

IGNITE!

engage empower transform

ANNUAL REVIEW 2023



CONTENTS

WHO WE ARE

WE ENGAGE, EMPOWER AND TRANSFORM.



Ignite is a progressive, community-based youth work charity, whose roots are set in the Christian faith, which guides how we work and determines our values.

While we are faith based, we are not faith biased, and our work embraces the diverse and dynamic makeup of our communities.

OUR VISION

A community where young people can turn adversity into advantage.

OUR MISSION

To help young people advance in life and strengthen our communities.

OUR VALUES

We believe in **prioritising the needs of young people through a holistic, consistent and flexible approach**, to inspire personal growth and lifelong change.

We believe in Ignite communities as an **alternative to exploitative and negative peer groups** – where young people get together in a spirit of respect, fun, support and care.

We believe that an Ignite community is **part of a chain that is building and strengthening the local community**.

We approach our work with **commitment, integrity and a passion that is motivated by our Christian faith**, to maintain a robust organisation.

We believe in supporting young people, of all faiths and none.

We believe in **working collaboratively** to get the best possible outcomes.

We believe in **pursuing learning and growth** to ensure our long-term sustainability.

**CELEBRATING OUR IMPACT, NAVIGATING
CHALLENGING TIMES, & LOOKING FORWARD.**

WELCOME MESSAGE



DONNA JOHN
Executive Director



HELEN LAIRD
Chair of Trustees

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

As the Chair of Trustees and the Executive Director, we are immensely proud to present our annual review, reflecting upon the remarkable achievements and the profound impact we have made in the lives of children and young people.

The year has brought forth unprecedented challenges, magnified by the rising cost of living and the far-reaching consequences of the global pandemic. We have witnessed first-hand how these adversities have disproportionately affected the young people we serve, creating barriers to their education, impacting their mental health and basic needs. In the face of such formidable obstacles, our charity and our remarkable staff have shown incredible resilience and determination, driven by an unwavering dedication to make a positive difference.

Recognising the critical importance of

mental health, we have placed a special focus on addressing the emotional well-being of the young people we serve. Many of our programmes and services have been designed to provide not only practical assistance, but also to prioritise mental and emotional wellbeing.

We cannot emphasise enough the immeasurable value of our staff members, whose compassion, empathy, and unwavering efforts have been a beacon of hope for the children and young people we serve. Their steadfast commitment to the well-being and success of our young beneficiaries has been a source of inspiration, ensuring that no one feels alone in their struggles.

Moreover, our successes are not solely attributed to our own efforts, but are a result of the extraordinary collaborations we have forged with other voluntary sector organisations. Together, we have expanded our reach and maximised our impact,

recognising that by combining our strengths and resources, we can better address the multifaceted challenges faced by local children and young people. Through these partnerships, we have developed innovative approaches, shared invaluable expertise, and created a comprehensive support network for our beneficiaries.

As we look ahead, we are filled with a sense of hope and excitement for the future. We remain committed to expanding our reach, deepening our impact, and providing even more comprehensive support for local young people. Our vision extends beyond addressing immediate needs; it encompasses the desire to foster a stronger, more inclusive community where every young person feels valued, supported, and empowered to fulfill their potential.

To achieve this vision, we will continue to nurture partnerships, seeking collaborations that align with our mission and amplify our

impact. We will actively pursue opportunities to share our expertise and learn from others, ensuring that we remain at the forefront of innovative practices in youth work. Additionally, we are dedicated to exploring new avenues of funding and cultivating relationships with potential supporters who share our deep passion for creating a brighter future for vulnerable and at-risk children and young people.

As you delve into our annual review, we invite you to celebrate the transformative journeys of the young people we have served, the initiatives we have undertaken, and the collective impact we have made. Each story is a testament to the incredible dedication and unwavering commitment of everyone involved.

Yours sincerely,

HELEN LAIRD & DONNA JOHN

OUR IMPACT



BELOW ARE ALSO SOME OUTCOMES YOUTH WORKERS OBSERVED FROM ALL PROGRAMMES...

