

Name of your organisation	Boys in Mind
Date of TFN event which you pitched at	04/12/2023
Name of the project TFN funded	'Grow for Life' and 'JIGSAW animation' projects, plus growing our charity
Were you able to undertake your project as you outlined in the application?	Yes
Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?	<p>Before achieving TFN funding, we were struggling for capacity. Thanks to funding, we have been able to deliver everything we pitched for and more, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We have increased the hours of key staff 2. We have trained our Youth Advisors in safeguarding and public speaking 3. We have increased our outreach to local schools (including special schools) - running workshops and assemblies 4. We ran 'Exam De-stress' workshops in advance of this year's GCSE exams for local Year 11 pupils 5. We ran 'Grow for Life, a pilot therapeutic gardening project and made a heart-warming film about this pilot year which we will share with you shortly 6. We made an animated film called JIGSAW for primary school children, based around our JIGSAW concept (Joy, Inclusion, Giving back, Sleep, staying Active and finding your Wow moments!) and ran workshops at local primaries where the children were shown how to make their own animation based around these self-care and personal wellbeing principles. You can view JIGSAW here: https://boysinmind.co.uk/bimjigsaw/ <p>We have, therefore, increased our scope and staff capacity and we have been able to run projects that we could not have previously run. So far, we have had only positive outcomes and the feedback from schools has been overwhelmingly positive in regard to Grow for Life; the JIGSAW animation project, and our Boys in Mind assemblies and workshops.</p>
What portion of the project did TFN fund?	75% plus
How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	Around 6,000
How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	An estimated 15,000 - 50,000+ (hard to quantify given our social media reach!)
Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?	Yes
If yes, how much were you able to raise and from whom?	We were able to forge stronger links with local companies who learned of our TFN funding, which gave them confidence to sponsor us: for example, Abney & Baker, a local care company, is now sponsoring us £200 a month.

Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?	Yes
If yes, please can you provide details of the support you received?	We received several offers of help from TFN members who attended on the night and were impressed by our work.
How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?	We wouldn't have been able to achieve our objectives without TFN funding
Has the training you received from TFN better prepared you in pitching your organisation to potential funders?	Yes
Has TFN increased your capacity to raise further funds?	Yes
Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?	The young men benefitting from our Grow for Life project have given us feedback including: 'I am getting better at talking to others' 'I have learnt how to calm myself' 'I have discovered that I can be strong when it comes to digging' 'Being outside and getting fresh air helps me not to get stressed' 'I am getting better at working in a team and learning new skills'
Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?	We are stronger, more confident and stable as an organisation. We are busy revamping our website and have increased our social media presence so that we can reach even more boys and young men struggling with their mental health. We have discovered a new film genre - animation and have lots of plans to make further films using this media. We're also increasingly partnering with local art and music organisations: for example, this month, we ran several 'Creative Voices' graffiti and animation workshops at Bath University, in collaboration with 'Mighty Girls', a Wiltshire based charity empowering young women.
Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?	It was such an amazing experience! We are so grateful for the way Ines, Eugenie and the team walked us through the process, encouraging us every step of the way and helping us to refine our pitch so that we came across with maximum impact on the night. The event itself was wonderful and we met so many kind and supportive TFN members who showed genuine support and empathy for our work. The whole experience buoyed us up for months afterwards - we are a tiny team and this opportunity to tell your supporters about our work meant so much to us!