

# Green Impact Project Case Study

## CHARITY

### Background

Institution: The University of Sheffield  
Team Name: SRA & GE Green Impact  
No. of years participating in Green Impact: 2

### Highlights

*Please include 2-3 bullet points (of approx. 10 words each) which summarises your case study:*

- To improve the living environment within a nursing home for care residents. Intending to tidy the garden, we received a much bigger challenge! Paint a Victorian Street in line with decorations that the nursing home had recently undertaken.
- Inspired by what we saw at the nursing home we decided to make sensory items. Knitted sleeves and sensory items for residents living with dementia to use.
- In line with our overall theme of Reduce, Reuse and Regenerate we wanted to use unwanted crafting items or paints to be donated by team to achieve this.
- Combine cross departmental efforts to raise funds and donations for charity.

### Description

The biggest challenge our committee has faced but one that has really made our teams think about waste items in the home, destined for the local tip.

Presenting to the whole of SRA and Global engagement sharing our aims around the Charity theme for this year, it became a real team effort.

We challenged them to donate unwanted tins of paint and decorating materials. The committee made collection of items from staff homes and delivered it to the nursing home. Even EFM heard about it and brought a mountain of half empty paint tins.

Artists from the wider team and our GIPAS volunteered to do the painting.

We ran a series of lunch time crafting sessions to make sensory sleeves and taught staff how to knit and crochet using donated felt, buttons, ribbons and wool. We made an amazing interactive wooden sensory tree.

We even reclaimed an unwanted wooden ex-display from the skip outside The Arts Tower and turned this into a sensory desk using unwanted locks and chains.

An incredibly positive experience in using 'waste' to improve the environment for others.

We supported a local scout with a disability in achieving her goal of going to Camp America by donating unwanted clothing for a weigh in.

## Photographs



**Keirah's on her way to World Scout Jamboree in North America July 2019 for three weeks `Thanks so much to the people in SRA and Global team, for helping to reach my target fundraising goal! Keirah xCollect just short of 2 tonnes between 14 scouts !!**

## Global Engagement demonstrating their crafting skills!!



## Self-Assessment

**Team Engagement** - Every member of the SRA&GE Green Impact committee undertook tasks within the projects – either by collecting unwanted materials, organising crafting sessions (& taking part), undertaking paintings, liaising with the nursing home & volunteers. **5**

**Reach** The committee engaged the support of the following teams situated across floors 2,3 and 7 of the Arts Tower - Widening Participation, Uk Recruitment, Comms, Admissions, Insights Global - (WE MIGHT BE ON SEPARATE FLOORS BUT WE ARE ONE BIG TEAM!)

- We even received a huge donation of unwanted paint from the decorators within EFM!
- Department Managers & the Head of SRA supported to allow some time away from Office with much painting being undertaken in the teams own time at weekends & evenings.

- We approached Sheffield Volunteering to see if they had had any requests for support from Charities and they put us in touch with the Nursing home - Shef Care.
- The wider team came together to make donations for local charities rather than doing this alone to create bigger impact e.g. donations to charity rather than sending Christmas cards
- Team were inspired to undertake their own charity events – Amal Stapley hosted a dining experience to support Human Aid UK Winter Appeal ...

10

### Come Dine with Me Fundraiser for Human Aid UK Winter Appeal

After pledging to raise £1000 for the Human Aid Winter appeal to provide winter clothing for vulnerable people living in refugee camps in Darfurbesheit, Darra, Gaza, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen, a group of friends of mine and I volunteered to host a series of "Come Dine with Me Fundraising Dinners". The idea was that we would host a meal in our own homes and invite people we knew through Facebook and Eventbrite to choose which meal they'd like to come to.

We held a total of 6 dinners and lunches between 19/12/2018 and 20/01/19. Each hostess decided on their own menu, so we had a real eclectic mix of Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Afghan, Italian and low carb dinners. The attendees were each asked to donate at least £10 to the cause and we also asked for independent donations from university staff and friends through MyDonate. As you can see below, we smashed the target and raised a massive £3,200 and provided winter clothing for 94 freezing families!!!



### The second phase painting team (Victorian St & Tree)



Volunteers came from Widening Participation and Global engagement and we were enthusiastically supported by our GI Project Assistants, Amy, Yucheng and Xiaoyan who painted a fabulous wall.



Faye and Becky making leaves for the sensory trees.



**Creativity** By using unwanted paints, clothing and items, we were able to expand on this year's them of Reuse, Reduce and

Regenerate rather than buying new to create our projects. For example, we didn't have all the colours we needed for the painting, so we mixed different leftovers to create what we needed.

We've undertaken a huge range of recycling during this project – even collecting an discarded display desk from the Arts Tower skip and turning it into something usable (adding donated bits and pieces from our sheds and garages).

5

### Impact Measurability

Here are some of the items made from waste –



#### Sensory Tree one

– made from a wooden tree, previously used in a team building exercise in WP and donated buttons and felt.

The leaves are removable so dementia patients can Create their own patterns.

#### Activity desk for people living with Dementia –

Made from desk recovered from a skip, painted with unwanted paint, the activities being created from unused items from our sheds and garages – will stimulate patients to keep their brains active.

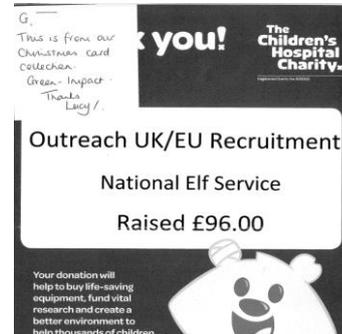


**Painting in the nursing home      Sensory tree**  
Created with leftover paints – the nursing home are going to encourage residents to write on the leftover leaves from tree 1 – things that remind them of home or loved ones to create a more interactive environment.

**Old paints into new colours changing the visual environment of the nursing home**



**We turned bland walls into something visually stimulating for the residents – using unwanted paints, mixed to create the desired colours!**



**Our Other efforts for local charities:**

**Team Christmas card donations.** We decided not to spend money on buying Christmas cards – the teams making a donation to the Children’s hospital appeal instead. Raising £96.

**Amals – Come dine with me experience**

**Keirah’s unwanted clothes donations from the team** **10**

**Proportionality** We’re a committee of 7 people and we could not have achieved all of the above without the commitment of our wider team and Senior Management. The painting alone was a big undertaking and required many man hours to organise. It was one aspect of a much bigger project to reuse and regenerate. It has improved the environment for old people living with Dementia. Our efforts in this and other charity engagement has raised the profile of the University in the local community. Much was done in volunteers own time and the volunteers came from the wider SRA team. **5**

**Replication** All could be replicated – the nursing home chain Shef Care has 10 homes, we worked with only one (although our sensory sleeves were delivered to others in the chain). Inspired by what they have seen at Castelayn others are asking for support. These homes have to raise funds themselves for anything beyond standard care and this type of volunteering and donation is a way of supporting them. Nursing staff at Castelayn recently gave up their Christmas bonuses to improve the environment **5**

**Legacy** The paintings and sensory items are there for both residents and families of the nursing home to enjoy for as long as the building stands (we have that as a promise) Keirah is on her way to America thanks to the generous donations of the team. Our local charities will benefit from our donations. Our legacy will be in the memories and experiences as our beneficiaries enjoy their new experiences. **5**

**Outcome**

Simply – we’ve been amazed by what we’ve achieved and how this project has grown & how everyone contributed in their own way, giving up time & energy enthusiastically.

**Our committee would like to extend a massive THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to this project – we hope you enjoyed being involved as much as we did!!** **5**