

BUILDING ON PEOPLE'S STRENGTHS



Helping people to draw on their own gifts and strengths, as well as those of their community to achieve their vision of a good life.

community
catalysts®

unlocking potential
effecting change

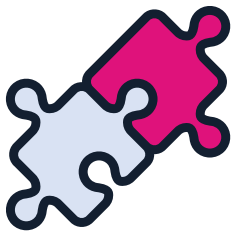
Why build on people's strengths?

We sometimes see people in relation to their needs and not their aspirations. Needs are assessed, services commissioned, and requirements are met or not met.

In this process we can overlook people's strengths, skills and dreams. Lots of public sector organisations recognise the need to move away from traditional services.

Community Catalysts can:

Walk alongside people to help them understand their skills and talents so they can contribute to their community.



Connect people to resources in all communities.

Bring a supporting challenge and coproduce a shared action plan for system and culture change.



Deliver projects to showcase more strengths-based ways of working

How it works

We provide the coaching and mentoring to help people or groups begin a campaign, volunteer, set up an enterprise, establish a group or contribute to their community in ways that works for them. This approach is an alternative for people looking for employment.

We can work directly with young people or adults, including those with disabilities. Whatever sector - children or adult's services, care providers, housing, education or criminal justice - we can work with you to see people's strengths and to create groups and activities that are meaningful and empowering.

Projects are creative, flexible and shaped around your unique circumstances. We will start by having conversations with you to learn about the systems, processes and culture that underpin care, health or wellbeing, and supported employment approaches in your area.

Creative

Flexible

Bespoke

Culture change

Control

Ownership

Benefits of the approach

Benefits include:

- People see themselves differently. They think bigger and achieve more.
- Carers, families and professionals see people differently too.
- Public and third sector organisations change their systems and culture to focus more on full lives and less on needs.
- In the best examples, people need traditional services less and connect with their local community more, as contributing citizens.

Evidence that it works

Our **Great Communities** project in partnership with MacIntyre helped people enhance their own lives and contribute to their community.

Local Social is a community interest company that was set up by Andy, as well as James and Karin who both have learning disabilities. The aim of the enterprise is to bring people together through coffee mornings in community spaces with the intention of building on the strengths of people and places. This would result in new friendships and mutually supportive connections.



James at Local Social

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