Presentation to
Wandsworth Voluntary Sector Forum

Where everyone matters
Annie McDowall – 8th February 2017
Quick facts

🌟 Over 40 years of service to disabled people in SW London (set up 1972)
🌟 Choice, independence, skills, wellbeing
🌟 Raising and achieving goals and potential
🌟 Respect, compassion, kindness
🌟 Everyone has something to offer others
We focus on…

- Learning
- Living
- Wellbeing
Who do we work with?

- Anyone who needs support to make choices and live independently because of disability
- Anyone who needs specialist support in order to learn
- Anyone with a learning disability who wants to get out and about at evenings and weekends
- Any Wandsworth resident who’s experienced serious mental illness and wants to get back to work
Passionate about…..

- Supporting our students to be healthier
- Combatting health inequalities
- Helping people to feel happier
- Teaching people the skills they need – including digital skills
- Brilliant services for autistic people
- Joining up services
- Helping people to achieve their dreams
Our main programme

- Wellbeing and independence
- Catering and food hygiene
- Functional skills (English and Maths)
- Digital skills – including our ambitious digital inclusion programme
- Horticulture and gardening

All of these courses are accredited
Go Anywhere, Do Anything
Go Anywhere, Do Anything

🌟 Make the most of London’s sports, arts, cultural and leisure opportunities
🌟 Matching people with learning disabilities with volunteer social buddies
🌟 Evenings and weekends – and staying out late!
🌟 Enjoying life – safely.
We also offer…

- Arts and crafts
- Boccia and other sports
- Creative writing
- Healthy cooking and eating
- Music and musicianship
- Yoga, tai chi, qi gong
- Zumba
What makes us different?

- We start with wellbeing
- We focus on what people can do
- We’ll help you to set your goals and meet them
- We’re working for accreditation as a centre of excellence for autism
- We focus on solutions, not problems
- We work closely with your circles of support
Partnerships

Skills, fun, social activities for isolated deaf people through working with Viridian and Action on Hearing Loss

Jobs for people recovering from mental ill health through our Winning with Work programme – Wandsworth Council, Together Your Way, SWL & St George’s MHT, Family Action
How do we know it’s working?

- Using the Outcomes Star
- Surveys of students, staff, carers, volunteers
- Observation
- Qualifications achieved
- People making life changes
How it all comes together…

- Wellbeing team assess student
- Healthy living worker helps student to build health action plan
- Workshop programme supports identified needs
- Outcomes Star assessment charts progress
- Peer support helps sustain change
Success stories

SC – we helped her get voluntary work at Southbank Centre. Now she’s a paid and permanent member of staff

RS – came as a shy trainee. Now helps to run the kitchen

36 people with serious mental health problems back to work

And so many more!
Social enterprises – work opportunities

🌟 Share Gardening – we maintain big and small gardens

🌟 Share catering – buffets, receptions, lunches, special occasions
Contact details

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We look forward to hearing from you!