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action receives huge grant from Big Lottery Fund

asphaleia action are thrilled to announce we have been awarded a Reaching Communities grant from the Big Lottery fund to the value of £242,023.

The Better Life project will provide tailored support for 270 young people aged 11 to 19 years old with acute behavioral issues, learning difficulties or disabilities in Worthing, West Sussex and Uxbridge, West London, for the next three years.

“According to the Department of Health, there are 55,000 – 75,000 children with a moderate or severe learning difficulty or disability (LDD) in England,” says David Cottrell, CEO. “This money will provide 270 young people across Worthing and Uxbridge with tailored support over the next three years, leading to better life outcomes and improved health and wellbeing.

“We are very excited about starting as this project also gives us a brand new opportunity to work with the parents and carers of these young people and offer them peer support groups with other parents – something we have never done before. We cannot wait to start creating a sense of community within our own project.”

The project will offer a range of activities aimed at engaging young people in learning, resulting in improved health and emotional wellbeing. The project will also seek to improve social inclusion leading to stronger communities where young people facing behavioral challenges feel empowered and equipped with the right skills to face their difficulties and seek better opportunities in life.

We are currently in the process of recruiting two specialist project workers who will work in schools to address young people’s disruptive behaviour. They will hold therapeutic 1:1 sessions which will tackle their feelings of failure, lack of confidence and frustration caused as a result of not understanding their behaviour.



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"I have had initial conversations with Uxbridge High School, Hillingdon Social Services and local nurses working with young people with LDD," explains Jurgita, charity manager.

"They all acknowledge that there is a massive gap in this type of provision because young people with moderate learning difficulties such as withdrawal, isolation, anger problems and anxiety generally do not receive the appropriate support because they do not always qualify for help. They are absolutely ecstatic to hear that this project is on its way," she concludes.

The Big Lottery Fund distributes half of the National Lottery good cause funding across the UK. The Fund aims to enable others to make real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need.

For further information on this new project please contact Jurgita on 01895 272478 or jurgitasereikaite@asphaleia.co.uk.



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