cope with their difficulties

Key Reasons for referral to Wiltshire and Peterborough Children's Centres



293
Parenting



237
Behaviour



75
Domestic Abuse



379

Safeguarding incidents identified via our children and family centres

Around 1 in 3 children in the UK live in poverty² and 1 in 10 are ‘in need’³. Poverty has a negative impact on children’s mental and physical health and education – it can even shorten their lives.

We want to protect vulnerable children, to intervene at an early stage to support their families before the impact of poverty takes hold.

The 20 Children's Centres we run across the UK are focused on areas of higher deprivation. Through them, we work one-to-one with parents of more vulnerable under 5s (often alongside other agencies).

Jess was one mum we supported recently. Her Family Nurse Practitioner had referred Jess and her young daughter to work with Mary, a Spurgeons key worker at Wiltshire Children's Centres.

Jess longed to be a good mum, but she had little confidence and was struggling with her own mental health, parenting and playing with her child. She was desperate to change.

Mary encouraged Jess to develop eye contact with her daughter, and to talk to and play with her.

Once Jess had the skills and confidence, Mary went with her to Little Learners activity sessions – soon Jess was comfortable and confident enough to go to sessions alone.

Meantime, Mary linked the family with the local Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub to get support at Child in Need level.

Through it, Jess went on the Incredible Years parenting programme and got help with her anxiety and stress via Access to Psychological Therapy (APT).

At the outset, Jess and Mary graded her situation as Step 4 (out of 10) on the Outcomes Star, equating to “Accepting help” in relation to her ability and confidence to meet her child’s emotional needs. After support, her situation had increased to Step 8 “Finding what works”.

Now, Jess has much more confidence and has found a job.

She has learned how to budget and is working towards being able to provide financial security for her and her child. She is being a positive role model for her daughter, and she is making plans for their future together.



²Households Below Average Income, Statistics on the number and percentage of people living in low income households for financial years 1994/95 to 2017/18, Tables 4a and 4b. Department for Work and Pensions, 2019.

³Characteristics of children in need 2018-19 – Office of National Statistics/Dept of Education October 2019

Prison Family Centres

making prison visits less daunting

Having a father in prison can be very traumatic for children; the pain of separation and the anxiety involved in visits to a grim building with uniformed officers and tight security can be a huge burden.

The experience can drive children of prisoners to develop behavioural problems and ultimately get involved in crime themselves (63% of boys with a parent in prison go on to offend)⁴.

It's also hard for the parent in prison – often they don't see their children grow up, and find it really challenging to reintegrate back into the family on release.

Sam Hart is Family Services Manager at HMP Lewes, one of 11 prisons where Spurgeons is contracted to provide support to prisoners and their families. She says, "We want to provide a warm welcome and a safe and homely space in which visiting families can relax.

"Last year, helped by visitor families, local charities and a Ministry of Justice grant, we turned an old Portacabin into a Visitor's Centre for the families we support.

"We commissioned local children's artist, Guy Parker-Rees, to paint a cheerful mural, and brought in sofas, pot plants, toys and games."

Violet Hancock, the High Sheriff of East Sussex, gave the new Visitor's Centre an Award for "establishing a really friendly and welcoming atmosphere in a place that can be frightening for visitors."

Visiting families gave it their approval too. One said, "I got tea, warmth and sympathy". Another said, "They have taught me to stay calm. They make you feel more confident and they really listen and support you – friendly and helpful, absolutely brilliant."

"establishing a really friendly and welcoming atmosphere in a place that can be frightening for visitors."



Guy Parker-Rees' cheerful mural and brought-in sofas, pot plants, toys and games.

Children and young people who carry emotional burdens or heavy responsibilities

Creating a 'family friendly' service can be a challenge in older prisons where the layout is inflexible. Naomi Webb, Family Services Manager at HMP Norwich, says, "There is no room for a play area inside the Visits Hall, so when families go there to visit their dad, the children can get bored. If so, our volunteers can collect them and take them back to play in the Visitor Centre play area. This also gives parents the chance to chat in private.

