



Annual Review  
**2021/22**

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## Our Vision

A thriving and well-resourced voluntary and community sector that meets community needs and provides an excellent experience for all.

## Our Mission

We promote, develop and support a vibrant voluntary and community sector to enable local people to shape and influence their communities.

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**Andrew Gabbitas**

Chair of CAVA's  
Trustee Board

# Welcome

## A message from our Chair

The pressures and demands on our communities and the people within them, on our environment, on our public services, and indeed on our quality of life as a whole, continue to increase. In Warwickshire and Solihull those pressures and demands have been eased by the work of volunteers and the community and voluntary organisations to which they belong.

The COVID epidemic has eased but it is still with us and that with an emerging cost of living crisis has left a legacy of consequences and needs. Volunteers who reduced the worst effects of the peak of the pandemic, will continue to address that legacy now and into the future.

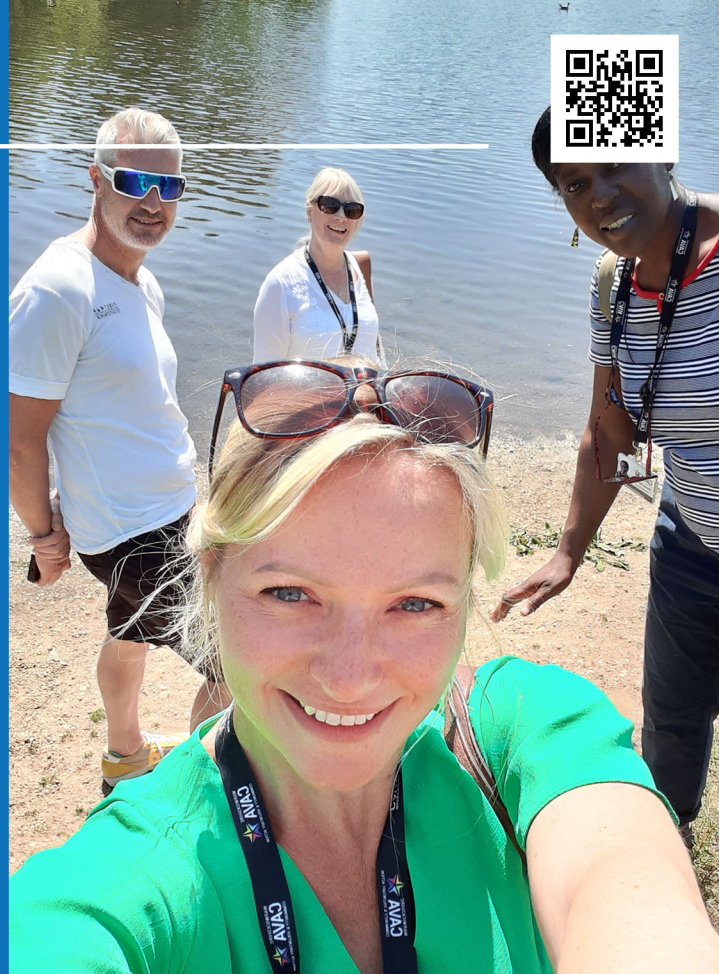
CAVA itself is not immune to current challenges but this year has secured, with its partners, some major funding awards which will enable it to continue its work. We are consulting our members and will be refreshing our strategic plans in the near future. An event based around that new strategy will be announced later this year.

It just remains for me to thank our trustees, staff, volunteers and funders for all their help and support over the past year.

# Solihull Infrastructure

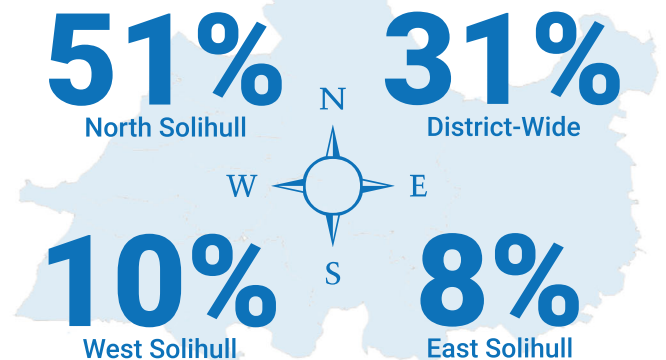
CAVA has delivered the service in Solihull for 3 years supporting the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector (VCSE) through the infrastructure contract for Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) and has been asked to deliver a further two years.

We have continued to increase our knowledge of the VCSE in Solihull, developing and maintaining relationships with groups and individuals across the borough. CAVA has increased the range of organisations worked with including parks, faith groups, sports facilities and schools and increased the number of groups supported and hours of direct support given with an increased focus on governance support. Our regular volunteering and funding e-bulletins and social media channels help to keep the VCSE informed and updated.



## REACH

Support by area...



## SOLIHULL INFRASTRUCTURE

### **Solihull Infrastructure** Cont'd

CAVA has continued to deliver high quality events across the borough, which have added value as groups continue to recover post COVID.

These include events helping to shape the sector ('Reconnect, Reflect, Rebuild' and 'Embedding the voluntary community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector into the Integrated Care System (ICS)' and celebrating diversity in the sector ('International Women's Day and Young Trustees').

In total we delivered 53 virtual events, these included 17 funding webinars and clinics, 9 strategic webinars, 4 governance and learning events, 5 access to volunteering/volunteers events, 12 virtual networking events, and 6 digital skills events and clinics. We contributed to another 29 events and have increased our outreach presence.

## ACHIEVEMENTS



**104**

Groups from across Solihull  
have been supported



**£842,604**

Of funds applied to, £683,844 were awarded



**304**

Hours of support provided



# Increased Understanding of VCS Need

The Reconnect, Reflect, Rebuild event and the 'State of the Sector' survey outputs were conduits to identifying significant concerns in the sector for financial sustainability. Growing demand for services, the challenges of volunteer and trustee recruitment are also key concerns for the VCSE along with concerns about increased social isolation, digital exclusion and mental health issues in the communities they serve. Collaboration and partnership between VCOs and across sectors was recognised as a key success factor of the COVID response and continued partnership work is welcomed. The impact of the VCSE during COVID has been recognised and organisations are keen for its profile to remain high.

Findings from the State of the Sector survey were used to help inform the SMBC VCSE Strategic Assessment.

# Strengthening Networks and Partnerships

The CAVA team in Solihull have been well engaged with the SMBC Community Development team in identifying community needs, sharing trends and information about support needs through regular meetings and have actively worked with SMBC to forward its Thriving Communities agenda.

We continue to support some key networks and forums.

**North Solihull Voluntary and Community Alliance** – after putting their meetings on hold during the first lockdown, CAVA led on the reinstatement of the Alliance and facilitated Board and network meetings. NSCVA has been focused on dementia support and working towards setting up a dementia cafe at Seeds of Hope.

## SOLIHULL INFRASTRUCTURE

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**Kingshurst Community Group** - We continue to attend meetings relating to the regeneration of Kingshurst and the identification of appropriate community space in the new development.

**Funding panels** - CAVA supports a range of panels, including 'Change into Action', Holiday Activity Funding (HAF) and some Heart of England Community Foundation funds.

**VCSE Reference Group** - CAVA has had a regular presence at the VCSE Reference Group, originally set up during the COVID emergency and now meeting with SMBC around COVID recovery.

**Volunteer Managers' Forum** - the VMF has met fortnightly throughout the pandemic, providing peer support and sharing ideas and experience around volunteer management and hosting the celebratory Afternoon Tea during Volunteers Week.

