

#### Safety First Community Training Centre Newsletter.

#### 'Working for You'

Safety First Community Training Centre, reg charity no. 1128555, believes that it is important to work with disadvantaged adults to increase their opportunities and benefit themselves and their families – we do this within our charitable objectives of;

- 1. Providing a focal point in the community where People can become involved in a range of activities including Education, Training, Recreation and Health projects.
- 2. To provide a response to particular problems identified by the Community and residents.



During the covid pandemic we've been delivering hot food and shopping for families and people in Bradford who have been isolating. During the school Easter holidays we were able to deliver over 1,100 children's free school meals throughout Bradford 5.

With help from The National Lottery [TNL Covid Fund] and the Government we were able support families during a year of isolation and fear.

We were able to continue to teach English, Maths and ESOL remotely in addition supporting unemployed adults look for jobs, update their C.Vs and look at Volunteering opportunities.



## 'You spoke, we listened'

#### New weekly programme

Following a busy couple of years talking to many centre users and potential centre users about what they need, we are pleased to announce a new programme of activities at the Safety First Community Training Centre. This will include our popular ESOL classes, Employment support, Community 'Drop ins', a new Welfare Advice and Signposting service, Free Fruit and Veg., Bradford Youth Volunteer Group, Remote classes, Asylum Seeker Group and Community Shop

# Safety F1rst Community Training Centre 'The Peoples Charity'



#### A word from the Chair

I was pleased to become Safety Firsts Chair of Trustees in January this year.

I work in Parental / Community Support in an Inner City school in Bradford and have worked with the charity for many years. I have seen many of the Parents that I work with benefit from courses and support that Safety First Community Training Centre offer.

This coming year we will be increasing our support capability, particularly to adults who have been badly affected by the pandemic. In addition to Food support with Fareshare and Employment support, we will also have a welfare support provision.

We are really grateful for all of the volunteers who support us, without them we would be unable to deliver as much as we do.

I would also like to thank the staff, and other Trustees who are helping our charity to make such a difference to the lives of people in Bradford.

Mrs Zulekha Pandor
Chair of Trustees

#### Great Partnerships

In addition to our work with the three local Colleges; Bradford, Shipley and Craven, we also work with Abigail Housing to support Asylum Seekers and the Anah Project, Palm Cove Society and Hope Housing working with victims of modern slavery or domestic abuse. In addition we have donated surplus food to other Bradford charities.

Our landlords, Yorkshire Building Society have worked with us to ensure that we could continue to work with people in need by leasing our Charity an extra floor of the building, doubling our community space so we could deliver our services with more social distancing. This will

#### Successes @ Safety First

We have had our most successful year since we became registered as a charity 13 years ago. We are proud to be working with the Good Things Foundation, Bradford Council and Colleges delivering much needed ICT, language and employment support to those who are furthest from the labour market.

We would like to say thank you to all of our supporters, you help us to make a big difference to so many people.



The Reception area of our new 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Community Support provision



#### Volunteering



"My name is Ru, I'm 23 and I'm a volunteer here at Safety First.

I first heard about the charity through my housemates who were attending ESOL classes. I had come in to use the computers while libraries were closed due to COVID, when Don — one of the staff at Safety First, encouraged me to use my English-speaking skills as a volunteer ESOL tutor.

Since then, I've been observing and assisting in other ESOL lessons, and completed the Shipley College training course all in preparation to start teaching too.

I've only taught three lessons by myself at Safety First so far, but this whole experience has been so valuable to me and will have a lasting positive impact on my confidence. The staff here have been so friendly and supportive throughout this journey, and I don't think I'd get this experience anywhere else"

# Safety First Helped me to get a job

"I had not worked since having my children and thought I would find it difficult to find a job as I had no knowledge of computers. I attended the Safety First ICT Functional Skills course, learned computer basics and updated my C.V. The staff helped me to apply for a job and after a short interview skills workshop I got a full time job as an Admin support worker. Thank you Safety First "

Aneela, April 2021

# Safety F1rst Community Training Centre

'The Peoples Charity'



Ritu, our Fareshare Chef – started as a volunteer with us, now employed as our Fareshare Chef supporting families in food poverty, asylum seekers, refugees and the unemployed. She is currently updating our Community Shop.

#### User Group committee at Safety First









7arka

Sabir

Nellie

Manmoha

Our user group committee meets quarterly and helps to inform what we do at the Charity to ensure that we have the right support for everyone







Shamsa

Rebecca

Munim

### "You're very Welcome"

The Destitution Project at Abigail Housing works with Asylum Seekers who are in the process of re engaging with the Asylum system. We are able to help them by hosting the project twice a week and are able to offer them fresh fruit and vegetables, clothes and toiletries.

"Staff at Safety First have made us feel very welcome and support what we do, their sensitive attitude makes a big difference" Amanda, Project Manager, Abigail Housing

# Thank you

#### During the 2020/2021 year we also received funding from:

- The National Lottery Covid Support Fund
- Bradford Council who agreed to extend their Community Buildings Fund
- Good Things Foundation Future Digital Inclusion now completed
- European Social Fund to deliver Employment related supp
- Yorkshire Building Society laptops
- Citizens Advice Bureau Big Energy Saving Network

Without this support we would be unable to help as many people as we do.

We have had support from the National Lottery via the Community Fund and the Covid 19 Support Fund sponsored by the Government.

We have worked with many of our service users and Partners to decide on the best way forward both during the pandemic and into the future.

Chris Graham – Trustee , May 2021