"Prisoners may be allowed an occasional Family Day or Children's Visit. Dads aren't allowed to move around on an ordinary visit, but on a Family Day we organise activities for them to do with their children. We're restricted by space and tight security as to what we can offer – no glue in crafts, for example. We might buy a cake which they can decorate together with Smarties and icing."

The team have even been known to include sandwich-making as an activity, so that financially strapped families who have had long and costly journeys don't need to buy.

One dad commented, "These visits are very important to me and my family. The freedom we have together, away from other prisoners is the main reason. (It) helps to bond with your children on a better level."

Our team at Norwich also won an award for their Storybook Dads project last year. Our dedicated practitioner, Dianne Sparkes, records fathers reading bedtime stories for their children.

Music and sound effects are added, and the recording sent – along with a copy of the book – to the child. One young recipient said, "I miss my Daddy... when I feel lonely, I listen to me CD and hearing his voice makes me feel better."

Even though father and child are worlds apart, dads in prison and their children can enjoy the simple pleasure and comfort of a bedtime story together.

Storybook Dads



⁴This figure is quoted in The Importance of Strengthening Prisoners' Family Ties to Prevent Reoffending and Reduce Intergenerational crime, Lord Farmer, August 2017 (MoJ) where the source of this number and context is explained in greater detail.

Children and young people who carry emotional burdens or heavy responsibilities

Invisible Walls –

helping fathers and children separated by imprisonment

Losel et al found that “positive family relationships and frequent contact during a prison sentence leads to positive resettlement outcomes.”⁵

Spurgeons’ pioneering project Invisible Walls, launched in 2011 with funding from the National Lottery, aims to support this journey. By working closely with the prison, fathers and their families, and Probation and Children’s Services, we ensure that prisoners and their families are seamlessly supported from imprisonment to release so that the transitions are far less traumatic for parent-child relationships⁶.

Invisible Walls incorporates a wide variety of services, developed in response to the needs outlined by the prisoners and their families. There is a Visitor Centre support service, operated by 70 volunteers including university students on placements and internships.

Leah, a Masters in Criminology graduate from Southampton, was one of our interns last year. She says, “The experience deepened my understanding of the impact imprisonment has on both the residents and their friends and families.

“I came away with a clear desire for my future career to be in this type of work.” Leah’s internship had a direct influence in her securing her first post-University appointment.

Invisible Walls also offers monthly family days and a Homework Club, one-to-one support and casework for fathers in custody, a rolling programme of family interventions including parenting and healthy relationships courses, and bespoke workshops on a range of family themes. Since 2016, the project has supported 590 fathers in custody through casework.

Invisible Walls has won praise from Lord Farmer⁵, whose Review stressed the importance of strengthening prisoners’ family ties in the prevention of reoffending and intergenerational crime.

He commented, “(Invisible Walls) has been transformational for men’s ongoing contact with and sense of responsibility towards their families, who have in turn greatly benefitted from a kinder, less punitive visits experience.”

“The experience deepened my understanding of the impact imprisonment has on both the residents and their friends and families.”

“The balance of efficiency/security and tender loving care that each of you bring to your jobs was really impressive. It felt a great privilege to be allowed to catch some of the happiness felt by the visitors and their prisoners having time with each other.”

Lady Agnew, The High Sheriff of Norfolk

⁵University of Cambridge 2012 – Losel, Pugh, Makson, Sousa and Lanskey

⁶Risk and Protective Factors in the Resettlement of Imprisoned Fathers with their Families

Giving Young Carers a voice

Children and young people who carry emotional burdens or heavy responsibilities

Census data identifies 173,000 young carers in the UK (2016), though BBC research projects up to 700,000, or 3 times as many, have caring needs that are yet to be identified.

These young people are caring for a family member with an illness or disability.

They have to grow up too fast - the need to balance their caring responsibilities with school leaves them little time to have fun with their friends.

