

As we reach the end of April and head into May we leave the cold winter months behind us and reflect on the success of our warm spaces programme, the impact of funding we receive to provide household items to help people stay warm in their homes and to provide warm coats and shoes to young people we work with. These funds enable us to support those we work with who are in greatest need in the current cost of living crisis.



### SPOTLIGHT

Each month, the staff team are asked to select their Employee of the Month. This month the winner was Molly. Molly was chosen for being very cool, always being positive, smiley and supportive.

It really helps cheer people up!



Our Warm Spaces on a Saturday has been continuing through April, we still have lots of local residents accessing the service and coming to the office for a warm space and to eat delicious food. It will be coming to an end in May we are so proud of how many families we have served over the last few months.



The whole team took part in two sessions of training with Andy Bailey from ABUZZ looking at delivering quality excellence. We all came up with similar ideas about how we see RCT: empowering, a safe space and a place to build futures.



Members of our Rochdale and Darnhill Youth groups came together during the Easter Holidays and took a trip to Mount Cook Adventure Centre. Not all of the young people had met before but they got on brilliantly and had a fantastic time! Thanks to all the staff there for making it so memorable.



### Introducing our new Volunteer Mentors

They have completed their training, covering basic Mentor Training, Safeguarding, and Trauma Informed Practice.

Keep an eye on our social media for the next drop in session. It was well attended, the participants were great, contributed to thought provoking discussions and got involved in all the activities!

Well done to everyone who took part!



Hannah and Bev attended the Greater Manchester Combined Authority: Addressing Gambling Harms conference. They delivered our findings from the 'Game Changer' programme and discussed how we've embedded addressing gambling harms in our service. It was a great event with informative talks, interactive elements and an impactful performance centred around harms associated to gambling.



During Ramadan we held a Community Iftar event organised by Amber.

We want to say a huge thank you to Imam Irfan Chisti MBE and the Mayor of Rochdale for attending and supporting us in our efforts to increase understanding across our diverse community.

A special shout out to our other speakers, Abdul for providing food and everyone who helped in organising the event, it was a huge success!



Members of our youth teams had a brilliant time at the Water Adventure Centre on Ashton Canal trying out kayaks, stand up paddle boards and the croc slide!!

We couldn't have asked for better weather either!



A big thank you to Sara from the Canal & River Trust for delivering a Water Safety Course for team members who deliver the Heritage Happens Here & Nordic Walking sessions.

We learnt how to assist someone if we spot them in the water, how to use a throw line properly and how to help someone if they're in shock.

It was a brilliant session, hopefully we never have to put it into practice but we had fun trying it out here in the building!



This month the Heritage Happens Here group hired a barge and went along the Rochdale Canal in Hebden Bridge.

We're so grateful to the National Lottery Heritage Fund who funded this project which enables us to take our families on days out like this.



Earlier this month we accompanied two of our inspiring young people to their first Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority meeting in Manchester.

The took part in elections for the new Deputy Chair and External Relations positions and then shared their experiences of travel in Greater Manchester which will be fed back to Transport for GM to make travel better for young people in our borough. We're so proud of them and are excited to see how they use their voices to represent the young people of Rochdale.



Welcome to our newest staff member, Ross. Ross is the new National Lottery funded Social Prescriber, his role will be to support some of the families as part our of AIM project offer.

Join us in welcoming Ross to RCT!