### **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**

COVID restrictions had placed businesses under very considerable financial pressure in Year 2 of the contract. The later part of Year 3 saw an increase in participation and a thirst for networking events where CAVA was able to promote volunteering and trustee opportunities.

A range of organisations supported the VCSE with volunteers and donations, from JLR to Virgin Media and SMBC itself repurposed 15 benches to local charities, increasing their social value contribution.

By the end of Year 3, plans had progressed well for the Volunteer Managers Volunteers' Celebration Afternoon Tea in June. Funding for the October 2022 Solihull Civic Honours was secured, with confirmation of sponsorship from the NEC Group, Lucent Financial Planners and Arenas, and additional interest from the Crowne Plaza manager and John Lewis.

**“ CAVA is invaluable in enabling us to deliver our services effectively and facilitating contact with other organisations**

- CAVA Service user



# Volunteering

Our new Volunteering Coordinator has worked with a wide variety of volunteer involving organisations: 44 groups have been given one to one support on topics ranging from recruitment, volunteer retention, training and safeguarding.

We have increased the use of the Simply Connect Volunteer brokerage database. In this period 13 new groups registered on Simply Connect and offered 36 volunteer opportunities.

Simply Connect also now includes the promotion of trustee vacancies.

Working with volunteers:

- 72 volunteers registered on Simply Connect
- 13 new organisations registered on Volunteer Connect during this period offering 36 opportunities
- 38 volunteers were given one to one support to access volunteering
- 58 volunteer involving organisations were given support around volunteer management.

We have found new ways of promoting volunteering opportunities through an interactive flyer, participation on the Skills360 website and increased outreach for one-to-one surgeries for prospective volunteers and for organisations looking to recruit volunteers.

The Volunteer Managers Forum continues to be a forum for sharing good practice, innovation and ideas around good practice in volunteer management.

As lead of the Volunteer Managers Forum, we organised the well-attended Volunteer Afternoon Tea celebrating Solihull's residents volunteering support.

# Case Study

### **Solihull SoLO (Social Life Opportunities)**

With COVID restrictions lifting slowly in Spring 2021, charities in Solihull borough were starting to recruit new Trustees to strengthen their boards, and to take them forward as they emerged from the pandemic into a new normal.

Finding potential volunteers ready to consider a strategic volunteering role, such as a trustee for a charity can be a difficult exercise, even more so in pandemic times where contacts with people were limited. Similarly, when CAVA is contacted by volunteers with the skills to take on a trustee role, matching them to the right opportunity for the benefit of both parties can prove complex.

Solihull SoLO (Social Life Opportunities) had been looking for new Trustees for a while and approached CAVA for help in widening their search. Usually, this would involve CAVA doing a lot of face-to-face networking and engaging with local people via social media. Not long after SoLO started their search, Rehana got in touch via our website with our Relationship Officer, June Mole. She asked for help to find a local opportunity. It needed to fit around her work as an accountant and her young family. The pandemic had motivated her to reach out and offer her skills in the community. Although Rehana had previously volunteered as a governor at her children's school, she had no experience of the voluntary sector, which some charities prefer a potential trustee to have.

June was able to suggest some roles that seemed best suited to Rehana's skills and interests, including the SoLO role. CAVA offered guidance and advice on several available roles to find the most suitable. The one that stood out for her was with SoLO as Rehana particularly wanted to volunteer for the benefit of disadvantaged children/young people. After CAVA made an introduction to SoLO's Chair of Trustees, Rehana was invited for a virtual interview with the existing board, the CEO and Head of Operations.

The meeting went well and both parties were keen to proceed to the next stage of the recruitment process. This led to Rehana becoming a new trustee with responsibility for safeguarding, an area that Rehana was already familiar with. She is now at the start of an exciting trustee journey and is enjoying her trustee role.

# Warwickshire Infrastructure

We are contracted to deliver infrastructure support to groups across Warwickshire by Warwickshire County Council (WCC), Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC), North Warwickshire Borough Council (NWBC), Rugby Borough Council (RBC) and Warwick District Council (WDC).

In the past 12 months 692 unique organisations have received support from us on 1,651 specific activities. In addition, 931 organisations have been supported and upskilled when engaged at workshops, training and events. In total we supported 1,623 organisations.

Between April and March 2022 we organised 100 events and contributed to 134 others reaching over 5,750 people and upskilling 935 organisations.

We have advised 261 organisations on funding and supported 184 applications since April 2021. £2,706,620.25 was applied for and £1,036,237.00 has been awarded. Our involvement on grant panels saw a further £183,301.00 invested in Warwickshire.



**“ CAVA is a wonderful helpful service to our organisation. We have received help with funding advice support and volunteers.**

**- CAVA Service user**

# Case Studies

### **Small Charity Week Net-Walking Event - May 2022**

A number of people joined Funding and Groups Development Officer, Michelle Black and Volunteering Coordinator, Tina Wragg for a net-walking event in May 2021.

As part of Small Charity Week, it was decided to get people together to meet other people working in the voluntary sector, so they could chat and make contacts. Seven people walked two miles around Nuneaton in the lovely sunshine.

Heather Thompson from Oakwood School said, *"It was a lovely morning. We were able to meet other people who worked in the community and help us promote our school and build links with the local community."*

Since the walk, Michelle has linked Heather with Heart of England Community Rail Partnership who are looking for funding and groups to use a disused room on platform five at Nuneaton Railway Station. It has potential to be a community room with a little café. It was suggested that it could be utilised by people wanting experience in the hospitality industry. This would be a great opportunity for the job coaches and students to be involved in.

Pupils from the school also joined the walk and were able to talk to Tina about volunteering opportunities and had a chat with Vicky and Lynette from the Borough Council about gardening opportunities.

Sandy Bassi is fairly new to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, in the role of Project Officer for the Transforming Nuneaton project. She hasn't been able to visit much of Nuneaton during lockdown, so the event gave her the opportunity to walk around the town's park and see the Leisure Centre.

She said, *"It was also good to see some of my council colleagues from the community on the walk, as well as make links to enable me to promote Transforming Nuneaton and raise awareness of the project to people living and working in the town."*



### Small Charity Week Net-Walking Event - May 2022 Cont'd

The route took the group from the Newtown Centre, through Riversley Park, up to the Heritage Centre and round to the Pingles Leisure Centre, then headed back through the park back to Newtown. Volunteer Shelia provided refreshments after the walk, so people could have a drink and chat some more.

Funding and Group Development Officer, Michelle Black said, *"The walk proved a good event for people to get outdoors and start seeing people face to face again now lockdown restrictions are being eased. It provided a start to networking in the voluntary sector again. It is something that may well be repeated now that final lockdown restrictions have been lifted."*

## ACHIEVEMENTS



692

Unique organisations have received support from us on 1,651 specific activities



£2,706,602

Of funds applied to, £1,036,238 were awarded



100

Events held, plus 134 events contributed to, reaching 5,750 people and upskilling 935 organisations

# Case Study

## Introduction to Bid Writing

### The Community

Across Solihull and Warwickshire, there is a real need for basic bid writing skills, especially amongst smaller groups and those that are new to the sector (and new to fundraising).

### The Challenge

Many groups lack experience and confidence when it comes to writing funding bids, and the process can seem quite daunting. CAVA's Funding and Group Development Officer's (FGDO's) spend a lot of time supporting groups in this area. By offering an overview (via Zoom due to COVID restrictions), we were able to reach out to many groups at the same time.

### Meeting the Challenge

We delivered an Introduction to Bid Writing, via Zoom, as part of Small Charities Week. 21 people attended, representing 19 different groups - eight of which worked with communities in Solihull, ten in Warwickshire, and one in both areas. The session lasted 90 minutes and included our "You're the Panel" exercise, in which participants discuss the merits, or otherwise, of three example bids (which had been emailed in advance).