Take 16-year-old Chloe, from Birmingham. She is carer to her younger brother and sister and to her mum who has mental health issues. "I do medication for my mum. I do housework.

With my younger brother and sister, I do their breakfast and get them ready for school," she says. "It has made me mature, but it has taken away my childhood." Chloe belongs to Spurgeons' Young Carers network. Through it, she and around 800 other young people aged 8 to 16 can access a wide range of advice, mentoring and practical help with their family and school needs, and time out to relax and be themselves through groups, residential and other activities.

Spurgeons' Jackie Benton who manages the Young Carers programme in Birmingham says, "Life has thrown so much at these young people, but they are remarkably resilient and capable, and have so much potential.

We want them to have a voice, to shape what we do.

"So last year we brought together six teenage carers to form a committee, the Young Carers Voice Panel. They share their own opinions and also ask for feedback from others in the network, through interview panels, social media and the Young Carer events and activities."

In August 2019, the Young Carers Voice Panel, of which Chloe is a member, took on their biggest challenge yet - they planned and managed a three day residential break for around forty young carers in the network.

"I have gained skills that I will need throughout my whole life, I'm able to speak my ideas and look into situations and make decisions."

Lizzie Wentworth, one of the staff involved, says, "They organised and presented a quiz, chose the winner, set up and packed down - they did it all! They also put together a presentation to the younger carers. Chloe was desperate to be one of the presenters, but she was sick with nerves. But when it came to it, she was brilliant. She could control the audience, she engaged them, she came across as confident and competent.

"Since then, she has blossomed! She quickly learned (the hard way) that you can't speak to your peers in the way that you do to your younger brother and sister.

Now, she's so much better at listening, at taking others with her rather than trying to control."

Chloe appreciates the value of being on the Committee. "I have gained skills that I will need throughout my whole life," she says, "I'm able to speak my ideas and look into situations and make decisions. Most importantly I have gained friends that are for life.

"I keep in contact every day with people from the committee and I have a bond that will never be broken, thanks to Spurgeons and being on the Young Carer Voice Panel."

“

"Spurgeons has done a brilliant job for young carers in Wolverhampton for many years, and we are pleased to be able to continue working with them. Clearly it is an incredibly difficult role for a young person to take on, but the fantastic support available from Spurgeons Wolverhampton Young Carers will help them to overcome these challenges."

Councillor Paul Sweet, the council's cabinet member for children and young people, 2019



Spurgeons' Young Carers programme was a finalist in two categories, the 'PSHE Education Award' and the Young Carers Award' at the 2019 Children & Young People Now Awards ceremony in London.

Young Carers



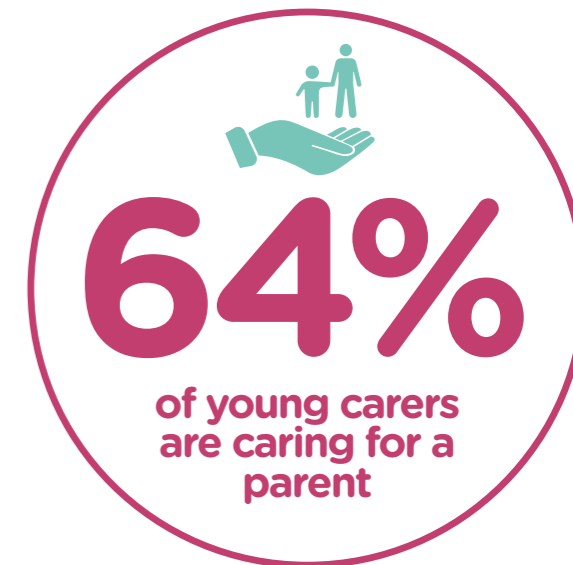
“Life has thrown so much at these young people, but they are remarkably resilient and capable, and have so much potential.”