278

INSTANCES OF INCREASED CONFIDENCE AMONG PARTICIPANTS

340

EXAMPLES OF INCREASED EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

298

EXAMPLES OF INCREASED ENGAGEMENT WITH EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT

338

INSTANCES WHERE A YOUNG PERSON EXERCISED A POSITIVE CHANGE OR CHOICE IN LIFE

337

EXAMPLES OF INCREASED POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

98%

BASKETBALL SESSION PARTICIPANTS SHOWED AN IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING,

78%

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND

65%

DECREASE IN LIFE-LIMITING BEHAVIOUR

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW IS A VIBRANT COMMUNITY, HOME TO A DIVERSE AND DYNAMIC YOUNG POPULATION, BUT LIKE EVERY COMMUNITY IT FACES ITS OWN CHALLENGES.

THE CHALLENGES



EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGES AND EXCLUSION

A critical issue is the alarming correlation between school exclusion and future employment prospects. Young people who are excluded from school are at a significantly higher risk of unemployment and often struggle to find stable employment opportunities. Sadly, this precarious situation disproportionately affects vulnerable and disadvantaged young people, perpetuating cycles of disadvantage.

While education is a fundamental right, disparities do exist – not all young people have access to high-quality educational resources, leading to uneven academic outcomes, with those from low socio-economic backgrounds being disproportionately affected.

LACK OF SAFE SPACES

There is a lack of access to safe spaces and trusted adults for many young people.

A lack of safe spaces not only deprives young people of opportunities for physical activity, but also has a profound impact on their overall health and wellbeing.

Safe spaces, especially those for sports and recreation, offer a means of stress relief and an outlet for pent-up energy.

Safe spaces are not just about physical health but also play a crucial role in community building and youth engagement. Sports and recreational facilities provide opportunities for young people to socialise, build friendships and develop important life skills, such as



teamwork and leadership. In the absence of these spaces, young people can become isolated and disconnected from their communities.

Many of our educational and mentoring programmes use sports as a means to keep young people motivated in school and help them envision a brighter future. A lack of safe spaces has the potential for young people to become involved in risky activities or be exposed to crime. When there are limited positive outlets for their energy and creativity, some young people sadly turn to negative pursuits out of sheer boredom or desperation. Safe spaces can serve as alternatives to the streets, offering protection from potentially dangerous situations.

A LACK OF TRUSTED ADULTS

For many of our young people there is a lack of trusted adults in their life, which significantly and negatively impacts their development. It can make them much more vulnerable to unsafe situations. The absence of trusted adults can leave a void that hinders emotional, social, academic, and personal growth, potentially impacting the individual's overall wellbeing and future success. Building a network of trusted adults can be essential for a young person's healthy development.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Vulnerable and disadvantaged young people often find it challenging to access the necessary mental health support services, deepening their struggles. Those that come from minority ethnic communities can face unique challenges in terms of mental health, including cultural stigma around seeking help. These factors contribute to reduced access to appropriate mental health care.

EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

To navigate the evolving job market successfully, young people require access to skills development programmes and vocational training. Disadvantaged young people often lack these opportunities, limiting their ability to secure stable employment.

CRIMINAL AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

The issue of criminal and sexual exploitation of young people is a pressing concern, not only in Harrow, but nationally.

Criminal and sexual exploitation are intricate issues that can affect individuals across all demographic groups. However, it is often those who are most marginalised and vulnerable within society, primarily young people, who bear the brunt of these crimes.

The factors contributing to their vulnerability are many and deeply rooted in various social, economic, and personal circumstances including poverty, homelessness, family disintegration, or limited access to educational opportunities.

Many young victims of exploitation fear reprisals, lack trust in authorities, or feel that they have no support network to turn to.

The challenges facing young people in Harrow are multifaceted and Ignite exists to address these needs with a range of youth work led targeted interventions.



OUR HISTORY

The first 10 years of the organisation were spent on establishing the charity, including recruitment of staff and our initial service delivery.

As demand for our services increased, our strategic focus shifted to 'improving what we do', building and developing partnerships.

A team of 30 from Emmanuel Church Northwood were commissioned by the Bishop of Willesden to start a church charity, working with young people in Harrow.

2001

We won our first grant of £10,000 for music equipment.

2002

Investors in People Quality Standard achieved.

2005

Our base in Rayners Lane opened.

2007

Dan Burke, who was one of the youth workers, took over the role of the charities Director.

We won our first major grant (£180,000 per year for three years) from the Youth Sector Development Fund (YSDF).

We defined the three core elements of our success "Engage, Empower, Transform".

