



Fab Pad

North Ayrshire Project

Impact Arts

Social Return on Investment Report

Executive Summary

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Executive Summary

This is a Social Return on Investment report on the Fab Pad programme run in North Ayrshire by Impact Arts, in partnership with Cunninghame Housing Association.

Impact Arts is a national community arts organisation. It has pioneered the “Fab Pad” concept, which Impact Arts is now delivering across Scotland. The main aim of Impact Arts is to use the arts as a catalyst for positive lasting change in people’s lives.

The Fab Pad concept was developed to work with vulnerable people at a vital stage in their progression out of a chaotic lifestyle – when they took on a tenancy. Fab Pad offers arts, design and practical skills training to people, to help them turn their house into a home. It then supports them to take up other opportunities in education, training and employment.

The analysis within this report is based upon the Social Return on Investment (SROI) model which attributes values to identifiable impacts, in order to calculate the value returned relative to the cost of service provision.

The period over which Social Return on Investment was measured was April 2006 to March 2007, and the methodology used followed the global framework for SROI as adapted for use in the UK.

Stakeholders

This report presents an analysis of the social added value delivered through the funding investment made in North Ayrshire Fab Pad. It explores how the investment made in the establishment of the programme compares to the social value that has been created and the savings that have been experienced by stakeholders.

The stakeholders of Fab Pad range from internal ones - the participants, the staff and tutors involved in Fab Pad and the staff of Impact Arts – to external funders, landlords such as Cunninghame Housing Association, agencies that refer clients to Fab Pad for support, and to government and wider society.

The North Ayrshire Fab Pad project has been funded by Communities Scotland, North Ayrshire Council and North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership, and has been actively supported by Cunninghame Housing Association.

The impacts of Fab Pad

The impact map constructed for North Ayrshire Fab Pad showed that a range of impacts were being created, which included:

- Reductions in repeat homelessness
- Reduced tenancy support costs
- Improved health and well-being of participants and greater family stability
- Reduced agency support
- Increased training and employment opportunities
- Movement into the local labour market.

16 financial indicators were used in the study to measure these impacts:

| | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Homelessness avoided |
| 2 | Social inclusions gains by participants |
| 3 | Value of volunteering to society |
| 4 | Health improvement of participants |
| 5 | Reduced dependence on drugs agencies |
| 6 | Welfare benefits savings to state |
| 7 | New tax income to the state |
| 8 | Increased income of employees |
| 9 | Increased employability |
| 10 | Value of taster session |
| 11 | Reduced support input from other agencies |
| 12 | Increased personal income and reduced risk from debt management |
| 13 | Reduced support needs of children |
| 14 | Future earned income from qualifications |
| 15 | Avoided criminal justice costs |
| 16 | Building entrepreneurial capacity |

The study was unable to explore some aspects of value creation, such as the impact on Fab Pad participants' families, referral agents and those who attended sporadically, and did not include the impact on tutors. Thus, although the SROI analysis presented below has explored many impacts in detail, and has been able to derive a considerable amount of information about the impact on participants, **it is still the case that this study will have under-represented the social value arising from Fab Pad.**

Results

The analysis estimates social added value arising from Fab Pad in 2006/07 was **£711,788**. This is made up as follows:

| Item | Calculated value for 22 people | Calculated value for 37 people |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Homelessness avoided | £104,155 | £175,170 |
| Social inclusions gains by participants | £38,684 | £65,060 |
| Value of volunteering to society | £49,932 | £83,977 |
| Health improvement of participants | £61,145 | £102,835 |
| Reduced dependence on drugs agencies | £2,065 | £3,472 |
| Welfare benefits savings to state | £16,854 | £16,854 |
| New tax income to the state | £16,422 | £16,422 |
| Increased income of employees | £63,443 | £63,443 |
| Increased employability | £13,028 | £21,910 |
| Value of taster session | £4,099 | £6,895 |
| Reduced support input from other agencies | £2,598 | £4,369 |
| Increased personal income and reduced risk from debt management | £5,133 | £8,632 |
| Reduced support needs of children | £4,914 | £8,264 |
| Future earned income from qualifications | £18,167 | £18,167 |
| Avoided criminal justice costs | £33,710 | £56,695 |
| Building entrepreneurial capacity | £59,623 | £59,623 |
| Totals | £493,972 | £711,788 |

Overall, the results suggest that for every £1 that has been invested in the North Ayrshire Fab Pad project, a social return on investment of **£8.38** has been realised.

