Public Health Innovation Fund Project Name: Creative Health



Slide 1: "What we did"

Summary of what project involved:

Strategic Development of the Partnership:

November 2024: Consultancy workshop with the partnership, lead by Moon and Mountain to develop a clear direction for Creative Health (CH) in Barnsley.

May 2025: Creative Health Lead was appointed on 22.5 hours per week employed by Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance (CHWA).

Workforce development:

November 2024: Creative Health Evaluation Training, Led by Jane Willis x 3 sessions.

December 2024: ECHO Lunch and Learn —
Introduction to Creative Health. Delivered in partnership with SWYFT and Project ECHO (Extension of Community Healthcare Outcomes).

February 2025: Trauma Informed Practice, one day in-person training led by Kazzum, 1 full day.

Creativity and Wellbeing Week.

19th May 2025 an event was held at the Lightbox @the Library

Main findings & data collected:

Strategic Development of the Partnership: Terms of Reference have been drafted for the CH Partnership and an action plan developed for the next 12 months.

Workforce development:

Creative Health Evaluation Training:

The course was oversubscribed and attendance was high over the three sessions, with high levels of satisfaction recorded in relation to increasing knowledge, gaining skills and tools, increasing confidence and meeting needs.

Trauma Informed Practice: This one-day training was fully booked, with 25 places. Attendees came from culture, health and care sectors, (eg SWPFT, Artworks, Museums, Creative Recovery, Chilypep, IDAS, social work, community engagement, SEND, Family Services).

Creativity and Wellbeing week event: 40 attendees, representing BMBC, NHS, national bodies, local VCSE. The barriers to and the future opportunities for creative health to flourish were explored.

Impact achieved:

Strategic Development of the Partnership: The workshop and strategic meetings facilitated by Moon and Mountain have strengthened relationships with Partnership members and established clear aims. Building on the Plan on a Page, the new Action Plan includes a strategic overview of the Partnership and a set of agreed actions in three priority areas with suggested timescales. The new ToR will clarify the roles and expectations of Partnership members.

Workforce development: post course evaluation showed that participants strongly benefitted from the training (see case study). We will follow this with two refresher sessions in Autumn 2025, to further understand how this training has impacted practice. Creative Health Boards in other LA areas are interested in learning from the pioneering mixed cohort model in Barnsley (courses include trainees from health / care / culture sectors)

Creativity and Wellbeing Week: Growing Creative Health in Barnsley stakeholder event at Barnsley Civic was well attended by a range of people from health, culture, adult social care, children and young people services. 100% positive feedback in response to the question "do you feel inspired by what you've heard today?" There was strong interest in the Partnership developing their role in building knowledge, understanding and networks.

Slide 2: "Sharing a story"

Personal Case Study Highlight:

Barnsley Creative Health Creative Evaluation Training was aimed at culture and health practitioners based in Barnsley using creativity within their work and seeking to better understand how to evidence wellbeing impacts in ways that are accessible, engaging and appropriate for the context and participants with whom they work

Absolutely fantastic, the best external course I have ever been on. Thank so much to Jane for being so generous in sharing your knowledge tools and experience....

It will make me less scared to try new things, and also to make evaluation more useful, impactful and pleasurable for participants and evaluators." Leonie Briggs, Director of Amazelab.

The attendees were a mixture of arts and health professionals and reported the positive opportunity to work collaboratively with other local arts and health organisations throughout the training sessions.

80% of participants said the course completely met their needs and that their knowledge of the topic has increased due to the course.

"I honestly found the training to be almost exclusively useful and enjoyable. There's very little I would have changed". Anna Butler, Waythrough Charity

When asked what have they specially learnt participants reported:

"I've learned to be clear about why you're doing evaluation and what you hope to achieve by doing the work."

"If you remove bias, you then find that it enables people to feel safe and therefore share more." When asked about the impact of the training participants reported:

"A total game changer for my line of work." Matt Woodhead

"It is already changing the way I approach not only evaluation but all aspects of project planning. I feel more, creative, considered and aware". Anna Butler, Waythrough Charity

One participant went on to present at our event, as part of Creativity and Wellbeing Week. He summarised his learning and imparted his knowledge to an audience of 40 people made up of arts, health and local authority colleagues.



Picture(s):







