

# Community Capacity Grants Case Studies

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## Enrych

Our mission is to work collaboratively to eliminate social isolation and improve wellbeing for adults living with disability.

Ultimately the aim is to ensure that more physically disabled adults in Oxfordshire are able to enjoy a better quality of life as a result of the support they receive from Enrych Oxfordshire.

Having Enrych support enhances the life of a person with a disability who is (or is at risk of becoming) isolated and helps them to become/stay integrated into their local community. This support helps prevent the isolation that often comes with a disability, and also helps avoid or overcome issues of low esteem, lack of motivation, confidence and depression.

## Arts at the Old Fire Station

Our focus is to make a difference to people's lives in the long term by supporting those who are struggling and isolated to find meaning, purpose and connection. Funding will enable dedicated staff time to running creative workshops for Crisis clients and others with limited resources.

These workshops are not drop-in, community art classes but an opportunity to develop ongoing friendships and skills while creating work to a high standard, to be displayed in a high-quality arts organisation. At the same time, they allow artists to learn skills in co-collaboration, particularly with vulnerable people, and have benefit to the public in altering views of who has authority and a voice in the arts, and in society more widely.

We already have the connections and expertise to make a success of these workshops, meaning we are able to reach people across Oxford who can most benefit from them. We plan to use these workshops as a pilot which we will learn from and build on to shape further inclusive creative opportunities.

There is growing evidence of the impact on mental health of the pandemic. These sessions will be a gateway to connect with others. We believe there is an urgent need for future opportunities for people to engage creatively, so that as a city we can sustain and foster relationships across communities. It is through this shared opportunity to connect that we can rebuild our relationships and recover from our individual and collective experiences of the pandemic.

## The Pump House Project

Faringdon does not have a community centre or hub and The Pump House Project charity was set up explicitly to fill this gap. Due to the lack of any other facility of this nature we are seen as the place to help people connect, be it through activities, groups, clubs, events, crafts etc.

This project will address some of the new challenges that the community is facing, initially understanding that there is a need and reacting to the need by opening our building establish that there is support here in Faringdon to help with isolation, loneliness, fuel, food and financial issues. Continuity and longevity are the key to our project along with our ability to move quickly to see issues that are impacting our community.