2008

We won a Reaching Communities grant worth £150,000 per year for three years which gave us the ability to do work geographically and grow significantly, adding four new youth workers.

2009



2011

Our 10th Anniversary! We organised a group of volunteers to help us run 10 fundraising events to celebrate 10 years of Ignite, including skydivers, Three Peaks Challenge and gym rowing and static cycling.

2012

The charity came under the umbrella of Holy Trinity (Wealdstone) with Rev Mark Maloney as Director of Ignite.

2016

Lynne Burke, who was part of the team who established the charity took over as the Director. On 30 June HRH Prince Philip visited our youth drop-in session 'Expression'.

2019

Donna John joined as the charities new Director.

2020

We went through a major re-brand, changing our name and charitable status... 'Ignite Youth' was born.

2021

During Covid we digitalised and took online many of our services, including our mentoring and some sports sessions.

OUR PROGRAMMES



DURING 2022-23
IGNITE DELIVERED...

OVER **700** YOUNG PEOPLE ACCESSED OUR SERVICES

15
PROGRAMMES

16
DAY TRIPS
WERE
ORGANISED

9
SCHOOL
WORKSHOPS

IGNITE
CARRIED OUT
394
HOURS OF
MENTORING,
APPROX. 8 HOURS A WEEK

THERE WERE
265
HOURS OF
SPORT ACTIVITIES
(APPROX. 5 HOURS A WEEK),
AND
1,625
ATTENDED
THESE SESSIONS

NEXT STEPS PROJECT UN Sustainable Development Goal 3



The 'Next Steps Project' is a collaborative initiative between Ignite, The WISH Centre and Whitmore High School. It combines sports, mentoring, detached youth work and counselling to improve the emotional and mental wellbeing of students and strengthen the school's response to mental health issues amongst its students.

The project encompasses a Home, School and Community model, to help create a supportive environment for learning and personal growth, and Ignite deliver after-school sports sessions, 1-1 mentoring and detached outreach youth work as part of the programme.

121
STUDENTS HAVE
ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED
IN THE PROGRAMME

“Next Steps feels like real collaborative working with open, effective communication”

NEXT STEPS EVALUATION 2023



We run basketball sessions for young people who live on the Rayners Lane estate in South Harrow or surrounding areas. These sessions provide young people with the opportunity to take part in a fun and free basketball session. Sessions offer participants the opportunity to engage with other local young people, build friendships and increase their basketball skills.

Our boxing sessions take place weekly at Harrow Leisure Centre, they provide young people with the opportunity to learn boxing skills and techniques through non-contact 'pad work'. Boxing builds discipline and fosters determination and resilience in young people, and participants are encouraged to use these skills in other areas of their lives.

We deliver a weekly football session for young people at Harrow School, previously the session took place at the Beacon Community Centre in Rayners Lane, but after feedback from our young people we decided to explore the possibility of utilising artificial pitches instead.

All our sports sessions focus on promoting physical activity, teamwork, and positive social interactions.

198
YOUNG PEOPLE
HAVE ENGAGED
IN THESE SESSIONS



BASKETBALL, BOXING AND FOOTBALL SESSIONS
Sustainable Development Goals 10 & 3

CASE STUDY KA*

KA's journey with Ignite has been one that has touched his life in profound ways. When he first stepped onto the court, KA was battling low self-esteem and lacked the confidence to believe in himself. At that point, basketball was just a fun activity for him, and he couldn't foresee the incredible potential it held for his personal growth.

Through a series of conversations and interventions, we started to see a glimmer of change in KA. We encouraged him to not only enjoy the game, but also to work on improving his skills. The impact was astonishing, a complete turnaround that extended far beyond the basketball court.

With unwavering support and a nurturing environment provided by Ignite, KA's self-esteem began to soar. He started to express himself freely, not just during games but also in his daily life. Ignite's inclusive and positive atmosphere played a pivotal role in boosting KA's self-worth and helping him realise his true potential.

As KA actively engaged with his fellow participants in our sessions, true

friendships began to form. The inclusive culture at Ignite ensured that everyone felt welcomed and valued, strengthening KA's confidence and giving him a solid support network to rely on.

Through ongoing engagement and mentorship KA's basketball skills saw a remarkable improvement. He honed his techniques, gained a deep understanding of the game, and surpassed his own expectations. This progress was not limited to the basketball court; it instilled in him discipline, resilience, and a strong work ethic that positively impacted his personal growth.