### The Outcome

The training was very well received, with 100% of those who completed our feedback survey saying the session was informative and useful, with a knowledgeable presenter, and that they would recommend it to others. Comments included:

*"Great webinar, the practical examples and group input were especially helpful."*

*"It was a good mix of information delivered lightly and well."*

*"I enjoyed the webinar and especially liked the chance to go through the three bids and discuss them as a group afterwards."*

# Volunteering

CAVA aims to ensure that every volunteering experience is of the highest quality and that the skills and energies of volunteers are targeted to make the most difference within local communities across the county.

Every year we help potential volunteers to find the right role for them, matching their skills with opportunities in voluntary, not-for-profit and public sector organisations, in addition to providing them with practical advice and information.

1,067 individuals accessed our volunteering services in the reporting year, 775 of those were placed in volunteering opportunities.

267 organisations were provided support to recruit volunteers to which 646 support interventions were provided.

Alongside our support to volunteers and volunteer involving organisations CAVA continues to work with local and national employers offering their skills through volunteering.



**“ The sign up process was very straightforward. Within a week I found the perfect place to volunteer and have been enjoying my time there since.**

**- CAVA Service user**



# Case Study

## **Employer Supported Volunteering: SEGRO and the Bradby Club**

In July, CAVA was approached by Dawn Judge from SEGRO, a local business looking for ideas for their annual Day of Giving which would take place in September. The Day of Giving enables team members the time to volunteer, whilst learning new skills and achieving a sense of pride in our local communities.

Our Rugby Volunteer Coordinator, Carol put them in touch with the Bradby Club who had an outdoor area which needed an overhaul. Upon being put in contact, SEGRO chose to work with the club as their local charity. Working side-by-side with a landscape contractor, Whiting Landscape Limited, who attended the site three times prior to the actual day for weed control and pre-planning, assisting the team to make a bigger positive difference on the day itself.

On the Day of Giving, 30+ SEGRO volunteers were digging, wheelbarrowing, painting and building throughout the whole area - from a distance, this was a picture of organised chaos as everyone was rushing round, dodging each other in quite a tight space to get their individual tasks done. By about 3.30pm, as if by magic, the area had been completely transformed with gravel paths, artificial grass, parallel bars and a fresh lick of paint. It is quite a radical transformation, but exactly what the club were looking for.

Dawn Judge from SEGRO:

*"We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and it was nice to look back at the end of the day and feel a real sense of achievement knowing that what we'd done would make such a massive difference to other people. We are proud to be associated with The Bradby Club on this project."*

This work has made a huge impact at the Bradby Club and a buzz amongst the young people to use it, for whatever reason. Trustees, staff, volunteers and young people send massive thanks to SEGRO, Whiting Landscapes and CAVA for making this happen and enabling them to develop and grow services for young people in Rugby.

# Volunteers for Carers Project

Launched on 1st July 2021, the Carers project came about as a result of unpaid carers who were disproportionately impacted during COVID. For many such carers their support structures disappeared over night and they became isolated in order to protect loved ones with health conditions that made them extremely vulnerable to COVID.

Funding was made available through CAVA for the Voluntary and Community sector to offer support directly to carers through volunteering programmes to address capacity challenges and provide new support.

We consulted with over 40 VCSE groups to identify where the volunteering support was most needed and referred 65 individual volunteers to roles, with a range of groups including Carers Trust, Warwickshire Young Carers, Entrust Partnership and Amba Care Solutions.



## OUTCOMES

Summary...

**40+**

Groups consulted to identify the greatest need

**65**

Individual volunteers referred to roles

**22**

Successful bids in total

**£18k**

Awarded to provide a range of initiatives

## VOLUNTEERS FOR CARERS PROJECT

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### **Volunteers for Carers Project** Cont'd

To date the project has supported the establishment of 2 befriending services:

**Time for You!** with Carers Trust, Heart of England. This project saw 16 volunteers recruited, and trained in befriending techniques.

**Lean on me** with Entrust Care Partnership, with 6 additional volunteers recruited and trained as befrienders to parent carers.

In addition, 22 new volunteers were recruited to support Young Carers in Warwickshire through Warwickshire Young Carers. These volunteers now help at activity group sessions across the County, or they go into schools in order to raise awareness of young carers and to ensure young people know about the support available to them if they are caring for a loved one at home.

Volunteers were also recruited for activities at dementia cafes across the County and as dementia buddies with Amba Care Solutions, to offer one to one support and stimulation to people with dementia.

The project has recently launched a small grant fund – with grants of between £250 and £1,000 being made available to groups across the County to encourage new initiatives that support unpaid carers to relax, socialise and engage in activities for themselves. In total 22 bids have been awarded, totalling £18,120 to provide a range of initiatives such as respite care, wellbeing sessions, day trips and activity days. These projects will be evaluated and good practice shared later this year.

# Stratford Social Inclusion Partnership

CAVA employ a part time Development Officer, funded by Stratford On Avon District Council, whose role is to support voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE) to have a greater impact upon the District's Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) priorities such as social isolation, health and wellbeing, older people, employment etc.

The second year of the project saw £237,135 secured for VCSE organisations which was a 40% increase on funding secured in 2020/21. A total of 40 organisations were supported in areas such as funding applications, partnership development, governance support, strategy development and project delivery, and much more.

Highlights this year included:

Working closely with Barnardo's, Homestart South Warwickshire, The Parenting Project and By Your Side on the Dad Matters Warwickshire project.



*The service CAVA offers is great and a must for the voluntary sector, we will definitely be in touch when we need assistance in the future.*

- CAVA Service user

## STRATFORD SOCIAL INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP

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### **Stratford Inclusion Partnership** Cont'd

The Development Offer identified, collated and wrote successful funding applications that enabled the recruitment of a Dad Matters Coordinator who will support dads in the first critical 1001 days of a child's life in Stratford Upon Avon. The project is needed as dads told us that many felt neglected by existing services which were naturally focused on mums and the baby. The post will recruit volunteers and offer training to existing services as well as offering much needed support to dads with their mental wellbeing.

The unique Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership (SHWP) continued to be supported by the post and went from strength to strength. Support included helping the development of their strategic framework, facilitating strategy development sessions with key stakeholders, trustee support, facilitated links with Community Power Warwickshire, writing two large funding applications relating to digital inclusion and their Pop-Up Hubs concept.

Support was also provided in helping the set up of their Tackling Inequalities project. The Partnership were able to tie in their programme of activity to the memorial fund of a much loved local Doctor and run sessions for those most affected by COVID lockdowns with beginners Pilates, seated exercises, new age curling and social afternoons just a sample of what they have done.

5 local organisations recruited in 2020/21 for the L&Q Foundation, Sport England Tackling Inequalities project were also supported with project set up support which included introductions to key organisations who could provide activity expertise, the collating of project set up documentation and in one instance chairing and facilitating their set up project group. Groups have also sought, and in some instances such as SHWP, have secured additional funding to continue and expand what they do.



### Stratford Inclusion Partnership Cont'd

The Community Builder project, which involves the deployment of a community development worker in 2 communities in Stratford Upon Avon, continued to be supported before being fully handed over to delivery colleagues. Support included the facilitation of the first Project Group meeting/workshop and writing their terms of reference. Support was also given on the recruitment campaigns for the post.

4 groups were supported with successful funding applications to Warwickshire County Council's Social Impact Fund. Other groups were also supported with applications to the Warwickshire Mental Wellbeing and Resilience Fund, Green Shoots, the Youth Work Fund and Councillor Grants. Working closely with the Social Inclusion Partnership the post was also able to make groups aware and help applications for the first time to the Stratford District Community Infrastructure Levy fund.