Jackie Benton - Young Carers' Service Manager

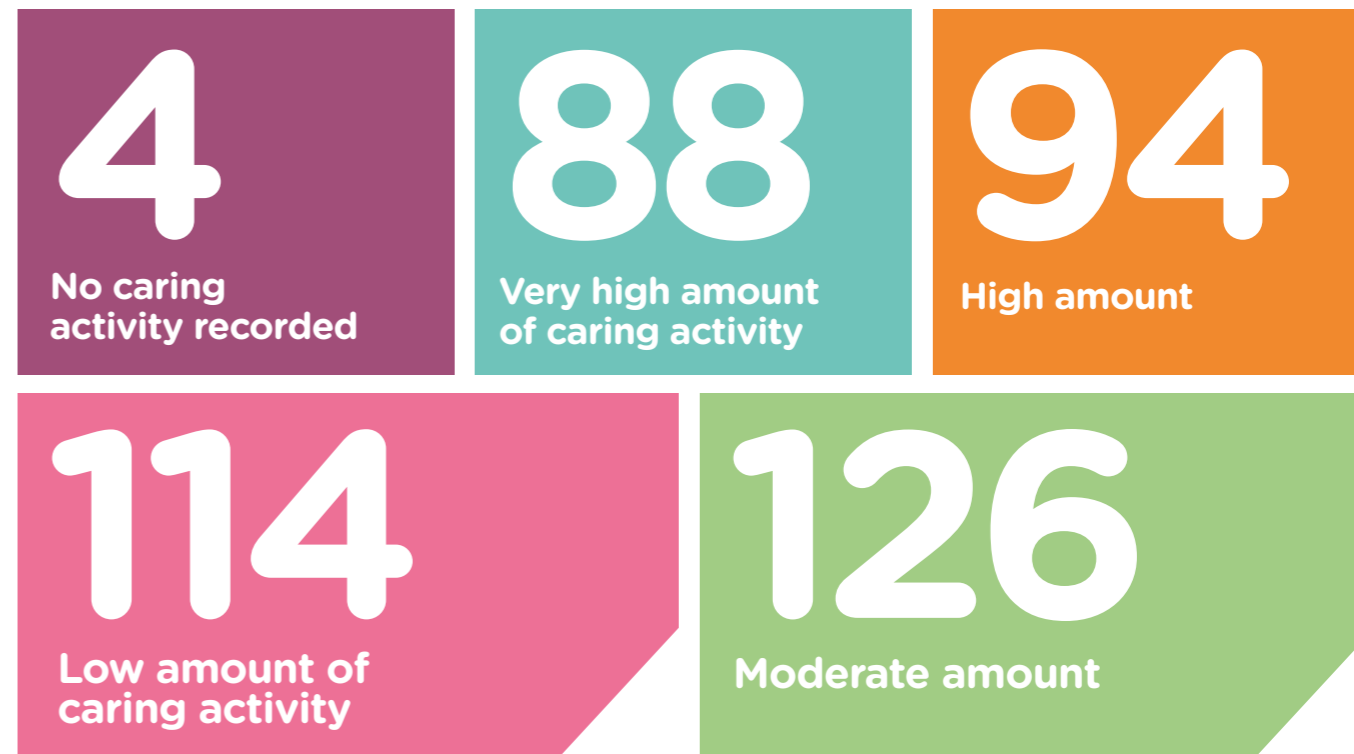


1,911 YOUNG CARERS CONNECTED WITH SPURGEONS

Children and young people who carry emotional burdens or heavy responsibilities



MACA Caring Responsibilities of Young Carers



BeLeave

protecting girls at risk of harm

There are at least 60 county line drugs operations in Birmingham. Because boys are more likely to be targeted by police, gangs are now increasingly targeting girls to transport weapons and drugs.

BeLeave was set up by Spurgeons and the Birmingham Police and Schools Panels in 2017 and funded by KFC and Comic Relief. It helps girls aged 8-18 who are in danger of such criminal exploitation to recognise risks and make positive choices.

