



Mary's

Summer Newsletter

2023

Hello Supporters,

Another busy summer comes to a close. As ever, thank you for your support. We hope you feel proud and pleased reading about the work we're doing.

And the winner is...

Mary's young people made a short film. The film was submitted to the Youth Safety Taskforce film competition. Sir Kier Starmer chaired the judging panel and Mary's won. Giving the award, Sir Kier said 'I can vouch for the work Mary's do. They are getting real work done.'



Coping with Exams

Taking exams and Exam Results Days are a big deal for emotional support. The team ring their young people each day of exams to wake them up, and encourage them to go even if they don't feel ready. Results Day comes and everyone is hot on their phones speaking to young people. Mary's Team are the person who shows they care, keeps the faith in that young person's future, and provides support for them to see a way through bad results or feeling lost. A big time of year for mental health work. A big well done team on all this year's exam support.

Summer Residentials

Summer Residentials are a huge effort that includes the whole team. Two groups of young men went off to Wales and learned food shopping, food preparation and cleaning skills at their self catering hostel. This was time where young people felt safe. So discussions could happen about involvement in violence, their best interests, and their wellbeing.



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Courses

Mary's is accredited by two certifying bodies: OCN and CPD. This means Mary's courses give young people a qualification when they finish. Mary's is on the UK Register of Learning providers and we now run over 20 courses a year for young people. Our two biggest courses are You Can, which addresses mental health and Crossroads, which helps a young person assess gang involvement, their relationships and what is good for them in the context of violence.



CROSSROADS

Girls away in Sussex

Mary's took a group of girls to Hindleap Warren in Sussex this summer. It had its challenges but everyone made it in the end and all the girls took part in the activities despite relentless torrential rain, which was not fair at all! Building trust with young people so they want to come and discuss relationships takes time. The trip is a result of that long term effort and care.

#NoVote_NoVoice

The Greater London Authority (GLA) is running a Voter ID Awareness Campaign. The new requirement for photo ID means that young people from poorer backgrounds are more likely to be unable to vote. Mary's will be doing its bit, joining #novotenovoice. We'll be helping young people get ID and promoting the voting rights of young Londoners.



Youth Futures Grant

Youth Futures is a fund that is decided on by young people themselves. A group of young people from Camden took time and care going out to meet youthwork and consider who to fund. We loved hosting them and cracking out our trademark food (macaroni cheese!) for them. We're delighted to be partnering with them for the next 3 years.