All the work achieved in the year has helped organisations 'build back better' after the huge difficulties of the pandemic and making an increased impact on the Stratford District social inclusion priorities.



Over

**£237k**

Secured for VCSE organisations



**40**

Local organisations supported



**40%**

Increase on funding secured in 2020/21

# Case Study

### **Tackling Inequalities in Stratford District through collaboration**

CAVA's Stratford District Development Officer was approached by L&Q Housing to see if we would be able to identify and submit applications from 5 organisations, in 2 weeks, to support their application for National Partner status with Sport England and their Tackling Inequalities fund. The Tackling Inequalities Fund has been created to try and help reduce the negative impact on activity levels in under-represented groups, with a specific focus on lower socio-economic groups, black, asian and minority ethnic communities, disabled people and people with long-term health conditions.

In view of the short timescales it was decided to approach and work with groups who met the Tackling Inequalities criteria and had a recent good relationship with the Stratford office. The groups that came on board were: Citizens Advice South Warwickshire, Change Grow Live (CGL), Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership and two projects which did not immediately have a host, the Community Builder project and the Meon Vale Estate.

L&Q came back to say they had been successful in their National Partner application to Sport England and that the 5 initial projects submitted had passed stage 1. What was now required was full detailed applications and the provision of due diligence information from the 5 groups. The Development Officer was able to part complete all 5 applications as all the groups had limited capacity and passed them back for the groups to add contact details and due diligence information before they submitted.

Two projects also had to be found hosts and after considerable work the newly formed Meon Vale Residents Association and Stratford District Council came on board, with Everyone Active, the local Leisure provider, also recruited to get involved in the projects.

Project Initiation Documents (PIDs) were written for the 3 organisations which had no paid staff and job packs were also created for the Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership to recruit their volunteer project team, chair and project lead. Project leads were also sourced for 2 other projects.

All projects were underway in 21/22 and some have sought and been successful in securing additional funding for the continuation of the work.

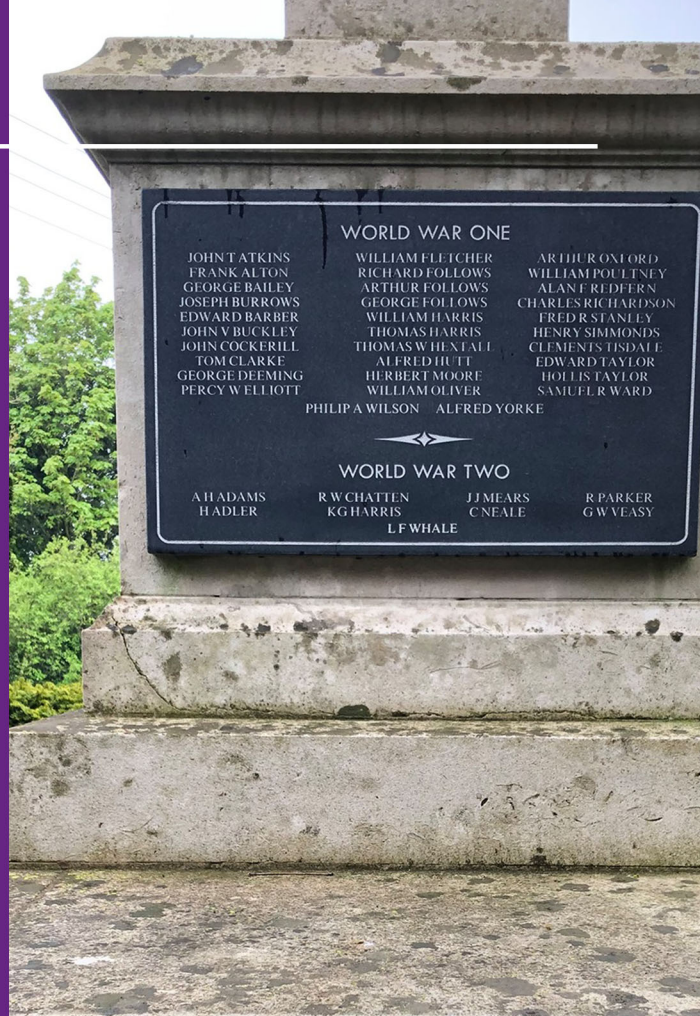


## BIG LOCAL

# Big Local

Big Local is an exciting opportunity for residents in 150 areas around England to create lasting change in their communities; each area has had at least £1m to use over 10 years.

In Warwickshire we have two Big Local areas, Ansley, Old Arley and New Arley in North Warwickshire and Hill Top and Caldwell in Nuneaton. With only 4 years left of the programme, CAVA continues to act as their 'locally trusted organisation' to administer and account for the distribution of the funds and employ 6 members of staff on behalf of the resident-led Partnerships.



**WORLD WAR ONE**

JOHN T ATKINS	WILLIAM FLETCHER	ARTHUR OXFORD
FRANK ALTON	RICHARD FOLLOWS	WILLIAM POULTNEY
GEORGE BAILEY	ARTHUR FOLLOWS	ALAN REDFERN
JOSEPH BURROWS	GEORGE FOLLOWS	CHARLES RICHARDSON
EDWARD BARBER	WILLIAM HARRIS	FRED R STANLEY
JOHN V BUCKLEY	THOMAS HARRIS	HENRY SIMMONDS
JOHN COCKERILL	THOMAS WHEATALL	CLEMENTS USDALE
TOM CLARKE	ALFRED HUTT	EDWARD TAYLOR
GEORGE DEEMING	HERBERT MOORE	HOLLIS TAYLOR
PERCY W ELLIOTT	WILLIAM OLIVER	SAMUEL R WARD
	PHILIP A WILSON	ALFRED YORKE

**WORLD WAR TWO**

A H ADAMS	R W CHATTEN	J J MEARS	R PARKER
H ADLER	KG HARRIS	C NEALE	G W VEASY
	L F WHALE		

## REACH

Delivering the programme...

**£1m** **10yrs**

To create lasting change in each of the Big Local areas

To plan and deliver change

**150**

Neighbourhoods across England

**2**

Big Local areas in Warwickshire



# Hill Top and Caldwell Big Local

2021 saw the fruition of a great ambition of the Partnership to open a dedicated 'community hub' in Hill Top. With CAVA's support, the lease was signed for an empty shop unit and transformed it into a welcoming place that was open 4 days a week where residents can meet, get advice, share skills and learn new ones.

The Partnership, via CAVA, committed to commissioning local organisations who could actively deliver on their behalf. BRANCAB provided targeted outreach at the Hub and Wembrook Community Centre, and Nuneaton & Bedworth Leisure Trust offered a range of opportunities for children and young people, through their 'Sports in a Van', weekly youth clubs and 'Football on the Rec' sessions.

The Partnership also made a number of small grants and donations to community groups and residents, from supporting arts, crafts and STEM sessions for children, to supporting social activities in a sheltered housing complex. They made 4 grants to local families in financial need, and donated £2,000 to Nuneaton Foodbank to thank them for their help of local residents. It is estimated that the funds will impact the lives of over 1,000 residents in HTC.

Events and publicity have been a really important way for the Partnership to ensure that residents know about HTC. There have been activities for families throughout each school holiday, from bike maintenance and craft, to stories with Santa and family photoshoots and a spooky Halloween party, plus a very popular Afternoon Tea event, 2 Christmas wreath making workshops and they have hosted 2 knife amnesty sessions with Warwickshire Police. They now distribute a quarterly newsletter to the 1,700 households, have 2 active Facebook pages, encouraging local discussion and self-help.

