

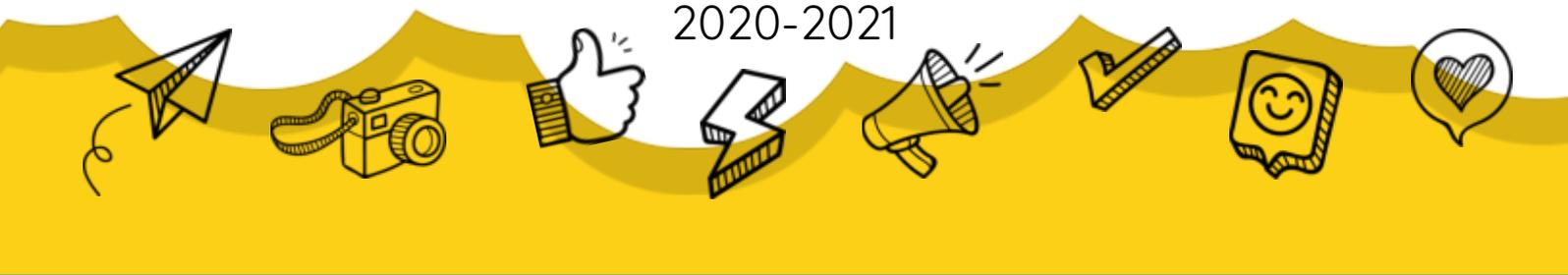


The Young Lives Foundation

# LEGENDS PROGRAMME

## IMPACT REPORT

2020-2021



#makingadifference

“

**OVER 170**

young people  
were supported by our  
Legends Programme this past year,  
all of whom have had some form of  
contact with the care system or are  
deemed a disadvantaged young  
person. We are also proud to have  
been able to continue providing a  
source of support to each one of  
them, especially throughout the  
coronavirus pandemic.

”

Lucy Wheatley,  
on behalf of the  
YLF Legends  
team





# a message from **LUCY WHEATLEY,** **LEGENDS MANAGER** **LEGENDS**

programme

## A NEW CHALLENGE...

It has been a really challenging time across the world. The pandemic had a huge impact on people's lives, especially when it was announced that we would be entering a national lockdown. But I have been so proud and impressed that within 24 hours, our Legends team managed to adapt to the news quickly and effectively, and convert our group programme into the online world.

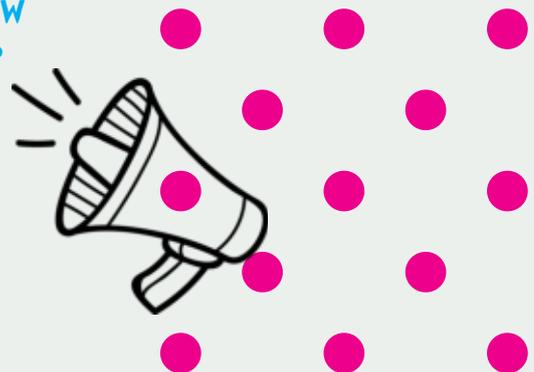
This wasn't easy and was new to all the staff, but not only did they do it, they also smashed it!

I am so proud that we have been able to maintain the Legends groups, sustain support for our children and families who needed us, mobilise and respond to immediate needs for those who were impacted the most, and also adapt to a new way of working.

This would not have been possible without the support of our funders and partners, and so many people who have given their time, emergency funding, donations, gifts, advice, guidance and energy. We do not underestimate how fortunate we are to have this support and we are humbled and grateful for it.

Thank you!!

**COVID DOESN'T  
HOLD US BACK!  
WE ADAPT TO OUR  
SURROUNDINGS  
AND MAKE THE  
MOST OF IT.  
WE LEARN, GROW  
AND DEVELOP  
TOGETHER**



during the **PANDEMIC...**

**100%**

of young people  
would take part  
in activities  
again



**88%**

say they have  
learnt  
something new

**170+**

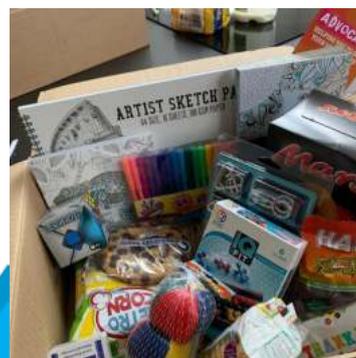
young people  
were  
supported

**100%**

Felt safe taking  
part



Head over to our YouTube  
Channel to watch our video!  
<https://youtu.be/jLOGRhkMeds>



# achievements and HIGHLIGHTS



## LEGENDS PROGRAMME LAUNCH

Our positive activities programme officially relaunched as LEGENDS! It offers a variety of educational and fun activities to enhance the development and well-being of our young people. Aiming to build confidence, resilience and skills all whilst in a safe and inclusive environment.



## ZOOM IS BUFFERING

We hit lockdown and moved online overnight! We managed to quickly change the way we worked and started online Zoom sessions where the young people still met weekly. The groups provided support to one another to get through lockdown with silly games, heartfelt conversations, mental health support, educational support, and social contact. What a load of Legends!



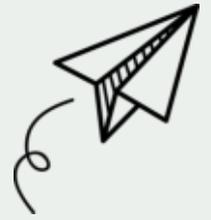
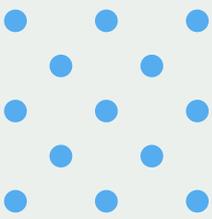
## EASTER EGG- TRAVAGANZA

We managed to safely deliver Easter treats during the Easter period, ensuring all young people didn't miss out on the delights of chocolate, even during a pandemic! They were all so gratefully received.



