**Employment and training**

The Black Dog Theatre Creation supports people to become more confident, independent and stronger so that when they feel ready they feel comfortable to take up employment, volunteering or training.

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| Aim(s): | Intended outcomes: | Current activities & achievements: |
| Through performance techniques, we support people in developing soft skills including confidence and independence to move forward towards employment, volunteering or training when they feel ready to do so. | 1. People who are the furthest from the job market gain support, encouragement giving them the opportunity to build their confidence, identity and self-worth and reach their personal potential. In some cases, this includes to work, volunteering or training. 2. People have improved soft skills, are moving towards employment and/or being work ready when they feel happy to do so. 3. People have learnt new skills including performance techniques. | 1. All our participants have reported back saying that they have developed in confidence, self-esteem, become more independent and have a positive outlook on life due to the support which we have given. 2. Many of our participants have taken up volunteering roles within the community including becoming a Community Champion, working for other support organisations e.g. Rethink. 3. Some of our participants have been working with the Science Museum. London on an Access panel on a voluntary basis. 4. All our participants have reported back to us feeling that they are comfortable in sharing their skills with others. 5. All our participants have engaged with and learnt new skills including puppetry, oral storytelling and performance skills. 6. We offer a programme which supports the development of soft core skills and encourages our participants to gain confidence and to reconnect with their community through employment, volunteering and training. 7. We regularly work with local support organisations to offer support and advice to our participants. |

People we work with:

We will work with any individual and we do our best to keep our work free. Below are some examples of the groups of people whom we have supported:

-Sufferers of poor confidence, anxiety, depression and low self-esteem.

-Those diagnosed with specific mental health conditions.

-Family members including siblings and those who care for mental health sufferers.

-Older people

-Victims of abuse

-Those suffering from long-term illnesses

-Lone parents

-Victims of hate crime

-Refugees and asylum seekers

- Those affected by unemployment and homelessness.

-Those with a physical disability.

-Those from ethnic minority groups.

Links with other organisations and individuals:

We are committed to working alongside other local organisations and individuals to support our projects and participants. We have worked with:

-Rethink Mental Health Groups incl. London Sibs

-Mind

-Together organisation

-Open Road

-Colchester Night Shelter

-Fresh Beginnings

-London ELMS

-Local medical practices