Early 2022 has seen the Partnership review itself and what they want as their legacy; working with an advisor they have undertaken lots of community consultation, and so with CAVA's help they are planning for and really looking forward to their final 3 years.

**BIG LOCAL: HILL TOP AND CALDWELL**



# Arley and Ansley Big Local

Arley and Ansley Big Local worked hard on their third and final Community Plan in early 2021, through consultation with residents they developed a Plan that encompasses what the community needs and wants for their area over the next three years. The Plan details how the Partnership will continue to support the youth project, enhance the environment and green spaces so they are accessible and enjoyable to all, continue to run their annual events and as a legacy, there is the option to work alongside Arley Parish Council to investigate the feasibility of building a new Sports Pavilion at Hill Top Playing Fields.

The youth project continued, running three sessions weekly, one in each of the villages, working with young people aged 8-18. The youth project has grown in volunteers, with four regular local volunteers supporting the sessions and completing training in Youth Work (Level 2 funded by WCC), safeguarding and food hygiene. The youth project delivers a range of activities, including tie dying, spray painting, cooking, hockey, football, and lots more.



**“ Thank you so much for helping our family in such an enormous and generous way.**

**- Local Resident**

## BIG LOCAL: ARLEY AND ANSLEY

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### **Arley and Ansley Big Local** Cont'd

Through the Big Local the youth project also worked with Aston Villa Foundation who hosted a series of sports activities for young people to attend. The young people are keen to fundraise in order to arrange trips and have recently started a tuck shop that they take to different community events.

Arley and Ansley Big Local host several annual events, due to coronavirus and subsequent lockdowns the events had not all been as planned, however this year they were able to host the hugely successful Festival of Flight. With the support of 20 local volunteers, over 600 people attended, they flew kites, visited over 30 stalls and enjoyed entertainment at a family friendly and low cost event. They also organised the annual village Scarecrow festival, with over 50 households taking part.

The Partnership are keen to build community capacity by investing in local activity, and with CAVA's help as their LTO (locally trusted organisation), have continued to make grants to residents, community assets and businesses, awarding grants to Arley Angels Netball Club, Royal British Legion (Arley Branch), Suelaine's Café and Karen's Childminding. CAVA have also commissioned North Warwickshire Citizens Advice on their behalf to deliver a dedicated advice project for residents; an Advisor has been available to help and advise on a full range of issues including benefits, debt, employment, housing, consumer and relationship breakdown.

# ConnectWELL™

ConnectWELL supported individuals and healthcare professionals to connect with the vast array of local Community and Voluntary sector based activities. We took the time to identify with an individual what matters to them, in a person-centred way. To empower and improve health and wellbeing, we often connected a person to practical and emotional community support, including advice and information services, community groups, leisure activities, lunch clubs, self-help groups, specialist interest groups, sporting activities, and lots, lots more.



## REACH

Programme statistics...

**66%**

Of those referred are seeking support with managing symptoms

**7.8**

Activities prescribed per person

**43%**

Increase in referrals from Medical Practices

**100%**

Of patients would recommend the service

### **ConnectWELL** Cont'd

This last year saw a overall 43% increase in referrals, which are primarily for the social prescribing link worker pathway for Rugby Health Primary Care Network. Additionally through funding from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation (via wider promotion of the social prescribing approach) we were able to increase awareness of the community wellbeing benefits of participation in social activity. We are frequently participating in a variety of health and wellbeing forums, boards, networks, and steering groups, engaging with national, regional and local social prescribing and health related initiatives. For example, we've represented VCFSE's crucial value in improving communities' health and wellbeing, through our work with National Academy for Social Prescribing's (NASP)'s Midlands Learning Together Programme - Thriving Communities. We've endeavoured to support and strengthen the sector through training delivery, and connection to wider CAVA's group development and volunteering support. With funding support from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Warwickshire County Council, CAVA addressed some of the negative effects (primarily isolation) of the pandemic through telephone wellbeing checks and befriending. We made weekly befriending calls to some of those who are vulnerable in Warwickshire, and linked them in with social prescribing services and wider voluntary and community activities when needed.

Social prescribing helps many people. We're responsive to need and have supported a range of demographics in a person-centred way. We've been able to adapt our model to the needs of the locality, for example with the changing impact of the pandemic, and providing social prescribing for newly placed asylum seekers.

In this reporting year, over 544 hours of volunteer time and expertise have been donated to ConnectWELL across the varying pathways and multiple roles such as Health Buddy, Telephone Befriender, Data Support Assistant and Publicity volunteer. During the delivery of ConnectWELL, our team has been award winning. Building on our learned experience from delivering ConnectWELL 2014-2022 we continue to support and develop relationships to strengthen social prescribing in Warwickshire, empowering the valuable VCFSE sector to sustainably engage with the evolving health agenda.

## Case Study

### **Tackling loneliness and social isolation**

A person in their late 30s self-referred to ConnectWELL. They received regular input from a psychiatrist, and wanted "*to be able to go somewhere socially with support to help regain my confidence*", increasing their independence so that they could attend exercise classes and go for a coffee, without a main carer/family member. A recent bereavement, as well as living with bipolar disorder and social anxiety meant that they found attending and staying at a venue challenging.

An initial appointment was arranged with the Social Prescribing Link Worker, where we discussed the individual's current situation, goals, and ways in which they wished to achieve these. They were interested in ConnectWELL's Health Buddy service, but needed to take a couple of weeks to feel comfortable in deciding what activities they'd like to pursue. A range of options were explored including: Compassionate Rugby, Recovery and Wellbeing Academy, Rugby Bipolar Support Group, Anxiety UK, Bereavement Point, Bipolar UK, CALM (Campaign Against Living Miserably), attending a social support group at the Hub at Rugby Methodist Church Centre, and going to a gym (where they had a membership, but wasn't comfortable attending).

The Link Worker matched and introduced the patient to a volunteer Health Buddy prior to commencement of activities. Health Buddy sessions were postponed during faith-based holidays and festivities, visiting family, and an adjustment period during a medication change. In 2022, they were able to build from a walk around a park with the Health Buddy, to attending a coffee shop next to the gym, and then attending the gym and participating in a Zumba class with their Health Buddy. They commented,

*"In just a few weeks I've gone from not leaving the house on my own for over two years, to meeting up with ConnectWELL staff three times in three different venues, including attending an exercise class! I never would have done this without your support. You were all so friendly and kind. Thank you so much...I feel I have achieved a lot in a little amount of time. I feel more confident now and feel like I want to continue attending the local activities in my community."*



# Mental Health

We have been involved in a number of new mental health partnerships throughout 2021/22.



**Mental Health Alliance**  
COVENTRY & WARWICKSHIRE

## Mental Health Alliance

CAVA was one of the key organisations to launch the Coventry and Warwickshire VCSE Alliance in October 2021. The Alliance was formed to develop communication and collaboration across the VCSE and with other sectors in order to improve mental health and wellbeing support experience across Coventry and Warwickshire. The Alliance is also focused on ensuring the voices of VCSE organisations and their clients are listened to and considered within decision making structures.



**“ You were all so friendly and kind. Thank you so much... I feel I have achieved a lot in a little amount of time..**

**- Service user**

# Community Mental Health Transformation

From April 2021 NHS England funding has been available to allow the development and delivery of a new integrated primary and community mental health offer to residents of Coventry and Warwickshire.

CAVA along with Voluntary Action Coventry (VAC) have been key stakeholders in the development of the transformation programme and have places on the Transformation Programme Board. The programme aims to provide easily accessible and integrated support for people experiencing mental distress; the VCSE is seen as an integral part of the support that is available to people particularly around prevention and support to people leaving NHS services.