In an incredible turn of events, KA's newfound basketball prowess led him to successfully join a local basketball team. This transition was a testament to his

determination and the strong foundation of skills and confidence he acquired through Ignite. KA's decision to embrace Ignite's opportunities opened up new pathways for his growth and achievement.

In a heartwarming follow-up call, KA couldn't help but express his profound gratitude for Ignite's services and support. He recognised that without Ignite's intervention and nurturing environment, his personal and basketball journey would have remained a distant dream. His appreciation went even further, as he vowed to recommend Ignite to friends and family, acknowledging the transformative impact it had on his life.



“Donna, I cannot express my gratitude to you and your organisation enough for the tremendous opportunity you have provided my son and my family, which has changed our lives forever.”

PARENT

*We refer to 'KA' in this section to respect their request for anonymity.

SCHOOL WORKSHOPS

Ignite delivered a series of school workshops to raise awareness around the issues associated with serious youth violence and criminal exploitation. These workshops were designed to provide students with valuable insights into the dangers of gang involvement, while also equipping them with the tools to resist peer pressure and make informed decisions.

THE WORKSHOPS WERE DELIVERED IN THREE OF THE BOROUGH'S SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND REACHED

107
STUDENTS

Our youth mentoring initiatives focus on engaging young people with particular risk factors and vulnerabilities that make them more susceptible to criminal exploitation. Through one-on-one mentoring, youth workers aim to increase the resilience and protective factors of young people and prevent them from becoming gang involved.

59
YOUNG PEOPLE
ACTIVELY ENGAGED
IN THE MENTORING
PROGRAMME

As part of this work, we delivered a mentoring programme that addressed issues linked to alcohol and drug misuse. Working with young people to help them make informed decisions around their use and the impact it was having on their lives.

Outcomes include significant improvements in self-esteem, self-confidence, and emotional well-being among participants.

Strong mentor-mentee relationships, with positive testimonials from both mentors and mentees.



MENTORING
Sustainable Development Goals 10 & 16

CASE STUDY AZ*

AZ is a 23-year-old young man who lives in Harrow. Our journey with AZ began in an area that sadly had a reputation for youth violence, gang and drug related activities. It was during one of our detached outreach sessions that we first crossed paths with AZ.

We started with a simple, friendly conversation, but when we invited him to join our sports sessions, he hesitated. However, we weren't discouraged; instead, we continued to meet him during our visits to the area, slowly building a strong and supportive relationship.

One day, a breakthrough happened when our senior youth worker decided to bring boxing pads to the local park and invited AZ and his friends to take part in some 'pad work'. The session's soon became a space for AZ and his peers to release their pent-up frustration under the watchful guidance of our team.

The impact of these sessions on AZ was truly extraordinary. It offered him a

sense of discipline, resilience, structure, and routine that greatly improved his physical and mental wellbeing. Our combined approach, incorporating boxing training and mentoring discussions, was transformative. We delved into important topics such as substance misuse, nurturing healthy relationships and steering clear of the dangers associated with youth violence and gangs. During this process, AZ made a pivotal decision: he quit smoking and fully committed to his boxing journey. He joined the Harrow Boxing Club and took part in two white-collar boxing matches. This journey of self-improvement didn't stop there; AZ now co-leads our boxing sessions, further boosting his confidence and leadership skills.

AZ continues to work closely with our employability worker, who's helping him develop his self-confidence around the area of work, prepare for interviews, and explore potential job opportunities. The transformation in AZ's life is evident and goes well beyond physical fitness and emotional wellbeing.

AZ's dedication to our services has been unwavering, and the results are clear. He's made significant progress in enhancing his mental health, making better life choices, and sharpening his social skills. His story is a testament to the remarkable power of support, guidance, and the transformative potential that exists in every young person's life.



“Ignite has helped me relate and calm down. With their sessions, I look forward to going to each session, it has also helped me and my brother a lot by staff members offering mentoring sessions which has helped with our growth and relationship.”

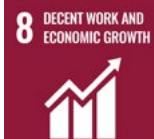
ADEEB

*We refer to 'KA' in this section to respect their request for anonymity.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS Sustainable Development Goal 8

Our employability skills project equips young people with essential skills to access employment or training opportunities. This programme provides a holistic approach to professional development, including workshops, one-on-one coaching, and assistance with preparing CVs, all designed to empower young individuals for a successful transition into the job market.

