

CHANGEMAKER NETWORK 24/25



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WELCOME EVERYONE!



When you become a part of our Changemaker Network, you are joining a movement of people and organisations passionate about tackling injustice and facilitating systems change. You are entering a community of youth workers, volunteers, leaders and practitioners through which you will upskill, meet new people, access motivational training and step into career-enriching opportunities.

Oxfordshire Youth's sector support offer exists to ensure that the places and people who power our sector have the resources and support they need to thrive and be sustainable. It has been formed through conversations and consultations with frontline youth workers, leaders, and volunteers of youth services. We are committed to our support being agile in the face of change, whether that's economic, climate, social or the ever moving needs of young people as they meet the challenges of life. From listening to you, we have enhanced our offer to:

1. deepen investment in resources that grow financial resilience
2. direct increased attention and resources to equity, diversity and inclusion in our practices, professional development and organisational structures
3. strengthen our specialised support for place-based offers for young people.

You will see these priorities reflected in this pack, from the brand new equity, diversity and inclusion working group, to funded spaces for under-represented communities on youth worker training courses, specialist fundraising clinics and place-based focus groups to spearhead innovation and unite local offers, skills, and people.

Our sector is professional, progressive and remarkably innovative when addressing the complex needs of young people and communities. Our goal is for our Changemaker Network to learn together, grow together and advocate together, for a future where every child and young person is thriving and we have eradicated inequality of opportunity, for good.

We look forward to welcoming you soon!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Cruchley". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

David Cruchley, Senior Youth Partnerships Manager

WELCOME EVERYONE!

Background

Since 1947, Oxfordshire Youth has championed the young people of Oxfordshire, witnessing many generations steer their lives, and their communities in amazing directions. In all that we do, our work reflects the principles of youth work.

In 2023, Oxfordshire Youth conducted an in-depth review of the sector, engaging in conversations with current members of the Changemaker Network as well as individuals with a keen interest in the support we provide. We have carefully considered the feedback and are confident that the offer outlined in this pack will provide significant benefits to your organisation, employees, young people and local communities. We are thankful for the ongoing support we receive from the National Lottery's Reaching Communities Fund, which recognises the value of infrastructure support and is funding the next three years of support for the children and young people's sector.

About Oxfordshire Youth

VISION

A future in which every young person has the skills, support and connections to thrive.

MISSION

Through the power of youth work we transform young people's lives, unite communities and tackle inequality of opportunity.

VALUES

- 1 We listen and respond to the wisdom of young people
- 2 We commit to anti-oppressive practice
- 3 We champion wellbeing
- 4 We prioritise reflection, learning and growth
- 5 We act with integrity and courage
- 6 We make space for innovation and fun!

To find out more about us, please go to [Oxfordshire Youth's website](#) and read our [Five Year Strategy](#).

YOUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

OVERVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Our Changemaker Network is designed to help sustain, empower, and support the children and young people's sector to continue to deliver high quality youth work and be part of systems change.

Bespoke support

As a member of the network, you will have direct access to Oxfordshire Youth. The Youth Sector Development Coordinator is not only on hand to provide help, as and when you need it, but also to build personal relationships with your group, allowing us to better understand your organisation and therefore provide informed assistance. You will have access to support over the phone, via email, through virtual meetings and in one-to-one conversations.

Infrastructure support

The way an organisation is structured and overseen greatly affects the delivery of its services. Whether you're just starting out, or already have an established group, Oxfordshire Youth is here to assist organisations in evaluating their purpose, desired outcomes, and the necessary resources to achieve their goals.

Training and development

At Oxfordshire Youth, upskilling the workforce has always been our top priority. This commitment remains an important element of our dedication to providing cutting-edge, accessible and cost-effective training and development events all year round.

Partnerships and networking

Looking to expand your professional network and forge valuable partnerships? Look no further! Building connections and fostering collaborations are essential for success. The true power of our sector lies in the dedicated individuals who work with integrity and skill within their communities. Join Oxfordshire Youth and the Changemaker Network to explore a wide range of opportunities.