The added value per participant was **£19,238**.

An analysis was also undertaken of the value created by the total investment in Fab Pad since 2004, and this demonstrates a social return over the three year period of **1: 6.16**.

This is a considerable achievement, given the nature of the client group Fab Pad works with, and the difficult economic and social circumstances of the area in which they live.

The analysis demonstrates notional savings to central government, social landlords, public sector bodies, individuals and wider society.

It proved possible to compare the social returns accrued by the three main investors in the project, which demonstrates individual returns of:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Communities Scotland | 3.78 |
| North Ayrshire Council | 3.20 |
| North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership | 2.58 |



Angela's Story

"I have never been homeless but have a history of moving from tenancy to tenancy. Over a period of 12 years, I had 5 tenancies. This was mainly due to the growth of my family. I have 5 children and began dabbling in drugs 13 years ago. I began taking hard drugs on a daily basis and missed out on my children growing up".

Her growing dependency on amphetamines and heroin meant that the children were in her care most days when she was under the influence and Angela says that at the time she did not realise the danger that her children were in. Angela's mother looked after the children and she says that if it had not been for her mother, the children would have been taken into care.

"Although I was trying to come off drugs just before starting Fab Pad, with their help and support, and also support from Vernon Centre (Addictions Team) I have managed to stop completely. I would probably still be at home taking drugs and maybe my children would be in care now. I would definitely be isolated in the house and the children would be too."

"I have learned

- to be patient, especially with the children
- To work hard and able to get results
- To socialise with people
- DIY skills e.g. measuring, scaling up, wallpapering, tiling, painting. Calculating amount of paint/ paper needed in a room, basic wall preparation, how to use power tools
- Making use of and renovating materials I already have in the house
- Budgeting and learning how to save money myself so that I can spend it on the shopping trips.
- The process of design/planning and organising."

"Through Fab Pad, I am

- Learning to do things for myself
- Gaining Independence
- Socialising
- Getting emotional support
- Getting educational / employment support/advice
- Becoming disciplined"

"I am now planning to go to James Watt College to study for an HNC Exercise, Sport & Fitness. If Fab Pad had not invited JWC into the workshop to speak to us about different courses at the college, I would not have gone and asked about it myself. I have been given a place on the course, filled all my forms in and had a reply that I will get a bursary. My childcare has also been secured."

The 5 main things that I have gained from Fab Pad are:

Social Skills: "I have so many friends now as before I started I didn't have any. We all sit as a group at lunch time and this gives us the chance to have a chat."

Identity: "Before coming to Fab Pad and with the drug use, I didn't really know who I was or where I was going with my life! I have also learned that I have the potential to be creative and imaginative."

Budgeting: "I have learned how to decorate my whole house on a very low budget."

Opportunities: "AnneMarie introduced me to a lady from James Watt College and after having a conversation with her and AnneMarie I completed an application form and I will start college in September."

Emotional Support: "I get support from staff and others at the Fab Pad if I have a problem. No matter what it is, I am not judged. If I am upset AnneMarie will do all she can to help."

Recommendations

Recommendations for further work by Impact Arts would be:

- There is a strong business case for landlords to involve Fab Pad in supporting their tenants at the start of their tenancy, as it can now be demonstrated there would be benefits to landlords arising from reduced tenancy turnover and anti-social behaviour, and an increased ability of tenants to meet rental obligations. Impact Arts could now progress from grant funding for Fab Pad to a contracting / service level agreement with landlords, supported by a strong business case, where they pay for the service on an “invest to save” basis at the beginning in order to achieve the kinds of savings outlined here for Cunninghame Housing Association and other landlords.
- Include a longer-term follow up of participants, to establish the longer-term outcomes of participants, and determine a more accurate figure for the drop off in the value created.
- More mapping of the role other support agencies play in creating participant outcomes.
- Use the experience with this study to include ongoing in-depth interviews with participants and improve the questionnaire used in the light of feedback from this study.

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For further information about the Fab Pad Project and for a copy of the full report, please contact **Susan Aktemel**, Innovation and Development Director at :
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