'From exclusion to employment A model for "impossible to reach" groups under the European Social Fund in Wales, UK.'

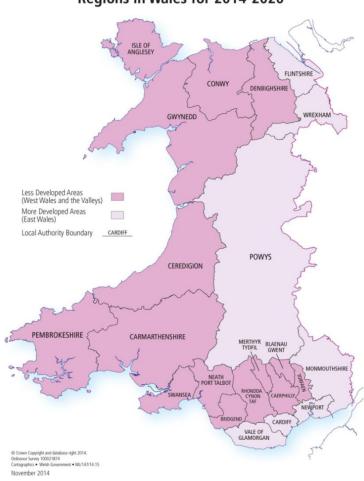
Sian Elen Tomos
Chief Executive of GISDA
Partner of Places of Change Cymru

Context of Presentation

- Representing Cyrenians Employment and Training successful ESF project
- Wavehill Independent Evaluation
- 2014-2020 Places of Change Consortium
- GISDA
- Caerlas
- Shelter Cymru

Wales

European Structural Fund Programme Regions in Wales for 2014-2020



Cyrenians Cymru

- Charity limited by guarantee
- Awarded funding in 2009 under the ESF Priority 2 for the Swansea Bay area of Wales to increase employment and to tackle economic inactivity
- £3.8 million ESF funded project

Cyrenians Employment and Training

Life Skills and Training Projects Community Centre **Dragon Arts Emplyment Practice Projects** Celfi ResaRec Employment **Employment Support Agency**

ESF Convergence Priority 2-Theme 1 (2007-2013 programme)

- Helping People into Sustainable Employment
- Provision of Specialised outreach engagement projects

Wales European Funding Office targets and contract

- 860 to move into sustainable employment
- 1,176 gaining qualification
- 3,360 gaining other positive outcomes
- 2,520 people entering further learning
- 1,181Engagment and Provision of support to BME
- 1,848 Engagement and Provision of support for people with work limiting health condition
- 2,184 engaging in environmental awareness activities

Community Centre

- Life Skills
- Soft Skills
- Progression towards the labour market
- Reaches out to street homeless people
- Drug and alcohol misuse
- Chaotic lifestyles

Community Centre

- Housing Support
- Counselling
- Washing facilities
- Use of phone
- Debt Management
- Professional Medical Treatment
- Help with access to see their children
- Somewhere safe to go
- Drug rehabilitation support

Quotes on Community Centre

 "I can eat here, there's health care and they've sorted my benefit out. I'm on the way to get a new tenancy agreement. I was on methadone before prison, I'm now having liver function tests and I'm going to start Naltrexone which is a blocker"

Case Study

 Client A is a 27 year old female who came from a very dysfunctional family home where as a child she suffered sexual abuse and remained under social services care. On enrolment at CCC she was 24, homeless, a victim of domestic abuse, a long term heroine user which she funded through sex work and petty theft and she had no work history or qualifications. A accessed support through CCC and was referred to methadone prescribing, was housed, supported and encouraged and motivated into taking part in activities and gained a qualification. She was helped to create a CV and supported to actively job search and gained employment with British Home Stores. Today she remains drug free, in full time employment with Toys R Us and is happy living her dream as she often stated that she 'just wanted to be normal'.

Dragon Arts

- Life Skills
- ICT
- Vocational Training
- Therapeutic work
- Maths and numeracy
- English lessons
- Music classes
- Photography
- Glass making
- pottery

Employment Support Agency

- Volunteering and Employment Support
- Intermediate Labour Market
- Overcoming barriers to employment
- CV writing
- Where to look for jobs
- Help with Computers
- Interview skills
- Help with benefit
- 1:1 support

Social Enterprise ReseREC

- Recycling
- Training Centre
- Reuse
- Crafts
- Selling used furniture

Results

- 8,416 enrolled this was 10% over the target
- 1,279 gained a qualification this was 7% under target but was expected to the unreasonable high target set at the beginning
- 1,533 entered employment at the end of their support this was 3% under but well within the 15% variance set by WEFO target but again a very high number for impossible to reach service users

Results

- Further Learning was 50% over target
- Other positive outcomes although there is no target set up, Cyrenians recorded 119 positive other outcomes.

Many Parts Model

- Natural Progression
- Clear Pathway
- All in-house service clear communication between projects
- Multiple skills
- Non threatening, inviting and friendly environment.

Video

You tube link 4 minute video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMaHFF4ilOo

Diolch yn fawr / Thank you

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