

FUTURE|hope Winter Update 2021

empowering young people to have hope for their future

We are all back in lockdown but FUTUREhope has been incredibly blessed and we have some exiting news to share! We have recently found out that we have been awarded a grant for £10,000 from the Lottery Awards for All fund so we are able to get started on purchasing and converting a new vehicle. We are aiming to have this up and running for when restrictions ease so we can hit the ground running. Meanwhile we are continuing detached work, walking round Hertford and Ware a couple of times a week to chat to young people who are out and about but it has mostly been very quiet.

MENTORING

We are also very grateful for an award of £1,000 from Tesco's Bags of Help fund to go towards new phones and credit for our Mentors, and developing 'COVID friendly' resources. Following National Youth Agency guidelines we are still able to meet young people - either on (often cold wet) walks or by phone if they prefer or if the weather is just too bad. The 14 young people we currently see have been great at adapting. More are currently in referral and we are working on a new partnership with a group of local GP surgeries. We are excited about this opportunity and hope to be able to share more with you next time.

FUTURE|hope
mentoring
free confidential
support for young
people in Hertford
and Ware 

SCHOOLS

Doing our usual schools' sessions has obviously not been possible but just before Christmas we ran a small group pilot course at Simon Balle School, focussing on building resilience. This went really well and from the evaluations we know that 83% of young people suggested that they are now more aware of their feelings, two thirds of young people indicated that they accept themselves more and 100% would encourage their friends to do the course! We have included some of their feedback below. We had more courses planned for January both there and in other schools. However with schools being closed we have put this on hold but will be running them when they re - open.

'Seeing that other people go through similar things'

'... feeling comfortable to share things'

'I'm more confident around people I don't really know'

PARENTS

We started a new Teenage Years Parents' course in January with our largest Zoom group yet! Eleven parents are attending and the first three sessions have been fantastic with some really positive discussions and sharing. We completed a 'Handling Anger in the Family' course before Christmas with 9 parents and all the parents gave very positive feedback. We are planning to continue the courses on Zoom this year and exploring the possibility of running a 'Dads Only' course.

"IT'S SO GOOD TO KNOW THAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE GOING THROUGH THE SAME THINGS AS YOU"

PARENT WHO ATEENDED A COURSE
SIGN UP ONLINE
WWW.FUTURE-HOPE.ORG.UK/PARENTS

We are so thankful to God for all the ways he has blessed FUTUREhope and pray he will continue to enable us to reach young people and their families during this lockdown and as we get back to some sort of normality. If you want to stay up to date with our updates please check out our social media channels! If not, we will be sending another update in Spring!