Safeguarding at the heart of our sector

Oxfordshire Youth's Disclosure and Barring Service provision continues to be a significant aspect of our support package. This will continue to be accessible to members of the Changemaker Network.

Sector Insider

When you join our Changemaker Network, you will be invited to receive our monthly youth sector publication 'Sector Insider' signposting you to the most important updates on local and national policy, safeguarding essentials, sector vacancies and all the latest on our offers.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

First aid training

Trained first aiders are essential for all organisations providing activities for children and young people. Discover the incredible opportunity to receive Level 3 Emergency First Aid Training from Oxfordshire Youth. Join us for regular training sessions throughout the year, where you will gain valuable skills and knowledge. Enrol now for just £60 per person. Exclusive access to dates will be provided to members of the Changemaker Network.

Youth mental health first aid training (M.H.F.A.)

Our exciting collaboration with Oxfordshire Mind enables us to offer Changemakers continued access to youth M.H.F.A. sessions across the year. Members of the Changemaker Network continue to have access to Youth Mental Health First Aid Training at a reduced cost!

Don't miss out on this valuable opportunity to enhance your skills and knowledge.

Issue-based workshops

In addition to the resources and session plans available to Changemakers on the Oxfordshire Youth website, our team can provide bespoke support to youth leaders to help them develop activities, resources and session plans on topics that young people want to explore. In particular we can support youth voice and embedding this culture in your setting. Contact us if you would like support in this area.



Professional development events

Throughout the year, we will be delivering exciting events featuring experienced practitioners who will be sharing their valuable insights on various subjects that are highly relevant to young people.

L2 certificate and L3 diploma in youth work

Oxfordshire Youth is dedicated to providing high quality training for individuals interested in pursuing a career in youth work. Thanks to the generous support of the National Lottery and Prudence Trust, we are delighted to offer a number of fully funded spaces on our courses each year. If you're interested in learning more about this aspect of the offer, reach out to us directly. Please refer to Page 10 for contact information.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Fundraising clinics

At Oxfordshire Youth, our fundraising team is collaborating with leading fundraisers in the sector to design and deliver workshops and webinars designed to boost your fundraising efforts and keep you feeling supported, connected and inspired.

Fundraising feedback

Our fundraising team has extensive experience in crafting funding bids for grants and trusts of all sizes. If you are part of the Changemaker Network and need assistance with an application, we're here to help.



Signposting to funding opportunities

Oxfordshire Youth's fundraising team will take an active role in championing your work where there is a good fit to relevant funders and businesses, ensuring that knowledge and opportunities are shared in the spirit of collaboration.

D.B.S. checks

We are pleased to offer our D.B.S. service at a reduced rate for those within the Changemaker Network as part of our ongoing support to the sector. Each member is provided with eight checks, free from administrative fees.

D.B.S. verification training

The best way to speed up the D.B.S. process is for your organisation to have a named individual as a verifier. Becoming a verifier is a simple process which our D.B.S. Coordinator can talk you through.



Introducing Alice

My name is Alice Warland and I'm excited to be your new D.B.S. Administrator. For the last four years I have been managing supported housing for young people across Oxfordshire and Newbury. Before that I was a probation officer for five years, managing low-to-high risk service users.

My employment history means I really do understand the hard work and pressures experienced by front line staff. I am so passionate about improving the lives of young people and excited to bring my skills and experience to this new role.

PARTNERSHIP POWER



Partnership meetings

Once every three months, members of the Changemaker Network are invited to an online meeting where each organisation is given time to share news of their exciting work, discuss any potential partnerships, and voice the need for any help or support they may require. These events provide professionals with valuable opportunities to network and build connections.

Forging new partnerships

Oxfordshire Youth invests time in getting to know the organisations in its Changemaker Network. In building these relationships, we increase our knowledge of your work and organisational goals. Not only does this enable us to provide the best support for you, but it allows us to recommend other organisations who share similar objectives in order to create valuable connections.