Recruitment has taken place during this period for a newly formed VCSE Community Mental Health Team. The team will be based within CAVA and VAC and ensure that the VCSE is effectively engaged in shaping the transformation – drawing on their experience of supporting individuals and communities less well served by current provision. Linked to this team will be an Innovation Fund which will enable voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations to focus on the health and life inequalities of people with mental health challenges and to have a trauma informed approach.

# Better Health & Wellbeing

## Take A Pause

During the pandemic, one of our staff, Aline Boblin, set up a social enterprise to raise awareness of menopause. With Aline's help, CAVA introduced regular Take a Pause meetups for our teams. The meetups broached a number of areas, from understanding the menopause natural processes and symptoms management. The sessions also welcomed various guest speakers, from how to approach a medical professional if affected by menopause, to looking at managing symptoms at work, as well as understanding nutrition and our body's changing needs.

During Men's Health Week, we held a webinar, Andropause and Menopause at Work, which was inclusive of all genders and their common and different potential challenges.



*Many thanks for this informative session! I felt it was really positive, interesting, welcoming and inclusive.*

- CAVA team member

# Disability Confident Employer

CAVA is a level 2 accredited Disability Confident Employer. We actively promote this through our recruitment to encourage applicants living with a disability. CAVA staff who have a disability or long term health condition are provided with support through reasonable adjustments and flexible working to enable them to effectively remain in post.

# Wellbeing updates

CAVA holds two staff events each year where one of these is focused on health & wellbeing, providing staff with various sessions such as healthy lifestyle information, meditation sessions, menopause awareness, stress management and much more. The latest health & wellbeing staff event in December was held on zoom 37 staff were in attendance and alongside the sessions previously mentioned also participated in festive communal singing (thankfully muted).

We continued to share internal wellbeing newsletters to employees and volunteers on various topics throughout the year, including information on listening to our bodies and the mind-body connection, seasonal allergies, anxiety, breathing and relaxation, eating well and digestion, learning to saying no, stimulating the rest and digest response with your vagus nerve, human design, self love and manifestation!

In 2021 we introduced quarterly staff newsletters to share programme updates, Staff/Volunteer news and provide seasonal health & wellbeing tips to staff and volunteers.

# Linking Futures

Linking Futures has had two delivery programmes in the period, Momentum via ESF community Grants administered through Groundwork UK and National Lottery legacy funding and Inspire funded by Children in Need.

## Momentum

In this reporting period, Linking Futures had 2 cohorts (July 2021, and October 2021) for the Momentum programme. Momentum was designed especially to support young people (aged 18-29 years old in Nuneaton and Bedworth) who had been facing social isolation, often which had been heightened during the COVID-19 lockdowns.

The 12 weekly sessions in the programme featured Wellbeing and Employability Workshops about topics such as: Team Building, Self-Care & Mindfulness, Healthy Lifestyles, Budgeting, Motivation, Support Networks, How to find Work, CV writing, Application Form Hints and Tips, Employer Rights and Responsibilities, and Interview Skills.



## OUTCOMES

Summary...

**10**

Young people were recruited to the programme

**100%**

Of participants felt less isolated

**100%**

Benefited from professional mentoring/coaching

**20%**

Of young people on the programme progressed into employment

### **Momentum** Cont'd

Feedback from the sessions showed an improvement in participants' confidence, motivation and understanding of looking for work. Young people have improved their social skills, formed peer groups and have also formed friendships outside of the project. The project organised a number of team building and social activities such as, a trip to the Black Country Museum to appreciate how jobs have changed over the years, and walking football, to increase team work and improve health. A first aid course was also included in one set of workshops to allow young people to gain a first aid certificate, which will help them in their chosen career. Art sessions and music sessions have also been delivered, to encourage young people to engage and to help them with their social skills. Participants also had the opportunity to take part in a virtual 'Meet the Employer' session with Warwickshire County Council, and have a workshop with a Volunteering Coordinator at CAVA to discuss the benefits and variety of opportunities within the area.

During the programme, young people attended regular mentoring sessions with their allocated Project Worker and were encouraged to look at volunteering/work experience to improve their skills.

As in previous years, young people have continued to volunteer on the programme and have supported others to access weekly drop-ins. A youth panel was set up with 6 young people who meet up every 2 months. The panel explored how COVID-19 affected them (with isolation, anxiety and motivation being major factors), and what support they feel young people would benefit from moving forward. They have been instrumental in moving the project forward by looking at activities that would encourage young people to engage in the programme, as well as looking at individual and group volunteering opportunities for participants on the programme to get involved in.

Positive feedback was received from the young people participating, including:

*'I feel my confidence has really improved since I have been on the programme'*



# Case Study

### **Support to return to the labour market**

I was referred to the programme by my work coach. I had been finding it difficult through COVID-19 and the subsequent lockdowns and it had started to affect my mental health. Although I have good qualifications, I was finding it difficult to look for and gain employment. Some jobs I am unable to do due to a back injury.

I had some experience of employability skills from various other programmes I had been on but felt that this programme would help me refresh what I knew and the Wellbeing sessions would benefit my mental health.

When I started the programme I was very nervous but I was looking forward to it. The Wellbeing part of the programme helped me find ways to improve my mental health and I learnt new techniques for coping, such as mindfulness. I also found that the interview skills session helped me a lot as I now know what questions I may be asked at interviews and I did some work on how I would answer them. I also delivered a presentation to the rest of the group, which really helped me with my confidence.

I felt as I progressed through the sessions my social skills improved and I became more confident, and made some new friends. I completed the programme just before Christmas and went for an interview at the start of January. I was offered the position and I have started work with the Careers Service.



