

TFN Impact Report

Name of your Organisation:	Flamingo Chicks
Name of the project TFN funded:	Flamingo Chicks
Date Funded by TFN:	13/11/2019
Were you able to undertake your project as planned?	Yes
If no, please outline how the project has changed.	
Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?	<p>TFN funding has been transformational and enabled a significant step-change in our work.</p> <p>In the last year we have transitioned from a CIC to a registered charity (27 January 2020), appointed a new, diverse board of 7 trustees (www.flamingochicks.org/our-team), streamlined our operational systems to ensure more secure and efficient data management through the implementation of a new CRM and redesigned our website, complete with shop, to support the development of our organisational brand. We also appointed a new Operations Manager (our first ever full time member of staff) to support on systems, fundraising and advocacy which has transformed our operational capacity, and we have dramatically increased our turnover. Highlights include another successful "May 100" community fundraising campaign which mobilised 100+ fundraisers to get active and fundraise during the May lockdown.</p> <p>Despite the challenges and restrictions of the last year, we were able to increase our footprint both in geographical scope and the number of families and disabled children we support.</p> <p>Before March, we delivered 80 active learning workshops to schools across the country and, through harnessing technology, we have since been able to reach more children than ever before through our first-of-their-kind virtual classes. Broadcast for free on our social channels, these have had well over 200,000 views and continue to reach thousands of families.</p> <p>We have had to adapt to a completely new way of working and invest in technology and in doing so, we have successfully re-started classes in 16 locations (teaching via Zoom or f2f, depending on restrictions) and on-boarded 7 new settings in locations ranging from North Wales to Nottingham.</p> <p>We also received significant media coverage for our work during lockdown: our virtual classes were shared across a host of regional media and on five national media outlets and we were awarded the highest recognition possible for our intergenerational volunteering programme, winning the Queen's Award for Volunteer Services in June 2020 - the programme has since grown to include a further 50 volunteers.</p> <p>We have re-started and expanded our Agents of Change youth</p>

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	<p>leadership programme which now meets monthly, via Zoom, to connect and inspire 29 young disabled advocates.</p> <p>We have also delivered a fully virtual hospice tour, uniting 26 children's hospices across the breadth of the country.</p> <p>IMPACT:</p> <p>Our virtual classes reached over 200,000 households. We collected data through both a core focus group and a general survey. The evaluation showed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 91% children reported an improvement in mood following classes - 77% of children learnt something new - 71% parents felt more motivated and able to cope <p>Evaluation of our Agents of Change summer programme which united 29 young disabled advocates across the country showed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 90% of participants felt more confident after taking part in our summer club - 86% felt they could now make a difference in the world - 86% of parents/carers were surprised by what their child could achieve.
What portion of the project did TFN fund?	100
How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	3000 children +200,000 households via views of our virtual classes
How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	7,500
Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN support?	No
If yes, how much were you able to raise?	
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?	Jennifer Jeffery joined our Board of Trustees!

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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
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?	<p>Undoubtedly the biggest change we have faced during the last 12 months has been the challenges posed by Covid-19 and the various restrictions that have come with it. We have had to adapt to a whole new way of working - embracing technology and re-working how we reach disabled children and families. While there have been many challenges, we are so proud of what we have achieved and in particular our virtual classes. Many elements of this new way of working are here to stay: such as using technology to break geographical boundaries and unite disabled young people across the country.</p> <p>Secondly, we appointed a full-time Operations Manager (as outlined above) to support the increased workload of adapting our class delivery but also to advance us further towards sustainable growth - supporting on fundraising, advocacy and systems to ensure we can capitalise on current momentum and reach more disabled children and their families.</p>
Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?	In general, the application and reporting process is simple and you feel well supported throughout. Additionally, we relish the opportunity to pitch live and it's a wonderful experience being able to connect directly with donors and to hear their questions first-hand. It has helped us not only to grow but also to flourish as an organisation!
Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?	<p>"The classes are invaluable for families at Ty Hafan children's hospice. They give our families the chance to access something hugely therapeutic for their child that siblings can engage in also. In this very difficult time it is vital that we can continue to offer our families chances to be creative, express emotion, have fun and make precious memories in the comfort of their own home. [Flamingo Chicks'] virtual dance classes facilitate just that. Thank you for sharing something so special with us!" Emma Atkins, Play Coordinator, Ty Hafan children's hospice, South Wales.</p> <p>"Sense supports Deafblind people and those with complex disabilities. For many people in our community the change of daily routine coupled with the uncertainty around why this is happening, the lack</p>

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	<p>of social contact and the absence of a safe outlet for self-expression has had a huge impact on wellbeing and emotional health. During the pandemic it has become clear that there is a significant lack of accessible arts content but this is where your organisation comes in. We have been sharing your resources to over 2000 people with complex disabilities across the UK, outreaching to all of our services and the feedback has been amazing! Your resources have made a huge impact on the Sense community and we wanted to say a massive thank you." Sunney Sharma, Arts and Wellbeing manager at Sense, the National Disability Charity.</p>
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