

## Case studies: How can the arts and creativity support people who are shielding or vulnerable during Covid-19?

Project: Door Step Creations

Organisation: Dream Time Creative / Creative Minds

Region: Yorkshire & Humber

### Introduction

FREE craft kits straight to your doorstep! This project has allowed us to post out free craft kits to the community of Wakefield, with six different crafts in total. Each kit contains the materials required, written instructions and a link to the craft tutorials on our YouTube page: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCdX\\_OgqKNkQ6jeFBZ8McJg/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdX_OgqKNkQ6jeFBZ8McJg/videos)

The project is also supported by a public Facebook group where the participants have been sharing their creative journeys through photos, encouragement to others, and their written responses to the activities and the pandemic.



Door Step Creations has helped to break down isolation barriers and ignite creative imaginations. One of the Door Step Creation packs contained the materials to make Rag Rugs including ribbons & backing hessian, and a printed history of rug making. The packs contain detailed instructions to enable people to make the rugs from things they may have at home such as old clothing and this will enable the sessions to take place.

We were honoured to have been awarded “outstanding service to the community” by Ed Anderson, Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, and two of our crafts were featured on BBC Radio Leeds.

### Funders

This project was funded by Creative Minds with match-funding provided by NOVA, a third-sector infrastructure organisation based in Wakefield.

***Who is it for?***

This project was aimed at people who are lonely or socially isolated during the pandemic, so it was particularly focused on connecting people and giving them an activity that would help them to feel included, alongside expressing their creativity whilst having their voices heard.

***What outcomes were/are you aiming for?***

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***Where is it happening?***

Wakefield, West Yorkshire

***Are you working in partnership?***

The Door Step Creations project is being delivered by Dream Time Creative, a social enterprise company (CIC), which works with both public and private funding organisations to empower the community through creativity.

***How many people took/are taking part?***

418 participants in total have been sent kits with one more round of craft kits to post out next week, so estimate 450 total for the project's end. The physical exhibition of all craft creations in the future will attract more of the public too.

***For how long has it been happening?***

The project launched in April. The last of the six craft kits will be posted next week.

***What were/are the main outputs?***

Dream Time Collective have invited participants to send or post photographs to them of their craft creations and they will create an online gallery celebrating creative crafting and wellbeing on their events page 'Door Step Creations'.



The project was featured in the Wakefield Art Walk online exhibition in May.

There will also be an opportunity to display creations at the Art Walk in Wakefield in September 2020 restrictions permitting, therefore enabling new audiences to participate in Wakefield's cultural landscape.

**Feedback:**

As the project is still “live” we have yet to collate the public feedback which we intend to do ready for the exhibitions.

***What have been the challenges and successes for you?***

We are very proud of the project. It has been more successful than we ever thought. We have had to cap the kits now as we are getting more requests than we can budget for.

People have been expressing their excitement and gratitude in emails for the creative distraction during this isolation and we have been touched by all of the participants’ voices.

The engagement from participants has been wonderful and there is a keen sense of community spirit in the Doorstep Creations Facebook group.

**Further information**

[www.facebook.com/DreamTimeCreative](http://www.facebook.com/DreamTimeCreative)

<http://dreamtimecreative.org/>

[www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/creative-minds/home/](http://www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/creative-minds/home/)

Creative Minds is an award-winning charity hosted by South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT). We develop and fund creative activities to support people with their mental health, wellbeing and recovery. Our initiatives cover arts, leisure, recreation and sports/physical activity. We work closely with SWYPFT services and our Creative Minds partners in the community to develop projects which benefit our public and staff. Since its launch in 2011, Creative Minds has enabled over 500 projects, facilitated over 100 sports events and benefits over 6,500 people per year. We have around 130 Creative Minds partner organisations from across all our localities in Barnsley, Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield.

Creative Minds is a linked charity hosted SWYPFT with 4 core workers, with the use of bank and sessional staff as required.