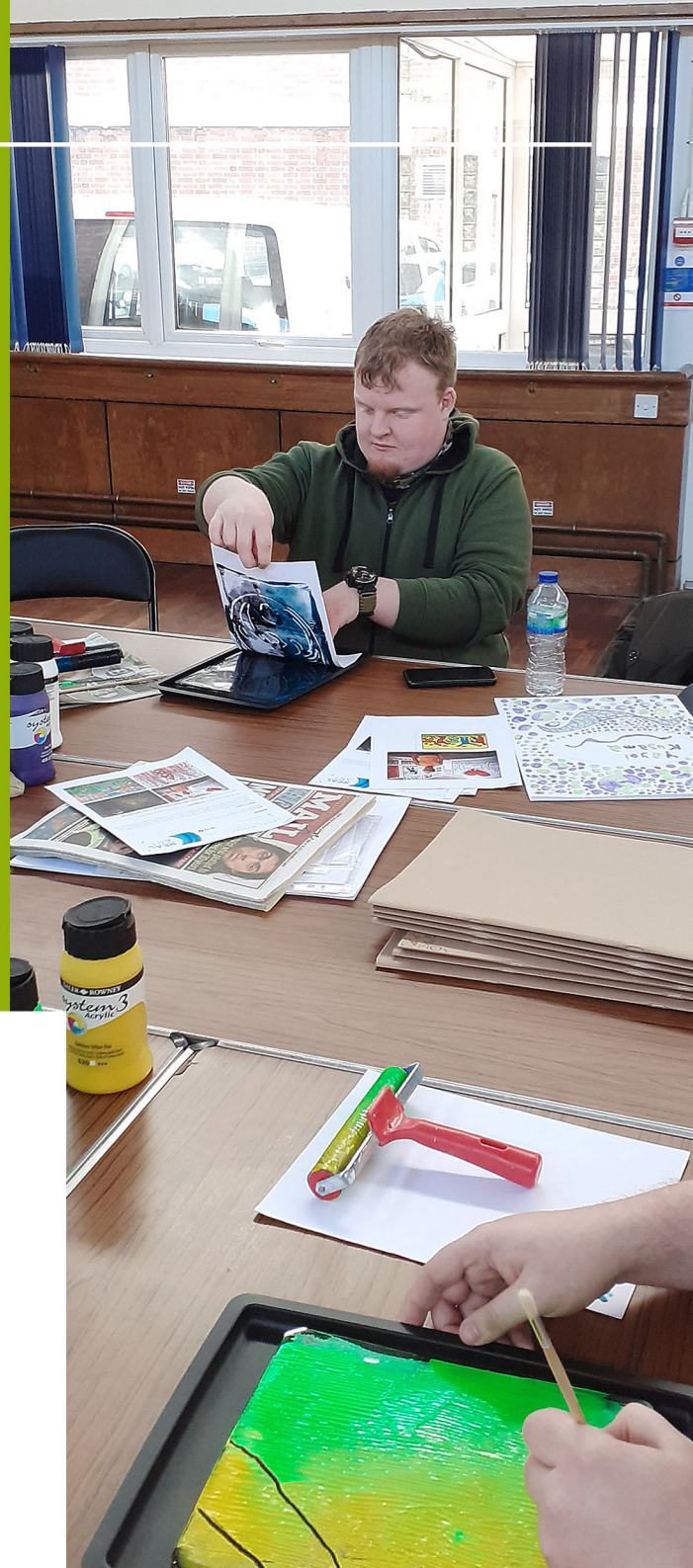
# Inspire

In this reporting period, the Inspire programme provided mentoring support and employability skill sessions for young people, aged 18-24 years old in Nuneaton & Bedworth and North Warwickshire who had been experiencing socio-economic disadvantage impacted by COVID-19.

Of the engaged participants: over 75% started the programme with qualifications below a level 2; 60% had a (diagnosed or undiagnosed) mental health issue; and over 25% of young people came along to their first meeting with a parent (due to a reluctance to attend alone, often due to mental health issues and learning difficulties).

“ *Before Inspire, I felt stuck with no idea which way to turn but now I am confident in the direction that my life is heading in.*

- Course participant



## LINKING FUTURES

### Inspire Cont'd

Results from an assessment wheel and WEMWBS (Warwick Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale) supported the creation of an action plan for each young person. This plan documented what had been done to date, future goals, potential barriers, and proposed actions to achieve their goals.

Each participant received a tailored package of intensive support over a period of up to 6 months including: weekly mentoring from a qualified professional, walk and talk sessions, attendance at a minimum of 12 workshops about employability skills and wellbeing, themed weekly drop-ins, and volunteering. The working relationship and regular mentoring sessions were key to the progress of these young people, for example the mentor worked with participants to slowly encourage them to attend sessions on their own, supporting them to become less isolated.

Young people volunteered on the Youth Panel to help steer the programme. Wellbeing workshops included topics such as: Feeling Better about Yourself, Mindfulness, and Maintaining Healthy Relationships. Several employability workshops were available, and mock interviews were also arranged to enable participants to gain experience of the conditions of an interview.

## ACHIEVEMENTS



34

young people (18-24 year olds)  
recruited on to the programme



20%

of young people on the programme  
progressed into employment



15%

of young people on the programme started  
either volunteering or work experience

### **Inspire** Cont'd

The Inspire programme facilitated the provision of 15 Chromebooks and dongles enabling young people to access online sessions, and to search for and secure employment. Throughout the course art sessions, music sessions and exercise sessions encouraged participants to engage, reduce loneliness and isolation, and develop social, and team building skills.

During this period 7 participants have progressed to full-time employment, whilst 5 have started either volunteering or work experience. Positive feedback was received from the young people participating, including:

*'my motivation has really improved, the programme has given me something to get out of bed for'*

*'I am definitely becoming more confident and determined with my life goals'*

*'I've learnt I am not as weird and awkward as I thought I was and that I am capable of getting a good job'*

*'I feel my confidence has really improved since I have been on the programme and family members have also said the same'*

*'the projects are worth doing because even though they take you out of your comfort zone, it helps when you meet new people'*

*'group good size, actually get to know each other and build confidence and rapport'*

# Case Study

### Advice & Support

P had been unemployed for 6 years when she first engaged with the programme. Although she had very good qualifications she had struggled to find work, this was due to mental health issues, and health conditions. Her mental health issues had started due to bullying incidents at school.

P started to attend weekly mentoring sessions, she was not comfortable with engaging with any of the workshops as she did not feel comfortable enough to work with groups of people at that stage. P did a lot of one to one work with her mentor, looking at increasing her confidence and setting small goals for her to achieve. P and her mentor put an action plan in place so that she could see what she needed to do to progress and had the support to help her do this. The action plan was reviewed every 2 weeks so that P could see the progress she was making.

After a couple of months P decided to attend one of the workshops as she knew her mentor would be there for support, she interacted well with the other people in the workshop, and produced some good work. P felt that this had helped her confidence.

P and her mentor then looked at some volunteering opportunities and P decided that she would like to volunteer at a local community centre, with the support of her mentor she started volunteering one day a week.

A full time opportunity then became available at a local Community Hub, which P felt she would like to apply for as she was interested in what groups and activities they provided for the local community. As P was nervous about the step into full time employment her mentor arranged a visit to the Community Hub so that she could find out more about what the role involved and also had the opportunity to ask questions. Her mentor went along with her to the visit and then they discussed afterwards how she felt.

P's next couple of mentoring sessions consisted of going through interview questions and skills to prepare her for the interview. P secured the role and started a couple of weeks later. Her mentor contacted her after she had started to make sure everything was OK, and she said that she was settling in really well.

# Rugby Office Improvement

With grant funding from the Warwickshire County Council COVID-19 Mental Wellbeing and Resilience Fund, we were able to update and improve the Rugby office in 2022. The aim was to make it a haven for service users and staff, improving mental wellbeing and resilience, impacted by the pressures of the pandemic. A redesign of the ground floor space, and upgrade of the 2 largest rooms improved accessibility for stakeholders and created a harmonious and supportive environment to foster engagement with ways to improve wellbeing and resilience. The redesigned space has enabled private and distanced social prescribing appointments to occur, encouraging residents to return/begin to engage with activities which support the development of resilience and wellbeing and establishing a sense of social connection. Rugby's office space is also a space to meet with groups and individuals who contribute towards VCSOs which support the community to improve wellbeing and resilience.

The positive impact of the refreshed environment is reflected in improvements in wellbeing scores of the users of the space (23% increase in the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scales WEMWBS and a 28% increase in Office of National Statistics ONS4), and feedback has included that now *"the offices are certainly more inviting and provide more suitable and comfortable accommodation"*.

# MENTAL WELLBEING AND RESILIENCE GRANT FUNDING

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# Newtown Centre

The Newtown Centre, operated by CAVA provides information, services and competitive venue hire, to support the local VCSE sector and community.

NHS community services are a huge part of the daily footfall at the Centre, seeing around 250 daily for retinal eye screening and blood test appointments, but it was also great to welcome back a number of groups who had paused some of their activities during the pandemic, for instance Warwickshire Vision, Community Learning and also the over 50s Ladies Exercise group. We were also very proud to be able to host Nuneaton's main Christmas Day lunch for those who would otherwise be on their own.

