



Department
of Health &
Social Care

*From the Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care*

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Peter Bone MP
Michael Ellis MP
Chris Heaton-Harris MP
Philip Hollobone MP
Andrea Leadsom MP
Andrew Lewer MP
Tom Pursglove MP

22 August 2019

Dear Peter, Michael, Chris, Philip, Andrea, Andrew and Tom.

Re: Children and Young People's Mental Health

This week we announced £3.3 million in funding would be provided to support projects across England to improve the mental health of children and young people. I am delighted to inform you that Youth Works Northamptonshire, based in your area, will receive a sum of £112,000 for the first year of a three-year award, for a project which is being delivered through the Department's Health and Wellbeing Fund.

Youth Works Northamptonshire are acting as Lead Provider on behalf of REACH – a collaboration of 5 long standing youth counselling providers across Northamptonshire which provide numerous services including but not limited to; youth counselling and emotional wellbeing support to young people aged 11 – 19 years and anxiety management groupwork.

Youth Works plan to expand their project by providing specific interventions for families and younger children and drop-in support for parents of this age group. They aim to identify and build on existing assets within the family; to improve longer term health and wellbeing outcomes and reduce the impact of Adverse Childhood Events (ACEs).

The Health and Wellbeing Fund is a component of the wider Health and Wellbeing Programme, a mechanism of government investment in the voluntary and community sector managed by the Department, NHS England & Improvement and Public Health England. The first Fund focused on social prescribing. For the second year, we are funding 23 projects that designed make a real difference to children and you people's mental health. The projects were selected through a competitive grants process and

each receive a share of £3.3 million. The funding will help expand and evaluate already successful, innovative projects that adopt community and person-centred approaches to improve the mental health of children and young people aged 0-25 years. The schemes included focus on:

- access to support through a range of interventions in non-clinical, school & community settings.
- providing support for those impacted by health inequalities, such as transgender people or people from black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds.
- early intervention, to provide firm foundations to improve children's life chances and reduce the likelihood of needing statutory services or of developing an enduring mental illness as they grow older.

I trust you will welcome this investment. The Government very much recognises and values the contribution of the voluntary sector in working locally to support local communities, and nationally in partnership with Government and our health system partners. We look forward to working with Youth Works, over the coming year.

Yours ever,



MATT HANCOCK