

## **AGM Afternoon Interactive Session**

### **Charitable Focus**

#### **Group 1**

- The intro session was warmly received and showed the range of work already being done by YHA
- Challenging lives definition could include young people on probation/leaving criminal justice system
- Cost of transport to hostels and whilst travelling in area (to activities) can be a barrier for young people/youth projects
- Partners should bring expertise and resources – to create a virtuous circle

#### **Group 2**

- The range of the charitable focus is wide across mental and physical health and life skills, so splitting the issues might be needed
- Hostels could perhaps focus on meeting certain specific needs, e.g. sensory impairment, rather than spreading ourselves too thinly
- There is a huge range of professional skills that might be needed to support some challenges, are our staff able to cope/trained to deal with it all? What should we focus on?
- Different age ranges also need different programmes and kinds of support
- What are the impacts we are expecting to have and how does this influence programmes?
- We should partner with the most appropriate professional bodies/specialists and make sure we have the best fit, so that we support each other's work/brand and not clash
- Young people have a need for social interaction but undeveloped life skills, older people often have lots of life skills and crave social interaction (loneliness), could they be brought together? Intergenerational working and exchange

#### **Group 3**

- Also talked about intergenerational working
- Could we mix advantaged young people with those with challenging lives more?

*[Summer camps used to do this when open to F&I]*

- Are we wanting to do more OR do we just need to articulate/communicate much better what we already do?
- Five Ways to Wellbeing may be a useful framework to adopt

*[Impact team are using this on one of the case studies this summer to test it out]*

- GP surgeries can prescribe outdoor exercise and we could be more involved but do people have the means/knowledge to mobilise this advice?

*[TCV have a Big lottery funded project to extend social prescribing, and our Volunteering team has approached them to explore whether YHA could host Green Gyms in our grounds, these are gardening for mental health projects]*

- Now the age of compulsory education has increased to 18, young people are increasingly looking for work experience, could we market our volunteering more as work experience?

*[Volunteering & L&D teams launching traineeship and work experience programme right now!]*

- Work with the key influencers if possible e.g. Heads Together, Young Minds ([Alex Staniforth link](#))

#### **Group 4**

- Perhaps YHA should have a youth parliament so it could ask young people what they need directly?
- Programmes could include cookery, photography, drama, film, sculpture, construction challenges in the outdoors
- YHA could partner with activity and attraction providers to build new packages