We were proud to be the recipient of a defibrillator at the Centre, donated and fitted through funds raised by a local family. In March 2022 we were thrilled to be told we had been successful in our grant application for funds from the Warwickshire Council Council's Social Impact Fund, being awarded £93,000 towards some essential maintenance and refurbishment costs. We got straight on with the urgent work, and had a whole new main roof and flat roof, seeing us for the first time without buckets to catch the drips from the leaks in the 50+ year old roof!



# Targeted Testing

We reported in last year's annual report that CAVA had been asked to secure volunteers for the 6 COVID Targeted Testing sites across Warwickshire. We were asked to recruit and train volunteers on rota for the 6 sites, 7 days a week. The sites closed their doors for the final time on 30th June 2021, having been launched 6 months earlier during December 2020.

At the close of the project we were able to report that 366 volunteers were recruited, trained and active in completing shifts on one of the 6 sites.

Between them these volunteers completed 5,652 individual 4 hour shifts, or 22,608 hours of volunteering.

Given an hourly rate of paid operative staff at the site of £10.01 then this represented £226,080 in volunteer contributions throughout the project.



“ *Great teamwork from all involved, everyone pulls together. Good friendships have developed and are likely to continue after the site closes*

- Targeted Testing Volunteer



# TARGETED TESTING

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# Vaccinations Project

The Vaccinations project has been operational since January 2021. The project has supported engagement of volunteers to support the delivery of vaccinations at sites across south and northern Warwickshire.

Over the course of the past 19 months the project has engaged 452 volunteers who have provided over 2000 hours of volunteering at 15 sites across Warwickshire, 8 in the south, and 7 in north.

Shifts are typically 3 or 4 hours long depending on the site. The economic value of this volunteering support is £38,720.

CAVA volunteers also still provide support to the Stoneleigh vaccination site, signing up directly with the team on site. The project also provides volunteer support to Bedworth and Rugby.

CAVA's contract with the NHS has been extended to the end of 2022.

## ACHIEVEMENTS



**452**

Volunteers provided over  
2000 hours of volunteering



**£38,720**

The economic value of this  
volunteering support



**15**

Vaccination sites across Warwickshire

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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### UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

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	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2020/21</u>
	£	£
Income	714,817	687,434
Expenditure	<u>(691,551)</u>	<u>(670,326)</u>
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u><b>23,266</b></u>	<u><b>17,108</b></u>

### DESIGNATED FUNDS

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	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2020/21</u>
	£	£
Income	0	0
Expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u><b>0</b></u>	<u><b>0</b></u>

### RESTRICTED FUNDS

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	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2020/21</u>
	£	£
Income	587,686	700,963
Expenditure	<u>(734,079)</u>	<u>(638,367)</u>
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u><b>(146,393)</b></u>	<u><b>62,596</b></u>

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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### **BALANCE SHEET** at 31 March 2022

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	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2020/21</u>
	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Property	472,039	444,295
Other	<u>16,449</u>	<u>15,677</u>
	488,488	459,972
Current Assets less Liabilities	<u>451,161</u>	<u>606,732</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>939,649</u></b>	<b><u>1,066,704</u></b>
Unrestricted Funds - General	355,638	332,372
Unrestricted Funds - Designated	24,548	24,548
Restricted Funds	364,414	510,807
Endowment Funds	<u>195,049</u>	<u>198,977</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b><u>939,649</u></b>	<b><u>1,066,704</u></b>

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The financial Summary figures in this review have been extracted from the full audited accounts. A copy of the full audited accounts are available from [www.wcava.org.uk/annual-reports](http://www.wcava.org.uk/annual-reports)

To obtain a printed copy contact **Ruby Sarkaria**, Finance Manager on **01926 477511**.



# Membership

## What does being a Member involve?

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CAVA is a registered charity but it is also a limited company and so being a member is a bit like being a shareholder in a company anywhere. Like a shareholder, you will not run the Company on a day-to-day basis.

As a member, you delegate this role to a Board of Trustees who will be responsible for running the Charity. The Board will be expected to keep you up-to-date with its decision-making.

The Board of Directors has an obligation to call a General Meeting at least once a year, involving all the members. At this meeting members will be asked to decide on things like voting on resolutions put by the board, electing the directors to the board, electing the auditors, and approving the accounts.

## Membership Benefits

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- Support around HR, IT, Accounting, Telecoms and Payroll needs through BOSS (Back Office Support Services)
- Discounted rates and priority bookings for training and events
- Have voting rights at our Annual General Meeting
- Access our Resource Library
- And best of all, membership is FREE!

To find out more about becoming a member, or to see if your organisation has already registered, please visit: [www.wcava.org.uk/membership](http://www.wcava.org.uk/membership)



Scan this code with your smartphone QR reader to register as a member online.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# Thank you...

We are extremely grateful to all those local communities, individuals and funders who have pledged their support and given generously. We would especially like to thank the following for their kind support:

- Big Lottery Fund
- Children In Need
- Coventry and Rugby CCG
- Esmee Fairbairn Foundation
- Local Trust
- North Warwickshire Borough Council
- Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
- Rugby Borough Council
- Rugby Health Network
- Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
- South Warwickshire CCG
- Stratford District Council
- Warwick District Council
- Warwickshire County Council
- Warwickshire North CCG

## Equality Statement

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If you require this publication in a different format or language, please contact us on **01926 477512**, email: [information@wcava.org.uk](mailto:information@wcava.org.uk) or write to the address below:

**Warwickshire Community And Voluntary Action, 4&6 Clemens Street, Leamington Spa,  
Warwickshire CV31 2DL**



# Looking to the future

## A message from our Management Team

The Annual Report for 2021-2022 highlights the breadth of activity and engagement completed by CAVA, this cannot happen without our funders or the passionate, diverse and resilient VCSE that we have the pleasure of working with. A HUGE thank you to our amazing staff and volunteers who work extremely hard to deliver our services.

It certainly feels far longer than 12 months since we wrote about future plans for CAVA in our last Annual Report, as we have lived through a year that has continued to challenge us and our members.

Our sector has seen great changes through the COVID-19 pandemic and for many organisations the profile of activity and volunteering has changed exponentially. As we move into a new year of delivery we face not only recovery from COVID and getting to what appears to be a new normal, but also face challenges aligned to inflation and a war in Ukraine bringing not only economic challenges but also new communities calling Warwickshire and Solihull home.

We know CAVA will be required to support the VCSE in more ways than ever and as we enter the new year we also see change in the health and social care sector with the launch of Integrated Care Systems (ICS).

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

### Looking to the future Cont'd

It is inevitable that our sector will continue to need to be resilient and adaptable and will be ever more needed as we support communities struggling to meet the cost of living and also VCSE groups maintaining their delivery.

CAVA continues to work with our partners, stakeholders and crucially our members, and as part of this to continue to encourage wider membership of our organisation and look to increase our reach to diverse communities and groups.

2022 sees a new era for us as we welcome Karen Winchcombe as our CEO, following the departure of our outgoing CEO Kate Morrison. Karen comes to us with a breadth of experience in the VCSE and a real passion to take CAVA forward.

We are excited to work with Karen, our Trustee board and our members as we move through the next phase of our journey.





# Your local office

## North Warwickshire

Community House  
Coleshill Road  
Atherstone  
Warwickshire CV9 1BN

E: [nwinfo@wcava.org.uk](mailto:nwinfo@wcava.org.uk)



@NorthWCAVA

## Nuneaton & Bedworth

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Nuneaton  
Warwickshire CV11 4HG

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@NuneatonWCAVA

## Rugby Borough

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Warwickshire  
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@RugbyWCAVA

## Solihull

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West Midlands B91 3RG

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@SolihullCAVA

## Stratford-on-Avon District

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@StratfordWCAVA

## Warwick District

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@WarwickWCAVA



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