## FOOD'S ON US!

The pandemic has seen an increase in the need for food and resources. With volunteer support, funders and donors, we were able to help distribute food hampers across the County. Thank you!



### GAMING LAUNCH

We were thrilled that the Legends team were able to launch a brand new online gaming group! Supported by a Mentor and Legends staff, these young people were able to safely meet up online to engage in their favourite Xbox and PlayStation games. It is a safe and friendly platform for game play, encourages conversation, and prevents social isolation.



### STAYING SAFE ONLINE

BBC's Children in Need emergency grants have enabled us to receive additional funds to support young people in helping them learn how to keep themselves safe, particularly online, and prevent grooming. We now have staff trained and are supporting young people to raise awareness



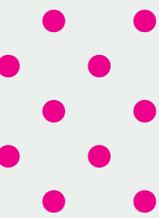
### KNOCK KNOCK, PIZZA DELIVERY

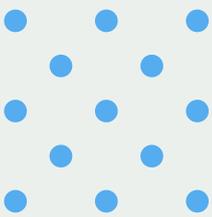
As part of our online activities to help keep young people engaged, we have had the staff team organising and delivering activities for our Legends to take part in over Zoom together. We have delivered pizza making kits, clay pot making kits, clay painting kits, and so much more!



### HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

We were aware that quarantine was having a huge impact on our young people and the relationships they have with carers and family. So when lockdown was lifted we were able to put on socially-distanced activities for the young people, like golf and paddle boarding - it was much needed fun!





### KAHOOT CRAZINESS

Staff discovered a great online learning platform that encouraged young people to have fun, broaden their knowledge and educate them on different topics. It was also a welcomed change in the way they could gather young people's views and interests, as the staff were able to use the platform to create a number of varied quiz topics!



### CHRISTMAS TOGETHER

Lockdown meant that we were not able to host our normal hub Christmas parties, but we didn't let that stop us from being 'together!' The Legends joined together for virtual afternoon tea and gingerbread house building. We were also able to give every young person a present to open on Christmas day - it took some planning, but we did it, and we did it smiling proudly!



### CHALLENGE ME CHALLENGE YOU!

During the first lockdown we introduced challenges and activities to the young people and groups to try and help get them through that strange time. We also distributed activity packs to keep us connected.



### GRANTS, GIFTS AND FUNDRAISING

We are incredibly grateful to all our funders, supporters and donors who have given money, gifts and time to support the charity during the pandemic. Unfortunately our events were cancelled but we have still managed to raise so much money to help fund some of the extra resources that we were not anticipating, meaning our funds can stretch further for longer.



“

Thank you so much to you and your team for our food parcel and fun bits. We sat and cried for a while but then played games together. It really meant a lot to us and I can't thank you enough.

”

Medway family,  
supported by YLF's  
COVID campaign





## FEEDBACK FROM families and young people

"Staff at YLF are amazing, kind, friendly, helpful and totally there to challenge you to succeed."

**PARENT**

"I think its great that you've managed to continue to support so many during lockdown, and we know that you're there if and when we need you."

**PARENT**

"Being part of YLF definitely puts a smile on my face - also I get to know I'm not the only child in care."

**SAM, LEGENDS YOUNG PERSON**

"YLF has given him a safe space to make some good friends for about 7 years. He hasn't shown any interest in virtual meetings during the pandemic, however I know he is looking forward to a time when he can meet together with the rest of the group in person."

**FOSTER CARER**

"I have struggled since coming into care with low self-esteem, quite a lot of upset and anger. I find it hard to make friends and trust people. YLF has been brilliant for me. At first I didn't want to attend but Lucy came and did a home visit and talked me through coming. I joined in a session and felt a sense of belonging, a sense of pride in achieving a new skill, and a sense of fun and enjoyment."

**HARRIET, LEGENDS YOUNG PERSON**

“

It was so nice that YLF delivered gifts for Henry at Christmas. Henry doesn't say much but his body language and smile on his face showed clearly, he really enjoyed getting the gifts. So thank you for that.

”

Foster Carer



# supporters and FUNDERS

The Legends Programme would like to thank the following grant makers, supporters, donors, businesses and organisations for their continued support, and emergency gifts during the crisis.

We would also like to highlight our gratitude to all individual donors who have given to support our Legends.

Thank you!



# resources and LINKS



Please visit our YouTube Channel and social media channels for regular updates, news and videos.

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

[www.twitter.com/LegendsYLF](http://www.twitter.com/LegendsYLF)

[www.instagram.com/LegendsYLF](http://www.instagram.com/LegendsYLF)

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCsEKgNGGaLEko7TMZp7gfs](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsEKgNGGaLEko7TMZp7gfs)

Also check our website and blog for further information about our work and impact - don't forget to also sign up to our newsletter. Thank you.

[www.ylf.org.uk/legends](http://www.ylf.org.uk/legends)

[www.ylf.org.uk/blog](http://www.ylf.org.uk/blog)

Please note that all information and activity reported in this report is correct as of January 2021 and in line with current government procedures and guidance. YLF continue to follow safe working practices. Please note that some photos featured may have been taken prior to the pandemic. Thank you.



♥ #thankyouforalloursupport ♥



## LEGENDS PROGRAMME

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 the young lives foundation

