

Year in Civic Leadership

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CONNECTING CHANGE-MAKERS

Business in the Community – West Midlands Leadership Board

<https://www.bitc.org.uk/>

[Business in the Community](#) (BITC) is the largest and longest established business-led membership organisation dedicated to responsible business. We were founded by HRH The Prince of Wales 40 years ago. We work with [our members](#) to continually improve their responsible business practice, leveraging their collective impact for the benefit of communities.

We would welcome a student placement to work with our [West Midlands Leadership Board](#), a group of 30 amazing business leaders from diverse West Midlands businesses who are working together to drive positive change on climate action, diversity and inclusion, and skills/social mobility across the region through advocacy and practical collaborative projects.

Make an Impact CIC (Birmingham)

<https://makeanimpactcic.co.uk/>

Make an Impact CIC's vision is to create a world where all businesses are social enterprises that make a positive impact on people and the planet.

We believed that by 2020, unless all businesses are social enterprises, they would struggle and face closure. This has started to happen since the Covid-19 pandemic, as purpose, people and the planet are seen as increasingly important by consumers, rather than a sole focus on profits. Over the next few years this change will happen more rapidly as businesses that just prioritise profits and ignore social impact cease to exist.

BE FESTIVAL (Birmingham)

<https://befestival.org/>

BE FESTIVAL turns the notion of conventional theatre upside down. It crosses borders, creative disciplines and blurs the boundary between audience and artist.

BE FESTIVAL (shortened from Birmingham European Festival) takes place annually around July (at the Birmingham REP). Each year a daring and innovative programme of boundary pushing theatre, dance, comedy, circus, music, visual and performing arts takes place turning theatre's rarely seen backstages into a den of creativity, discovery and exchange where diverse cultures are celebrated.

The BE ethos is firmly grounded in a sense of community and democracy. The youth performance programme, BE NEXT engages and empowers young Birmingham based artists performing a new piece of work on the last night of each festival.

COMMUNITY GIVING: CHARITIES & NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

Coach Bright – Making Social Mobility a Reality (West Midlands)

<https://www.coachbright.org/>

We are an award-winning national social mobility charity supporting the next generation to become independent and resilient so they can lead the lives they want.

Working across schools, universities and organisations, we're giving pupils, university students and young professionals the tools and behaviours to succeed.

Across Primary and Secondary schools, we run subject specific coaching, tutoring and leadership programmes for pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds. We have proven impact in raising grades, confidence and independence for those who need it most.

Disability Resource Centre (DRC, West Midlands)

<https://www.disability.co.uk/>

The Disability Resource Centre (DRC) is a charity run by disabled people, for disabled people.

Working across the West Midlands and South Staffordshire, we offer a variety of services to help improve the lives of disabled people; including those with physical disability, learning disability, sensory impairment, long-term health conditions and mental ill-health.

Since our inception in 1992, we have empowered over 80,000 disabled people, their carers and families.

Entraide – Mutual Aid (Solihull)

<http://entraideuk.org.uk/>

Supporting Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Other Vulnerable Migrants in Solihull

Entraide is an established charity based in the North of Solihull. Our aims are to support asylum seekers, refugees and other vulnerable migrants living in Solihull and the surrounding area in order to facilitate their integration into society.

We are currently the only organisation in Solihull providing support to over 450 asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants from 30 nationalities.

Grapes Hill Community Garden (Norwich)

<http://grapeshillcommunitygarden.org/pages/>

Grapes Hill Community Garden is run by Grapes Hill Community Garden Group (GHCGG). We are a Registered Charity (No. 1156616). The group was set up in summer 2008 to

convert a run-down disused area near Norwich city centre into a community garden. Our site, a 50 metre by 12 metre former play area, was covered in tarmac.

The garden contains a large number of edible plants, including fruit trees and bushes, herbs and plants with edible flowers. We have a small apple orchard, fan-trained cherries, a fig, a plum, an apricot, raspberries and blackberries. More unusual fruit includes quince and medlar trees, honeyberries, Japanese wineberries and alpine strawberries. In February 2013 we added four plum trees as a 'Golding Place Mini-orchard' just outside the garden.

The garden opened to the public for the first time on Saturday 2nd July 2011 and we celebrated with a Grand Opening Day on Sunday 7th August 2011.

Peacemakers – educates for peace (West Midlands)

<https://peacemakers.org.uk/>

We work with people in different types of communities to create peace through exploring, learning about and practising peace. We have a particular emphasis on working with schools.

