

Practical Ways of Engaging Young Men

Market Place Theatre
Armagh
14th June 2019
#MensHealthWeek



















"I feel that I have learned to communicate with my peers and got to know people in other organisations. In violent situations, I would think about them more now than I would have before". (Young Man aged 17)











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Welcome & Introductions

Activity

Our Approach

Activity

Our Approach

Activity

Work in Practice

Activity

Call to action

Lunch [©]









Introductions and Warm Up!!













YouthAction NI is a membership based charity, with a 75 year history of working with young people to tackle inequalities in their lives; improve their life chances; inspire them as activists & contribute to flourishing communities in a peaceful society. We have regional offices in Armagh; Belfast; Enniskillen; Kilkeel; Newry & the North West.

Our vision is that young people are happy, healthy & hopeful.









"I had never done Pilates before so this was a first for me. I would never have seen myself doing this, it was very relaxing". (Young Man, aged 17)











We deliver our youth work programmes through our Youth Work priorities:

- Work with Young Men
- Equality & diversity work with young women
- Youth Arts
- Training
- Peace-building & citizenship
- Rural development

#MensHealthWeek











We work strategically with young men and other organisations to:

Develop, implement and support strategies to work with young men, in which young men can learn and develop alternatives to outdated and restrictive masculinities.











Recommendation 4:

Boys should explore, reflect and develop a critical understanding of masculinity (masculinities) and within this should be encouraged to challenge dominant and stereotypical notions of masculinity that can impact negatively upon themselves and others.

Taking Boys Seriously (2012). Centre for Young Men's Studies (UU & YANI)











Personal Reflection













Why work with Young Men?

- Of the 61 people killed on Northern Ireland's roads in 2018/19, 45 were male and 16 were female,
- Approximately two thirds of those seriously injured during 2018/19 were male. The age band with the largest proportion of those seriously injured were aged 16-24 (21.0%),
- There were more males slightly injured in 2018/19 than females (51.7% and 48.3% respectively),
- ABC Council area had the most deaths on the roads; second most accidents & largest increase in serious injuries.

(PSNI - Police Recorded Injury Road Traffic Collusions and Causalities Northern Ireland Annual Report covering the period $1^{\rm st}$ April $2018-31^{\rm st}$ March 2019; Published $24^{\rm th}$ May 2019









Our approach is....

- Knowledge of masculinity & masculinities
- Knowledge of issues affecting young men
- Making yourself vulnerable
- Creating safe environments











"I think the project was for us because we are developing as men. It was to show us that no matter what size, build or sexuality you are, that you are still a man and that you don't have to be the stereotypical male. It made us more aware of our actions, like one punch can kill and there are other ways of sorting it (violence) out". (Young man aged 17)











Activity ©







We support people and communities to thrive.

The National Lottery Community Fund





Our approach is....

- Meeting young men where they are
- Programmes relevant to their lives
- Offering skills development and leadership opportunities
- Bring the local community on the journey











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APPENDIX 1 Young Men's Baseline

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INSTRUCTION:

In each box below, circle the number that corresponds to your opinion on each of the statement (0 = Low; 10 = High)

This will help with reviewing where you see yourself on the topics are at the

beginning of the project SECTION A - Masculinity

I have an understanding of what it is to

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I am a strong person because I'm a man

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I have good relationships with other men and they help me deal with issues in my life

 $0\ 1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5\ 6\ 7\ 8\ 9\ 10$

SECTION C- Life Skills

I can deal with real life issues

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I want to learn more about real life situations and develop skills to help me in life

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I have skills in dealing with relationships with others (family, friends, partners)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

SECTION B - Health

I have a good knowledge of health issues such as mental/emotional & physical

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I can talk to and share problems with other young men

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I believe I have the skills to keep me healthy in mind and body

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

SECTION D - Conflict, violence and

I have been involved in situations that can be deemed as violent

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I have the skills to control my behaviours

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I can deal with conflict and violence in everyday situations

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

APPENDIX 3 - Young Men's Evaluation

NAME:

INSTRUCTION:

In each box below, circle the number that corresponds to your opinion on each of the statement (0 = Low; 10 = High)

This will help with reviewing where you see yourself on the topics are now at the **END** of the project

SECTION A - Masculinity

I have an understanding of what it is to be

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I am a strong person because I'm a man

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I have good relationships with other men and they help me deal with issues in my

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

SECTION B - Health

I have a good knowledge of health issues such as mental/emotional & physical

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I can talk to and share problems with other young men

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I believe I have the skills to keep me healthy in mind and body

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SECTION C- Life Skills

I can deal with real life issues

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I want to learn more about real life situations and develop skills to help me in life

 $0\ 1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5\ 6\ 7\ 8\ 9\ 10$

I have skills in dealing with relationships with others (family, friends, partners)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

SECTION D - Conflict, violence and safety

I have been involved in situations that can be deemed as violent

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I have the skills to control my behaviours

 $0\ 1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5\ 6\ 7\ 8\ 9\ 10$

I can deal with conflict and violence in everyday situations

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



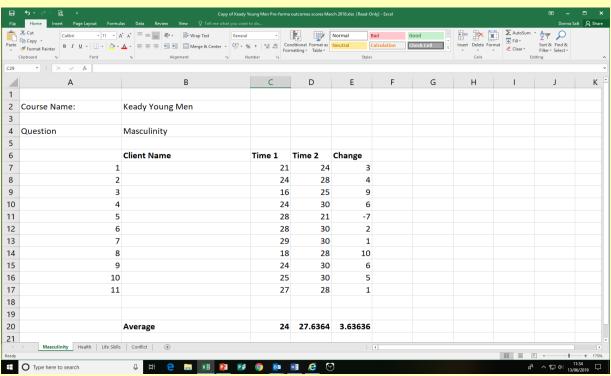


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"I think the baselines were good because things change from the start to the end. Through the sessions we have changed our opinions and we are more aware of the issues that we face. We were putting the highest on some questions at the start but because we are now more aware at the end, we could put ourselves down properly. I think that I have learned so much about me as a person and I have more knowledge around the issues I face as a young man". (Young man aged 16)









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CALL TO ACTION

WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW?











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