Networking events

At any development or training event we organise, we always prioritise the creation of networking opportunities. The power of the Changemaker Network lies in the dedicated individuals who are making a difference in their communities. Ensuring ample networking opportunities has always been, and will continue to be, a top priority.

Annual Youth Work Conference

This flagship event features workshops led by expert practitioners who generously share their experience and knowledge. Topics covered vary from year to year and have included: fundraising, youth participation, and drug and alcohol use. Networking opportunities, both facilitated and non-facilitated, are an important part of the day. Every organisation within the Changemaker Network is eligible for one complimentary ticket to the conference each year and additional tickets can be purchased at a discounted rate.



Organisational directory

A directory of members was introduced as part of the 22/23 Changemaker Network. It contains information about all the organisations that wanted to be included, along with a brief overview of their work. The directory conveniently provides members with a comprehensive list of contacts, making it easier to connect with other organisations. During registration, you will be offered the option of inclusion in the directory.

Youth workers directory

One need that was identified several times during the audit was that of a list of youth workers to reach out to in times of need. This is a new aspect of the offer and we hope that Changemakers will fully invest in it, not only by searching for short-term help, but also by encouraging their team to join. Details on how this directory will work and how to sign up for it are included in the welcome email following registration to the Changemaker Network.

Specialist support groups

Within the Changemaker Network, we will be running a variety of themed support groups such as:

Geographical These groups will be based on an organisation's location, such as City, Cherwell & West, or South & Vale. Changemakers from these locations will collaborate and share their work perspectives to identify trends and create innovative responses that work for local need.

Thematic These groups will bring together organisations providing similar provisions such as mental health support, open-access services, arts, and sport and fitness programmes. The goal is to share ideas on how to engage young people, involve communities, and work with partners like police, schools, and council. You can join one or more of these relevant subgroups for your organisation during registration.

PRICING

Full membership - £80

Any community group* engaging with young people in their setting can join the Changemaker Network. The annual fee is £80 (we have retained this cost as a sign of our commitment to supporting organisations through the current financial landscape) and this entitles you to all of the support offered in this information pack.

Youth clubs membership - £50

Youth clubs offering universal, or open access provision have faced exceptional challenges over recent years. Oxfordshire Youth is committing extra time and resources to helping youth clubs overcome the complex issues they face.

Our first act is to offer those organisations who deliver solely or predominantly open-access** services to young people a reduced membership fee of £50.



New organisation - FREE

Starting up something new is hard enough. If you are building a new provision for young people in Oxfordshire, we want to help you access the benefits of the Changemaker Network and offer you your first years' membership FREE. You will still have access to all of the same benefits.

* We do not strictly define what a community group is. Any organisation, community partnership, enterprise etc. providing services that can be accessed by young people would be considered a community group and able to access the benefits of the Changemaker Network **. Universal provision (or open access) is traditionally considered to be in spaces where there is no expectation for young people to participate in any given programme, project or activity. Most would recognise youth clubs as covered by this definition. Those offering fixed activities or programmes (such as specific sports, arts or creative activities) would less likely be considered universal. If you would like to discuss which membership bracket your organisation is in, please contact us using the details on the next page.

Membership to the Changemaker Network runs from April 1st 2024 through to March 31st 2025.

Ready to join the 2024 Changemaker Network? Then click [here](#).



If after reading this information pack, you have any questions regarding the Changemaker Network, please do reach out to us.

For enquiries about the Changemaker Network, please email: members@oxfordshireyouth.org

To find out more details on our training offer, contact training@oxfordshireyouth.org

To enquire about any of these offers, or you require any further information about Oxfordshire Youth, you can call our office on 01865 767 899.

To keep up to date with everything Oxfordshire Youth - please check out the [Oxfordshire Youth website](#) and follow our socials.

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The support, advice, guidance and training you have read about in this pack has evolved over years of engagement with the sector and has expanded each year. We believe it is a highly comprehensive package, but if there is a need you are facing that is not included in this pack, please engage us in a conversation about meeting it. Our work is tailored and bespoke to each organisation and we are committed to providing this.