

## HCG evaluation plan update (Feb 2021)

The evaluation plan has evolved with the programme as we have worked with partners to understand the most effective ways to collect outcome indicators within the resources available and within the practical constraints of lockdown. Our approach to the evaluation incorporates: pre and post outcome surveys; data tracking; wider programme measures; and a process study.

### 1) Pre and post outcome surveys:

The aim of these measures is to assess the 'distance travelled' by YP in certain outcome areas and with certain partners (those with specific interventions where young people consistently attend for a period and therefore where we might reasonably expect to be able to detect a change on relevant outcomes). The outcomes measured link to the individual Theories of Change produced with partners at the outset of the programme. The young people surveyed and the outcomes measured include:

- a) Participants in the Exodus programme – these are the YP identified by the youth outreach team as at highest risk of involvement in youth violence and/or criminal exploitation. Outcomes are measured using a bespoke Outcome Star developed by the Exodus programme. These outcomes focus around changes in attitude on a range of areas such as victim awareness, personal safety, health and wellbeing, positive choices around life and future among others.
- b) Participants in the current round of NLPC leadership training – the survey combines the following standardised outcomes measures: Civic Attitudes Scale (measures civic attitudes related to participation in community service i.e. the extent to which youth are willing to assume responsibility to help others solve societal problems). Social self-efficacy scale (measures the ability to relate to and communicate effectively with others) and the Rosenberg Self-esteem scale.
- c) YP attending the weekly group run by HarPA using the Child and Youth Resilience Measure (CYRM) developed by the Resilience Research Centre to measure the impact of participation on the group on young people's resilience.

#### Current progress:

Data has been collected by the Exodus programme and the baseline surveys have been completed for the NLPC leadership programme. It has not been possible for HarPA to implement the CYRM because of the changes to their delivery forced by the pandemic. However, we hope to collect data from young people returning to the programme post lockdown, which also represents a clear time point to collect a baseline measure.

### 2) Data tracking

To complement the data collected by the Exodus on the impact of their programme on young people's awareness and attitudes we will also be looking at council held data on educational

attainment and youth justice outcomes for those young people completing the programme. As mentioned previously this cohort represents the YP identified by the youth outreach team as at highest risk of involvement in youth violence and/or criminal exploitation.

### 3) Wider programme measures

The above measures cover a small cohort of those participating in the programme as a whole. The decision to focus on these cohorts was taken based on a) feasibility of collecting data and b) the available evaluation resource. To improve our understanding of the impact of HCG on a broader range of young people the evaluation will also look at:

- Basic outcome measures, such as the number of YP gaining employment captured through the ongoing routing project monitoring.
- Analysis of case studies with follow up telephone surveys for a random sample of up to 50 young people supported by the outreach team, designed by the Bridge and conducted by the Youth Outreach apprentice team (currently in progress).
- Select case studies provided by partners on an ongoing basis (note that as case studies are selected by the partners, introducing sampling bias, data will be illustrative only)

### 4) Process study

This part of the evaluation aims to explore learning around the practical implementation and delivery of the programme, based on:

- a) interviews with partners at the end of each delivery year
- b) documentation review
- c) attendance at key meetings

Data collection is ongoing, with annual interim reports produced (March) and a final evaluation report anticipated within 3 months of the programme ending (March 2022).