

As we stepped into Spring, the busy schedule at RCT continued. As usual we have lots of news and updates to share with you in our April newsletter, most notably details of our forthcoming 25th Anniversary which is taking place in November. We will keep you updated on developments in upcoming newsletters.



SPOTLIGHT

Each month, the staff team are asked to select their Employee of the Month. The winner in March was Hannah Edmunds who is one of our Youth Development Workers and a Specialist Trauma Practitioner. Hannah was recognised for her friendly and hardworking attitude. The children and young people that she works with all think she is amazing, as do we.



Huge thanks to Vicky Burgess from the Council's Work & Skills team for her super kind donation of Easter treats that were distributed amongst the children and young people that we work with.

Vicky regularly supports RCT with donations and giving up her time to volunteer.

If you are interested in volunteering please get in touch.



This month our Answer Cancer Lead, Lizl Donnelly has been busy holding awareness raising events. Thank You to Oliver's Cafe in Milnrow for hosting one of the events and providing refreshments for all who attended.

Lizl can often be found assisting at information sharing events. If you see her be sure to say hello!



Rochdale Connections Trust were recently selected to be one of Tesco's Bags of Help organisations across Rochdale. Shoppers are given tokens to place in their chosen charity box located in store.

Here is one of our younger supporters posting his tokens for RCT.

Thank You Noah!



RCT ran the Freedom for ladies final ever session. We have been phasing it out ready to start running our new Free From Harm Programme which starts on Thursday 5th May 10-12pm. There was a definite mix of sadness and joy amongst staff and service users at the end as they raised a toast with NON- Alcoholic Prosecco (Nosecco) and enjoyed a selection of cakes.

We are excited to be offering our new programme, which is personally reflective, current & takes an in-depth to look at the causes and complexities of abusive relationships and the impacts on their families. We are confident that this will equip participants to take the most appropriate steps to break the cycle of violence and abuse.

If you are a female affected by Domestic Abuse, please get in touch and register for a place on our new programme.



We were surprised to receive a visit from the Easter Bunny who very generously donated Easter Eggs for our younger service users. Huge thanks to Tradeslink Recruitment for their kind support and for bringing the Easter Spirit to Drake Street and putting a smile on all our faces.



During the Easter Break, a group of young people enjoyed a residential trip to Mount Cook Adventure Centre in Matlock with 3 of our youth workers. They had a brilliant time participating in many fun activities and challenges. We would like to thank OutdoorsForAll for a brilliant experience.



April has seen us welcome a new member to the RCT team. Kate Barnes has joined us as our Volunteer Co-ordinator and we are thrilled to have her on board. Here is Kate being gifted with a bouquet of flowers and a card to celebrate her birthday.



2022 is a huge year for Rochdale Connections Trust as we will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary.

During the next 7 months, we will be talking to service users, both past and present and obtaining feedback on their experiences of working with us, allowing us to reflect on the positive role we have played in making a huge difference to thousands of people's lives.

We have a schedule of promotional and fundraising activities booked in as we approach the date of the anniversary on the 24th November. We have a celebration event booked to take place at The Flying Horse on Friday 25th November. We are now selling tickets for the event priced at just £15, which includes a pie and pea supper.

We would love to see as many people celebrating with us as possible. To purchase a ticket, please contact Lizl on 01706 345111 or lizl@r-c-t.co.uk



The ever popular Aim2Game online Minecraft group sessions were relaunched at the beginning of the month.

Led by Emily & Jack, the young people who access this online provision have been enjoying working together as a team to achieve their shared goals and objectives whilst developing leadership, co-operation and communication skills.

DONATE



Rochdale Connections Trust are a relatively small charity who rely on the support of people within the local community. We work to help women and children who are adversely affected by domestic abuse, many of whom are living in poverty. If you would like to support our work, please consider making a donation. We appreciate every penny donated and ensure it is put to good use. To donate, please click on the link attached to the email below the newsletter.



Jack successfully completed his Kick-Start Placement with us here at RCT and became a full time member of staff at the start of the month. In his role as Marketing and Public Relations Officer, he will be responsible for helping to promote the charity through fundraising and publicity.



GMCA GREATER MANCHESTER YOUTH COMBINED AUTHORITY

Rochdale Connections Trust were thrilled to be invited to join the Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority, where young people from Rochdale could have their voices heard and an opportunity to influence policy making at GM level. Hannah (above) accompanied the two young people who have been selected as our representatives to the first meeting on April 14th where they got to know representatives from other areas.