

TFN Impact Report

Name of your Organisation:	CHIPS
Name of the project TFN funded:	CHIPS Volunteer Champion
Date Funded by TFN:	06/06/2017
Were you able to undertake your project as planned?	Yes
Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?	<p>What TFN funding has meant to CHIPS:</p> <p>CHIPS stands for Children’s Integrated Playschemes https://chipsplay.org/. We offer play and social opportunities for children with additional needs aged 3 to 19 living in East Hertfordshire and the Borough of Broxbourne. Brothers and sisters are strongly encouraged to join as we believe that all children should play together, regardless of their needs. Simple play is vital in any child’s development. It is not only fun, play is a key component of healthy living by enabling good physical, emotional, mental and social development.</p> <p>TNF funding enabled CHIPS to recruit a brand new position of a Volunteer Coordinator, the position was filled in July 2017 and is for 1 day per week or equivalent.</p> <p>Having a volunteer co-ordinator has led to a dedicated person recruiting, promoting and looking after volunteers. CHIPS volunteer numbers have grown from ~50 volunteers on the books to 75 with a further increase predicted to support CHIPS Summer schemes. The recruitment of volunteers has enabled us to take on 30 more children to schemes.</p> <p>Our Volunteer Coordinator has attended a Team Herts session for Volunteers Coordinators - ‘Developing your Volunteer Programme’, organised training events for volunteers, and is helping CHIPS to achieve the Hertfordshire Valuing Volunteer Management 6 Point Promise, which will enable the recruitment and retention of further volunteers.</p> <p>CHIPS needs a cohort of trained staff, but supporting this with additional volunteers means increased capacity to go out on more trips - whether to the seaside or to the local swimming baths. It also enables a bit more on- to-one fun -a volunteer can play board games, paint, play football with a child or help support cookery sessions where more supervision is required.</p> <p>Volunteers have also provided a monetary saving to CHIPS, where not as many paid staff are required, while the safety and care needs of the children are still met.</p> <p>This saving is highlighted below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saving per term £1,023.75, Saving per year £3,071.25 for 1 scheme. • Saving per year - 5 playschemes £15,356.25

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	The future is for the Volunteer Coordinator to also look at roles for volunteers such as Trustees and grant writers to further support the operation of CHIPS and continue to support and expand CHIPS volunteers - a vital heart beat of CHIPS.
What portion of the project did TFN fund?	50%
How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	250
How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	1,000
Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?	No
Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?	No
How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?	We wouldn't have been able to achieve our objectives without TFN funding
Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?	CHIPS has grown its volunteer base from 50 to 75 due to the Volunteer Coordinator funded by TFN, this in turn has given more support to CHIPS staff and families and helped aid a scheme growth of 30 children.
Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?	The TFN crowdfunding experience gave CHIPS an opportunity to present to a new audience and learn from the experience. As a small charity, we hadn't had to pitch CHIPS quite like that before - it was a project that we were passionate about, the crowd was so supportive - we had nothing to fear!
Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?	We have had more resources due to the Volunteer Coordinator to target recruitment of all areas of Herts, including less privileged areas. Having volunteering experience supports future employment and university options. Edward who joined the CHIPS team to present at the TFN event was a volunteer at CHIPS for 5 years, he is now been accepted on a Teacher training course at University (he used the CHIPS experience in his application), and is coming back as a staff member to support CHIPS Summer and Christmas schemes.