

FUTURE|hope Autumn Update 2020

empowering young people to have hope for their future

We are excited to share our latest update with you - we have been busy! We have also taken to the big screen, making a short video to share with the local churches in Hertford and Ware; you can find it on our website. We are very grateful to Hertford Youth Club (who own the building where we are based) in their work to make it 'Covid Secure' which enabled us to be carry on with our core services from the office. We have continued to follow the guidance and advice from the National Youth Agency. We hope you enjoy reading this and check out our social media pages for little snippets of news.

MENTORING

Since September we have been back face-to-face. We have completed mentoring with 6 young people, meet 9

young people weekly and also have 5 in the referral stage. We see young people for all sorts of reasons but some are definitely linked to the difficulties of adjusting to being back at school after such a long break. We continue to receive referrals from schools, parents who have been on our courses or heard about us from other channels and young people who self refer.

'Thank you so much for everything you have done. It has made a huge difference to their confidence and wellbeing'
Parent of a young person

We have just completed 2 more Zoom 'Time Out For Parents, The Teenage Years' courses, one morning and one evening, with 10 parents signed up and an upgraded setup to make a more professional presentation! We shared laughs, concerns and mutual support and the evening group is planning to keep connected and meet in person

PARENTS

"parenting is the most difficult thing I've ever done but problems shared are definitely problems halved"
PARENT

when that becomes possible, which is great. They have been spreading the word amongst their friends. One parent told us that, following an idea given in a session to try in the week, her son said it was good to spend time together "because it means I can connect with my Mum!" How awesome! Connecting families is something we are passionate about at FUTUREhope. We now have 9 parents signed up for a 4 week 'Handling Anger In The Family' course starting on 18th November and have a waiting list for January.

BUS+APPEAL

As lockdown was announced we were unsure what this would mean for our detached work but having explored the guidance, we are happy to

say that we are still out there, walking around chatting to young people in Hertford and Ware. Since September we have been out 23 times, after school and Friday nights, and have had over 200 meaningful conversations with young people. We are very grateful to everyone who has contributed to our appeal for a new vehicle. The van we are planning for will be much more versatile than the current bus and will help develop our 'after schools work' in particular. Additionally, we can do Friday nights in different ways. We also plan to apply for grants to help with raising the funds we will need to buy, set up and run the vehicle. If you would like to donate to this, then all the information is on our website.

We continue to be very thankful to God for our amazing team of volunteers, without whom so much of the work of FUTUREhope could not happen.

VOLUNTEERS

We are really grateful for the faithful years of service from Graham Archer, who has decided that now is the right time to retire. We asked him to share some memories. Thank you Graham!



'I have found my letter from 7/02/08 confirming my appointment as a Bus Volunteer. Since then I have had many hours serving Our Lord on the happy and secure place for teenagers on Friday nights. I have long-since lost count of the eponymous "hot chocolate with cream and marshmallows" that I enjoyed dispensing. Memories include icicles hanging from the skylights of the double-decker bus and lots of lovely young people.'