We have seen noticeable improvements in participants' confidence, communication skills, and interview techniques.



CASE STUDY Ignite: A Turning Point in My Life

“I’d like to take you on a journey, a journey that transformed my life in ways I could have never imagined, all thanks to the unwavering support and guidance I received from the team at Ignite. Before I found my way to the community of Rayners Lane, my life was a constant shuffle. I hopped from one school to another in London, never really settling down. This constant change made it hard for me to form connections and left me grappling with social anxiety, as I never had the chance to truly get comfortable around people.

But then, everything changed when I arrived in Rayners Lane at the age of 13, on the brink of turning 14. I enrolled at Whitmore High School, but the challenge of making friends and keeping up with the latest trends persisted. It was during my time in year 9 that I stumbled upon Ignite and their basketball sessions. From the get-go, the Ignite team understood me in a way that felt like they had a special insight into

my introverted personality. Their support became my anchor during the years I spent attending their sessions.

Gradually, I began to grow, gaining newfound confidence and forming lasting friendships with like-minded peers. The Ignite staff played an essential role in this transformation, offering support and encouragement whenever I faced difficulties. As I approached my late teens, I found myself on the cusp of entering the job market. However, I had no clue how to create a compelling CV or craft an effective cover letter. Ignite stepped in to provide invaluable guidance for these essential documents. They even went the extra mile to help me find suitable job opportunities. Their support made my transition from school to work much smoother.

During this period of personal growth and change, I continued attending the basketball sessions, eventually even helping the staff run them. In 2023, a turning point came when I was offered an internship with Ignite. It was a game-changer for me. Before, I had been hopping between different jobs, feeling

adrift and aimless. It was reassuring to discover that Ignite remained committed to supporting me, even as I grew older and moved beyond the young person category.

The transition from being a recipient of Ignite's services to actively running the sessions myself was quite a journey. Shifting from being a peer to a mentor was challenging, taking me out of my comfort zone. However, with the support of the Ignite team, I gained the confidence to lead the sessions. Their guidance made me feel like a seasoned staff member, despite having joined just a few months earlier. This smooth transition was a testament to the incredible work of Ignite.

In conclusion, Ignite's services have played a pivotal role in transforming a once confused and lost young individual into the person I am immensely proud to be today. Their unwavering support, understanding, and guidance have empowered me to overcome obstacles, develop essential life skills, and build lasting relationships. Ignite has left an indelible mark on my life, and I will be forever grateful for their dedication and belief in my potential. This journey has been nothing short of remarkable, and I can't wait to see what the future holds.”

**“We are not parents, teachers or social workers,
but we are ALL these things to our young people.”**

IGNITE EMPLOYABILITY YOUTH WORKER

CREATIVE ARTS PROJECTS

Our creative arts sessions facilitate young people's self-discovery and growth through music, media and art-based activities. These activities provide a safe space for young people to express themselves creatively and articulate their emotions. We have found these sessions to be particularly transformative, as young people learn new ways to express themselves and channel their feelings.

The sessions also provide an opportunity for our youth workers to build trusted relationships with young people and offer support surrounding other issues

they may be facing. Through this engagement, we see the positive impact of these sessions extend to other areas of young people's lives, and youth workers observe many examples of improved behaviour. Being able to express themselves and understand their emotions, together with the support of our youth workers, leads to improved confidence among young people, enhanced social skills, and decreased feelings of isolation. Youth workers also observe significant improvements in young people's ability to exercise positive choices in life and participate in healthier activities.

DETACHED AND OUTREACH YOUTH WORK

Our team has been providing vital detached and outreach youth work across areas of concern within the borough of Harrow including West Harrow Park, Byron Park and central Harrow. Through proactive community engagement, persistent visibility, and relationship building, our detached youth workers have successfully connected with vulnerable young people who are often unable or unwilling to access more mainstream youth services. As a result of this outreach work, we have seen a substantial increase in the number of at-risk youth engaging with our programmes and services. Our detached youth work has also enabled us to identify issues early and intervene to steer young people away from crime, gangs, and other dangers. This preventative work has made a tangible positive impact across Harrow.



