



...and maybe a little money, food, clothing or furniture too? Please.



Tel: 0161 228 7331 mustardtree.org.uk

Creating choice and opportunity for people who are homeless and marginalised

eNewsletter May 2013 No.3

Heroes!



Our own staff member Jez Green, completed the Manchester Marathon in a very impressive time of 3hrs 32mins; his first ever marathon! And, equally impressive was the £1,300+ that he raised for Mustard Tree. Jez writes, "A massive thank you to everyone one who sponsored me and to everyone who showed up to cheer people on... Bring on the next one!" This month on Sunday 26th it's the 10K Bupa Great Manchester Run. If you are running this year then we wish you every success with your training. If you are running for charity even more success with raising sponsors! If you are running for Mustard Tree, then you are one of our Heroes! We look forward to seeing you on the day to cheer you along. To sponsor a Mustard Tree runner please contact 'communications@mustardtree.co.uk' for names and details.

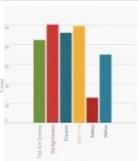
Eccles



Ian Welch, Mustard Tree Eccles Manager writes, "We are helping more and more people who are in need of food, clothing, and furniture. We are committed to the local community and with your help through donations we can improve people's lives. In our shop we like to make it feel warm and safe for people to come in and have a chat. We asked our volunteers to come up with words that best describe Mustard tree and what it means to local people. Our very own Creative Programmes Manager, Graham Hudson, then put this in to a design on our walls. You would be most welcome to visit us, meet the team and check out Graham's work!"

Innovation

Rise in spending over 20 years (%)



Since the beginning of the recession, Mustard Tree has been getting busier month on month, with those who have least being hit hardest by any changes to their income. In addition the well-publicised Welfare Reform and benefit changes have started to be introduced. With our monthly referral rate for support services currently growing above 360, we are aware that we must find new and innovative ways to make our resources available for those who most need them. We are very pleased to be working collaboratively with Booth Centre, City West Housing Trust and Northwards Housing on a furniture provision scheme which will ensure we can continue to gift essential pieces of furniture donated by our supporters, to those most in need.

StandFirm



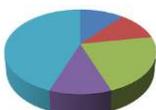
StandFirm is our subsidiary Community Interest Company dealing in waste recycling. Under the leadership of Mike Green StandFirm has acquired premises on nearby Poland Street. Mike writes, "The project at Poland Street is now entering a busy period of renovations and improvements, and the adaption of the building to a recycling facility. We have appointed Peter Tomcik as a Recycling Project Co-ordinator to oversee the building works. We have also been helped by Morrisons who have given us 2 apprentices, James and Patrick for a short period to help with minor repairs. We are confidently looking at opening fully within 4 weeks, but have already partially started our recycling works".

Freedom



Jez Green, Soraya Sheikh and Johnny Bushell are the Freedom Team. The Freedom Project is our flagship 20 week personalised life skills and work readiness programme that aims to improve well-being and employability for people who are homeless, vulnerable and marginalised. It helps build confidence, motivation, stability, wellbeing and employability in each participant, and acts as a stepping-stone for each client to make progress towards their own goals and ambitions. In the past 12 months 120 people have been through the programme and of those 30 have been supported into employment. It costs Mustard Tree £1,600 per client to complete the programme - which represents incredible value for money. We are very proud of the work the team does and feel that this is a success story worth celebrating.

Thank you



Thank you for all your continued interest and support for what Mustard Tree does - 'creating choice & opportunity for people who are homeless and marginalised'. Our work continues to evolve on a monthly basis with a measurable growth in referrals, opportunities and challenges! We are grateful for every offer of support; we really couldn't do this without you. For further information on how to donate please visit www.mustardtree.org.uk, or email 'communications@mustardtree.co.uk'. Thank you. Adrian CEO

"The one thing they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor" Gal 2:10