

Learning Disability Development Fund (LDDF) Progress report

Name of project: Takepart in Sport & Leisure

Project Lead: Ann Blackburn, Amaze

Sub Group overseeing project: Taking Part in the City

Project Targets from original bid:

- Increased numbers of young people and adults with learning disabilities and special needs at Takepart Day
- Increased numbers of young people and adults with learning disabilities and special needs taking up leisure opportunities across the city
- Taster sessions for at least 50 young people and adults with learning disabilities and special needs at Takepart Day
- Provision of information to at least 200 people using the zone at Takepart Day
- Registration of at least 12 people in targeted classes/activities after Takepart
- Dissemination of leisure information to local organisations with an interest in young people and adults with learning disabilities and special needs
- Higher uptake of learning disabilities and special needs activities outside special needs zone at Takepart Day (Takepart will evaluate)
- Increased number of young people and young adults taking advantage of the free and discounted leisure offers on the Compass Card

Learning Disability Development Fund (LDDF) Progress report

How the project will do this work:

Provide a 'special needs' area in the centre of Preston Park on Takepart Day 19 June.

- Provide sports taster sessions and classes to sign up to
- direct people to other special needs sessions on the day
- provide essential information on sports and leisure activities across the city and highlight support to help people access it.
- After trying a taster session in the zone, young people in transition and adults will also be able to sign up for inclusive classes that will take place after the event.
- Taster sessions and classes will be developed specially for the project and will add to the provision for people with learning disabilities and special needs in Brighton & Hove. We want it to be a positive experience for participants, so some staff from the organisations involved will need sports disability training. This has been included in the budget.
- details on city-wide provision will be sourced from two disability audits conducted in recent months: the current county-wide audit of physical activity and sports provision for disabled people being conducted by Sussex County Sports Partnership; and Sussex Central YMCA's 'Mapping Research of Youth Activity for Young People with Disabilities in Brighton & Hove May 2009'.

How much 2010/11 LDDF money the project got: £3,165

Name of person completing this report:

Ann Blackburn, Amaze

What the project has done from April to September 2010:

1. Marketed TAKEPART Launch Day and the Amazing Zone to local specialists (eg. Grace Ayre Foundation, specialist Council teams); play providers; special schools; Compass Card partners; Amaze parents; local media; and others.
2. Researched, written, designed and printed a learning disability-friendly leisure guide for all ages called 'Amazing Stuff!' The guide lists dozens of leisure opportunities, as well as services and projects that can help people to access leisure.
3. Designed a learning disability-friendly evaluation form and post boxes for the Amazing Zone.
4. Designed and produced signage and exhibition boards for the zone.
5. Organised supplies of additional information from Aiming High ('What's Out There!', guide to special needs youth provision for 11-25s); Family Information Service (2010 Summer Fun guide); and Amaze (Compass Card guide).
6. Negotiated with three leisure partners to provide taster activities in the Amazing Zone and to provide inclusive classes for kids and adults with special needs after the event. The partners are: Bandbazi, a circus theatre company that specialises in aerial circus skills; Hollingbury Table Tennis Club, a club with table tennis coaching and practice sessions in Bevendean; and Sama Organisation, a martial arts organisation that provides classes across the city and beyond.
7. Organised additional activities in the Amazing Zone to attract visitors: 250 free bottles of water donated by Sainsbury's New England Street; free biscuits and crackers; free head and shoulders massage with an experienced, special needs-friendly massage therapist; crash mats for soft play; boccia tasters with City Synergy; tug-of-war competition; and yoga-inspired movement classes provided by Tatty Bumpkin.
8. Ran Amazing Zone 19 June. An estimated 500 visitors, hundreds of pieces of information given out at the Amazing Zone hub and dozens of Amazing Zone evaluation forms completed by parent carers and kids and adults with special needs. The evaluation forms will be collated in the next few weeks – but anecdotal feedback has been extremely positive.
9. Marketed special needs inclusive activities (circus skills for 11-25 year olds through Bandbazi; karate and kick boxing through Sama; and table tennis through Hollingbury Table Tennis Club) to local specialists (eg. Grace Ayre Foundation, specialist Council teams); play providers; special schools; Compass Card partners; Amaze parents; local media; and others.

Learning Disability Development Fund (LDDF) Progress report

10. Liaison with inclusive activity providers to ensure use of evaluation forms and leisure information and to provide support where required. It's too soon to provide any evaluation of activities, but initial signs are good. Bandbazi has had two young people with special needs join its class; Sama says a number of people have joined classes (still chasing for more detail!) and Hollingbury Table Tennis Club has provided coaching to five children and young people with special needs.
11. Marketed leisure guide for all ages, 'Amazing Stuff!' to organisations etc as above. Guide also supplied for relevant events - including learning disability event at King Alfred Leisure Centre in July; and Paraolympics event organised by Barnados in Preston Park in August; and at regular autism-friendly screenings at Duke of Yorks. News piece on guide is also in the October edition of 'Out of Amaze' and guide is available on Amaze web site.
12. Collated and evaluated 42 survey forms that were completed by children and adults using the Amazing Zone. Significant proportion completed by people with special needs, although difficult to estimate exact numbers.
 - Of the 28 people who answered the question, 71% hadn't been to TAKEPART Launch Day before, 29% had.
 - Asked to rate the Amazing Zone overall, 79% rated it good, 16% OK, 2.5% not sure and 2.5% bad
 - Asked to rate Amazing Zone activities, 83% said good, 12% OK, 2.5% not sure and 2.5% bad
 - Asked to rate the information in the Amazing Zone, 55.5% said good, 21% OK, 5% not sure and 5% bad.

Particularly significant is the fact that 71% of participants hadn't been to TAKEPART Festival Launch Day before; a positive indication that the Amazing Zone attracted people who may not otherwise have attended.

This is a quote from TAKEPART Coordinator, Jo Wait about the Amazing Zone:

Well done to you and your team for all your hard work on the day, I am stunned at the numbers you managed to get in what was effectively our first year, imagine the possibilities next year! The whole day was a success and we estimate about 10-12,000 people on the day. The initial feedback and evaluation forms have been overwhelmingly positive and your contribution was no small part. Please pass on our congratulations to your whole team.