



Art Therapy and Education

Annual Report 2022

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Reflections

At the end of 2021 we were awarded funding from The National Lottery to trial a project working with young people seeking asylum and living in London.

2022 saw Draw On develop new partnerships, develop, learn and adapt to a new working environment post COVID whilst also expanding the team!

Pilot project

We wanted to use the funding we had been awarded in an area of London that had a large community of migrants and people seeking asylum. After some research and a trial we discovered that the borough of Lewisham not only had a large population of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers but it was also working towards being elected as a borough of Sanctuary for people seeking asylum in the UK. We decided to turn our attention and to look at the possibilities of facilitating therapeutic art groups in partnership with an organisation there.

We came across Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network, LRMN, <https://www.lrmn.org.uk/> a fantastic grass roots charity that offers advice, support and a community base for people living in the borough of Lewisham. We met with the team there and Alan, the head of operations, and discussed piloting a short project to see if there was particular scope to work with young people who were accessing their services.

As Katie our Managing Director went on maternity leave we expanded our team and were joined by Art Psychotherapist Eloise who co-facilitated the groups.

This pilot ran for six weeks and gave us an opportunity to assess the possibilities of working with young people.



Images of artworks created during the groups, all images were taken with young person's consent and direction.

Review

We found that whilst the groups were engaged with and valued by the group members, many young people found their situations were often changing making it difficult to obtain regular attendance to the group, for some this was to do with being moved, a change in leave to remain status, employment or higher education access.

The young people said they ‘enjoyed using the art materials’ that they found the groups ‘fun and enjoyable’ and they valued having an opportunity to talk with others. They fed back that they would like older adults to be in the groups as well. They also told us that they wanted the groups to be held for longer periods of time than six weeks and that they would like the sessions to be longer.



Refugee week

This year's theme for refugee week was ‘Healing’ and we facilitated an online space for people to submit their images and art works around the theme. See below for some of the wonderful images and reflections on healing that were submitted and showcased on our social media platforms.



‘Healing is on the horizon’



‘Considering the beauty in creation is healing’

Looking forward

As we approach the end of this year we are looking toward developing our partnership with LRMN and to act on the feedback we have been given from the young people who joined us, to offer groups for adults of all ages and to offer them for a longer duration.

Financials

We are committed to sharing our impact and outcomes with you including our financial information. 100% of our donations and grants go directly towards our projects.

Total Support Income for 2022: £390.25

Donations: £390.25

Total Expenditure for 2022: £2312.29

Thank you

We want to thank all of our supporters and donators who have helped us to continue to offer therapeutic art groups to one of the most marginalised groups in the UK. Without your support and donations this would not be possible!

THANK YOU

Contact Us!



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To make a one off donation or to set up regular giving please go to our just giving page