Detached youth work is engrained in all our projects and paramount to effectively reaching and supporting at-risk young people.

EDUCATION INITIATIVES Maths Tutoring

Our volunteer led Maths tutoring programme takes place weekly for 1 hour.

Our volunteer tutor Alice delivers 1-1 maths tuition at our office on the Rayners Lane estate.

This project enables young people who would otherwise be unable to afford maths tuition access the valuable support they need.

“I have been tutoring maths as a volunteer with Ignite for over four years. It has been a pleasure to see the Ignite team at work and hear their words of wisdom to the young people. One phrase which has stuck with me was a team member advising a young person to “organise their anger”.

It has equally been a pleasure to work with all the young people I have tutored. Their enthusiasm and energy are inspiring.”

IGNITE EMPLOYABILITY YOUTH WORKER

OUR NHS INITIATIVES UN Sustainable Development Goals 3 & 10



NEON Project

Ignite, Hammersmith, Fulham, Ealing and Hounslow Mind and PLIAS Resettlement came together with CNWL NHS Trust to deliver NEON.

The NEON project is a powerful youth work initiative aimed at providing youth work-based support to young people admitted to the hospital. Youth work practitioners are resident within the hospital Monday – Friday providing help and support to young patients.

Its mission is clear: to address the holistic wellbeing of young patients facing health challenges.

The success of NEON lies in its ability to bridge the gap between clinical care and personal wellbeing. By providing young patients with a compassionate, understanding presence, it transforms the hospital experience.

NORTHWICK PARK Acute Care Outreach Project

Our youth workers visit the two mental health wards in our local hospital, Northwick Park to meet with young patients. This form of hospital outreach work is vitally important to many young people who are on adult wards and isolated from friendships and peer groups with limited access to trusted adults.



CASE STUDY Transforming Lives Through Dedicated Support

In October 2022, Ignite’s engagement with JKH began during his stay on the mental health wards at Northwick Park hospital. At this early stage, JKH expressed a strong interest in Ignite’s employability, volunteering, and sports programmes, signalling his desire for change and a new beginning.

Upon JKH’s discharge, Ignite assigned him a dedicated youth worker and together they formulated a support plan tailored to address JKH’s specific social needs. This plan laid the foundation for the transformation that would follow.

The Ignite team formed a close relationship with JKH, supporting him in building confidence as he prepared for job interviews.

Despite continued challenges related to his medical condition and drug misuse, JKH remained determined to “get better and never go back” into hospital.

He was offered the opportunity to help out more at sessions, supporting the youth workers with setting up and co-ordinating activities, which further boosted his confidence.

In addition to job readiness and volunteer work, JKH participated in Ignite’s discussion group sessions, providing a supportive environment for young people to discuss mental health issues and receive peer support. These sessions contributed significantly to JKH’s sense of belonging within the community.

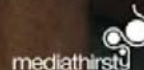
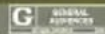
Over time, Ignite’s interventions have resulted in JKH’s improved mental wellbeing, engagement with services, development of new skills and a more optimistic outlook on life.



IGNITION

AN IGNITE MOVIE

MEDIA TRUST AND JOHN LYON'S CHARITY IN ASSOCIATION WITH IGNITE YOUTH PRESENTS A MEDIA THIRSTY PRODUCTION IGNITION
DIRECTED BY JANET MARRETT INTRODUCING JAY MURRAY (AS JORDAN) DIRECTOR OF CINEMATOGRAPHY MATT GILLAN
WRITTEN BY JANET MARRETT EXECUTIVE PRODUCER FLEUR NIEDDU ASSOCIATE PRODUCER DONNA JOHN



FUTURE PLAN

OUR THREE YEAR (2022-2025) STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES ARE:

1 **Ensure young people's needs remain at the centre of our work** by amplifying their voice and developing and delivering effective programmes that respond to their needs, their communities and our stakeholders.

3 **Increase our engagement with young people** affected by the criminal justice system.

2 **Increase sustainability of Ignite** through the robust implementation of objectives included in our fundraising strategy.

Now firmly into year two of our strategic plan, we have progressed towards our goals of ensuring;

Young people confirm the support we provide is relevant.

Evaluation evidences' that our work is effective in supporting our young people and addressing their needs and those of other stakeholders.

Systematic injustices such as discrimination are addressed.

We work collaboratively to achieve the best possible offer for young people.