We want to equip people in all walks of life to deal peacefully and creatively with the inevitable conflicts that arise for all of us.

We need individuals with the skills of peace to combat the prevalence of aggression and violence and polarisation in our society: e.g. Knife Crime against young victims across England and Wales has surged by 69% in the four years from 2014-2018

Social Ark (London)

<https://www.socialark.co.uk/>

Social Ark was set up in 2015 with the aim of enabling resilient 16–30-year-olds from under-resourced East London communities to develop social businesses – drawing on their own lived experiences.

We provide a standout programme of workshops, mentoring and personalised support that enables the young people we work with to focus on their assets and talents. In this way, they build on their goals, creating a springboard of positive action that results in sustainable change.

St. George's Hub – Giving Marginalised Men Hope (Wolverhampton)

<http://www.st-georges-house.org.uk/>

St. George's HUB is the operating name of St. George's House Charity.

Uniquely at St. George's HUB we work with the region's most vulnerable and marginalised men; targeting the issues where clients have disproportionately worse outcomes and life

chances, such as rough sleeping, health, substance misuse, offending behaviour, suicide and self harm. We will support men in need when they need help the most.

St. George's HUB is a safe space for men to address their problems and to improve their self esteem and confidence; we focus on you as a person. We also seek to change the perceptions society has of marginalised men and the perceptions these men have of society.

WAITS – Women Acting In Today's Society (Birmingham)

<https://waitsaction.org/>

We could support a student on placement to develop our influencing work.

We are a domestic abuse charity and we are supporting survivors to be active citizens, participate in forums with a view of influencing services and policies around Domestic abuse, Health and the Communities they live in.

Domestic abuse isn't just being punched or kicked by a partner, there are a range of things that people can do to abuse others, which have little or nothing to do with physical violence against you.

Women's Inclusive Team (London)

<https://wit.org.uk/>

Supporting Black and ethnic minority women in reaching their full potential.

Developing Potential is an integrated partnership project offering a combination of personal as well as professional development and upskilling. It is designed to guide women in a way that will enable them to make informed choices for their futures, by facilitating a platform for further education, training and/or work experience.

Developing potential is suitable for women, predominantly from Black or ethnic minority backgrounds, living in Tower Hamlets or the neighbouring boroughs (Newham, Hackney) who are over the age of 18, working part-time or unemployed and are wishing to gain confidence, learn career building skills and are interested in training, mentoring and employment opportunities.

WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY: RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS & SMALL ENTERPRISES

Art at the Heart CIC (Birmingham)

<https://www.artattheheartcic.org/>

A social enterprise that supports wellbeing and promotes equality through creative and cultural education.

We develop young people as caring critical thinkers who are motivated to act to improve lives, not just for themselves, but for others too.

AATH's creative and cultural education programmes deliver a subtle and complex mixture of benefits that improve wellbeing, empathy for others and capacity to act for change. Taken together, these create a rocket-fuelled force for good.

Initial areas of focus for LANS YiCL Placement(s)

- Festival of Light (Diwali) – reimagining the festival in context of modern Britain, social moral issues, identity, potential for education, science of colour
 - Hue Leadership Programme for Young People – Development/delivery of a programme to reflect our vision and mission
 - Type 2 Diabetes prevention project – using the arts to tackle societal challenges.
- Development of a series of educational projects targeting families to seek to address lifestyle choices (levels of activity/eating habits) through enjoyable engaging activities cultural activities

The B37 Project (Birmingham)

<https://www.neighbourly.com/project/5c6ad627c7ac891d90f1ecb2>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Community-Organization/B37-Project-1570412743010340/>

The B37 Project is a social enterprise programme – around sustainability, growing own food and potential co-operative; a community owned and managed group which delivers and supports local projects in the arts, food and the environment. We don't employ anyone and keep our overheads to the absolute minimum so we can invest as much as we can into projects and participants.

Last year we started The Green Estate, which challenges our local community to become the “greenest estate in the UK”. Our mission is to plant 10,000 bulbs and 1,000 trees, produce 100 public art works and 10 enhanced green spaces, and establish 1 community owned food business, by supporting local projects in the arts, food and the environment.

B37 Project - The social enterprise programme – around sustainability, growing own food and potential co-operative. “This potential placement is interesting though as we are looking

at other areas which could really benefit from this in a “process rather than product” approach.