Jag Basra who leads on BeLeave says, "It's a 12-session programme with four strands. Firstly, each girl has regular one-to-one meetings with the same caseworker - that continuity is important because, as she learns to trust them, she will start to express her needs and our caseworker can tailor their support."

"We also have sessions with the girl's family to brief them on what warning signs to look out for, such as truancy, anti-social behaviour or going missing from home."

"There are group activities - such as basketball - to help the girls discover positive new hobbies."

"Finally, there are group discussions on challenges facing young women today. Quite often, the girls suggest topics."

Last year, BeLeave helped 40 girls and young women, including 14-year-old Nicky. She lived with her nan but they weren't close. She says, "My home life was miserable. I didn't have anyone to talk to and I was afraid to talk to nan when I was feeling down."

"I started getting bullied - for how I looked, how my hair was, and I got called names. They always push me off the bus, throw stuff at me like bricks or stones. I couldn't stand up for myself. My grades started to slip. I started to hurt myself by cutting up my arms. I went missing, and my nan didn't know where I was going, so she got worried."

Then Nicky got involved with BeLeave. After five months, she really began to notice the difference. "Before, I was like, no, I can't do this, and my self-esteem was low. But now I have my confidence to do things."

"We learn new stuff every day. Grooming, how to be safe online, rock climbing, graffiti - I'm proud of myself that I can do things! I started to interact with other people, and get into things like after-school drama club."

"I believe that I succeeded in my life now because in the future I could get a good job. And all the stuff that happened in my childhood wouldn't affect me no more."

Now, Nicky and her nan talk to one another. Nicky knows how to stay safe, when to leave a situation that won't be good for her and is better at saying no to peer pressure. She's more confident and communicative and is starting to feel good about herself.

Jag says, "As the project has progressed, we've learned and improved. For example, girls used to be referred to BeLeave by police and social services, but now we also work with schools because they can spot warning signs at an earlier stage. We also learned that school referrals need the support of parents or girls won't turn up. So now we visit families to explain what BeLeave is and how it will help."

"After they complete the programme, the girls can volunteer or participate in group sessions. They can make a valuable contribution while continuing to benefit from being part of a supportive peer group."

"Before, I was like, no, I can't do this, and my self-esteem was low. But now I have my confidence to do things. We learn new stuff every day."

Children and young people who have been, or are, at significant risk of harm or exploitation

Seeing the impact

Most young girls' and young women's level of risk has decreased when compared to the initial referrals, and with their awareness around child criminal exploitation and gang-related harm having increased instead.

Rosenberg's self-esteem scale and participants' feedback suggest that the participants, overall, are significantly more confident and have a higher sense of self at completion compared to baseline."

**Northants University,
Evaluation report 2019**



Reasons for referral to BeLeave service

70%

of service users at BeLeave saw their self-esteem increase between the start and end of the intervention⁷

84

Identified risk of involvement in a gang/gang activity

⁷(as measured on Rosenberg scale, of all participating respondents)



“I will start using my daughter’s photo as her mother’s profile picture on the phone - so when I get a text, it will remind me of the reason we communicate.”

Children and young people who have been, or are, at significant risk of harm or exploitation

Separated Parents Information Programme

helping parents see conflict through a child’s eyes

Parental separation can have a devastating impact on the children, who are often the last to know. But they may pick up on cues that parents aren’t aware of, such as silence, and show signs of stress such as tummy ache, being very naughty or overly eager to please.

The Separated Parents Information Programme (SPIP) is a 4-hour course developed by CAFCASS⁸ to help parents and caregivers understand the emotional impact of conflict on children.

Spurgeons delivers SPIP to 3,000 parents a year.

Michelle Riviere who heads up the team says, “Often parents are told to do the course by the courts and are reluctant at first - but when we explain we’re not telling them how to be parents and, once they understand how much impact their conflict can have on their children in later life, most are really positive.”

One father who did the course said the most practical tip he’d learned was “...using my daughter’s photo as her mother’s profile picture on the phone - so when I get a text, it will remind me of the reason we communicate.”