Ignite has generated alternative income streams.

There is less reliance on funding from grants and trusts.

Our fundraising strategy is dynamic, fit for purpose and reflects the needs of the organisation and its strategic aims.

In 2024-2025 our focus will be on developing projects that serve young people involved in the criminal justice system, our goal is for at least 1/3 of the young people we mentor to have had engagement with the criminal justice system.



TESTIMONIALS & ENDORSEMENT

“ I have been a volunteer with ignite youth for some time now and it has been a pleasure and an honour to be involved with and work with such wonderful passionate people. All the staff are so compassionate and care so much about the young people they work with, it is truly a pleasure to see and be a part of. Over the time I have worked with Ignite I have seen firsthand the amazing work they do and efforts to transform these young vulnerable people’s lives into positive outcomes.

As a safeguarding champion, I am so happy to be able to protect the youth that we work with. Protecting from any harm and promoting their wellbeing and listening to their voices is what I am passionate about. Safeguarding to me is about protecting the most vulnerable in our society to help them grow and to fulfil their true potential in life, so it is such a rewarding position and job for me to do.

The journey I have witnessed of some of our youths involved in Ignite is truly one of growth education and leads to a positive path and outcome for these youth. Over the time I have also witnessed us grow from strength to strength as an organisation, and that has enabled the team to reach and support more young people in the community.

I am honoured and it’s been a pleasure to be a part of this journey and positive trajectory of Ignite and hope to continue to work with them to help it flourish and help more of the valuable young people in their community.” IGNITE VOLUNTEER ‘D’

THANK YOU

We want to thank our funders, partners, volunteers and supporters for your continuous support throughout the year. Your unwavering commitment has played a pivotal role in our journey, and we sincerely appreciate it.

Your generous contributions have been the backbone of our operations, allowing us to make a real difference in the lives of many individuals and communities across Harrow. Your support has empowered us to pursue our mission with utmost dedication, and we are proud to share some of the incredible achievements we've accomplished together over the past year.

Thanks to your contributions, we've been able to provide crucial services to those in need, including engaging young people with particular risk factors and vulnerability to being drawn into gangs, increasing their resilience and

protective factors and prevent them becoming gang involved through mentoring and sports.

Launched innovative projects that have tackled pressing issues and brought about meaningful change.

Cultivated valuable partnerships that have bolstered our impact and extended our outreach.

Your belief in our mission has been instrumental in helping us navigate challenges and maintain our commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of those we serve.

As we reflect on the past year, we also eagerly anticipate the opportunities and challenges that await us in the future. With your continued support, we are confident that we can achieve even greater heights and continue to work towards a brighter future for individuals and our communities.

OUR CONTACT DETAILS

Ignite Youth 9 Scott Crescent, South Harrow HA2 0TY

A huge thank you to all our generous funders:

BBC Children in Need
CABWI Awarding Body
Church of England, 6 Crown Street
Church Pages
Clarion Futures
CNWL NHS Trust
Deo Duce Foundation
Hestia
Home Group
Jack Petchey Foundation
John Lyon's Charity
Lloyds Banking Trust
Paul Hamlyn Foundation
The Henry Smith Charity
The Leathersellers
The London Borough of Harrow
The Young Harrow Foundation
Youth Music

Thank you to the following people, who so generously volunteered their time to help compiling the review:

Naila Mir
Andrew Pamphilon
Jo Ogilvie

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	94,387	-	94,387	84,162
Charitable activities	3	-	259,624	259,624	274,835
Investment income	4	1,087	-	1,087	21
Total Income		<u>95,474</u>	<u>259,624</u>	<u>355,098</u>	<u>359,018</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	<u>(89,779)</u>	<u>(236,939)</u>	<u>(326,718)</u>	<u>(328,393)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(89,779)</u>	<u>(236,939)</u>	<u>(326,718)</u>	<u>(328,393)</u>
Net income		5,695	22,685	28,380	30,625
Gross transfers between funds		<u>5,023</u>	<u>(5,023)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		10,718	17,662	28,380	30,625
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>208,786</u>	<u>74,533</u>	<u>283,319</u>	<u>252,694</u>
Total funds carried forward	15	<u><u>219,504</u></u>	<u><u>92,195</u></u>	<u><u>311,699</u></u>	<u><u>283,319</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.