Evolve: Social Impact – enabling all children to achieve their full potential (West Midlands)

<https://www.evovesi.com/>

Evolve is a social enterprise that is pioneering ways of improving life outcomes for our next generation. As policy makers start to understand the direct relationship between health and educational success, headteachers are demanding grassroots solutions that drive achievement whilst addressing the challenges that children face whilst growing up in the digital age.

This is a movement that’s bigger than just education or public health: it’s about changing the way we support children by bringing together key stakeholders including parents, schools, local authorities, community groups and policy makers.

Since 2003, Evolve has been at the forefront of this growing movement. Through our team of qualified Health Mentors and our range of innovative programmes, we help children to succeed and achieve their potential by improving their physical, emotional & cognitive health and wellbeing.

Evolve Education (Birmingham)

<https://www.evolveeducation.co.uk/>

A sister organization of Evolve – Evolve Education focus more on mentoring programmes for students across the Birmingham communities.

Evolve Education provides innovative, evidence-based training that positively impacts health, wellbeing and productivity. Our socially driven philosophy is that all students will learn better if their health and wellbeing is supported. This holistic approach is evident in the way that we approach teaching, learning and human performance. Innovation is a constant inspiration in our work. We adopt a pragmatic stance when translating theory into practice, whilst delivering dynamic training of the highest quality.

Miss Macaroon – Baking a Brighter Future

<https://missmacaroon.co.uk/>

Miss Macaroon is a social enterprise that sells handmade French macarons, with 100% of profits being reinvested into an employability training programme they run for long-term unemployed and vulnerable young people – The programme is named 'Macarons That Make a Difference' (Macsmad).

The great thing about our delicious, premium hand-made gluten-free French macaroons isn't just that they taste amazing. It's that they're made to make a difference. Every penny we make in profit is invested in helping young people who need a helping hand, gain skills that will change their lives.

Nurture Community CIC (West Midlands, Lichfield)

<https://nurturecommunitycic.org/>

Nurture Community CIC is a Lichfield based community interest company connecting people through a range of accessible activities and events such as creative art sessions, family friendly business networking, focus groups and workshops.

Our Network is made up of family members & community partners that share our same values. We believe in providing community spirit that inspires our network to engage in family friendly accessible events that are mutually beneficial and provide a positive impact in the community.

Twipes – eco-friendly wipes

<https://www.twipes.eu/>

Twipes is a company who provide an alternative eco-friendly product to the traditional “flushable” branded wipes that can take 4-12 months to break down in water, causing fatbergs in sewers and washing up on beaches.

TRULY FLUSHABLE – The key feature of Twipes is that they are truly flushable and biodegradable. Fully dispersed in water in just 3 hours.

ON CAMPUS

University Sustainability Team (UoB)

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2021/02/global-un-agreement.aspx#:~:text=The%20University%20of%20Birmingham%20has,the%20impact%20of%20its%20research.>

<https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/participants/141529-The-University-of-Birmingham>

The University of Birmingham has signed up to the United Nations Global Compact – the world's largest corporate responsibility initiative – as part of its commitment to reducing its environmental footprint and maximising the impact of its research. The agreement also sees Birmingham pledging to support the Compact and the case for responsible organisational practices by reaching out to peers, students and alumni, corporate and community partners, and the public at large. The student's role would be to support these activities.

Birmingham Plastics Network (UoB)

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/spotlights/plastics-network.aspx>

The University of Birmingham has established a Birmingham Plastics Network, an interdisciplinary team of more than 40 academics working together to shape the fate and sustainable future of plastics.

This unique team brings together chemists, environmental scientists, philosophers, linguists, economists, artists, writers, lawyers, and experts in many other fields, to holistically address the global plastics problem. While over the last 50 years plastic's high performance, low cost, lightweight nature and durability has solved many problems, in doing so it has contributed to many serious environmental crises.

Lloyd's Centre for Responsible Business (Birmingham Business School)

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/responsible-business/index.aspx>

How can business contribute to achieving a better and more equitable future world, creating prosperity, resilient communities and a flourishing natural environment?

Through research, education and partnerships we are answering the following questions: What does it mean to be a responsible business? What do responsible businesses do differently? How to measure and value responsibly? Who benefits from responsible business? How can businesses become more responsible?

To answer these questions we are engaging with business leaders, academics, regulators and agenda setters.