Another parent says she learned, “...to take time out and keep calm, agree on times to deal with text messages when children are in bed.

I can see things working if both parties agree to work towards making the children happy and listening to them.”

Michelle is keen for parents to be offered SPIP at an earlier stage of separation. “The court stage can be too late, especially if parents have been going through the courts for years. So we’re promoting SPIP to those involved in mediation, such as solicitors and social workers, inviting them to observe SPIP sessions.

“Most referrals currently come via family courts, but few referrers really understand SPIP, so we’re also promoting its benefits so they in turn can promote it to parents more positively.”

⁸Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass) is a non-departmental, non-governmental public body in England.

Children and young people who have been, or are, at significant risk of harm or exploitation

Norwich Connect

an holistic approach to addressing domestic abuse

1 in 7 children and young people have experienced domestic abuse (DA)⁹. It can leave psychological scars that last a lifetime - but most DA support is too little, and comes too late.

Survivors say they want earlier intervention, more support for their children and help to recover and move on with their lives.

Norwich Connect was developed and funded by SafeLives to meet these needs. Support is tailored to individual families, looking at the victim, perpetrator and children in balance, and involves multiple co-ordinated agencies (including police, healthcare providers and social workers).

Spurgeons' John Lee, delivers the programme. John says, "Each of our staff had 26 days of intense training at the outset. We then set up seven best practice interventions - we use different combinations according to the specific needs of individual families, and the effectiveness is being continuously evaluated by three teams of academics so we can fine-tune the programme.

"We're also developing a team of volunteers, themselves survivors of DA, who help deliver recovery programmes and support the survivors on them to move forward in life with confidence and resilience.

"In addition to working directly with families, we've also trained 1,500 other professionals to take what we've learned into their own working environments. This includes how to help children stay safe and to cope with emotions and, in one of the newest areas of DA work, how to work with perpetrators to change their behaviour."

Survivors say the programme has changed their lives. Alice says, "I have been able to recognise what's happened to me and being able to move on, the groups have helped loads." And Kate comments, "It helped me and my son with our communication, particularly about his emotions; it has given him a safe space to express himself."



95%

of external professionals trained now feeling more confident to respond to domestic abuse victims following Norwich Connect training

88%

of external staff members trained in Culture of Engagement state they are more confident in working with domestic abuse perpetrators

⁹Radford, L. et al. (2011) Child abuse and neglect in the UK today, NSPCC

Making a difference with children and families

We learn from the people we work with and from each other in order to keep improving.

Making a difference in the lives of children and families sits at the heart of what we believe and what we do. That is why Spurgeons exists - to give children and young people, particularly those that are vulnerable, a better life today and a more hope-filled future.

We have three key values that are woven through our work: compassion, inclusion and hopefulness.

We are compassionate. We try to be there, when we are asked or when we are needed, whether that is a physical presence in local communities, or being there to support emotionally. We walk with, not do to.

We are inclusive. Those with whom we work are known and valued. We don't judge and we don't discriminate. We respect people for who they are: the unique them, the change that that they would like to enact in their own lives, and their ideas about doing so.

We are hopeful. We want the best for those we serve and we therefore have to strive for the best from ourselves.

We learn from the people we work with and from each other in order to keep improving. Whilst we have some creative and innovative projects, services and practice, we do not underestimate the power of the simple: patience, listening, smiling, encouraging. Hope is about the power of possibilities.

We support children, young people and families in multiple contexts and in a variety of ways, some of which you will have just read about. Some work is done over several months, other work may be for just a short window of time. We try to make the best of every moment and encourage those we walk with to do the same: each opportunity only comes once, but each opportunity is a chance to make a difference.

In whatever way you have supported us, thank you.

Lorraine White - Head of Practice

How you can help us



Pray

for the children and families we work with, for our volunteers and staff



Share

tell others why children need support, and how together we help them



Give

your donations will enable more children and young people to achieve their potential

Hope for every child

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