

Organisation Name	Reference	2017-11-R003
Abandofbrothers		
Visit Date	Visited By	
17 May 2021	James Anderson	
Grant Summary		
<p>abandofbrothers supports young men through mentoring and peer support to change their offending behaviour. To ensure its long term sustainability abandofbrothers has implemented a franchise structure which allows local groups to fundraise their own income whilst the charity provides central funding for core costs.</p> <p>Our grant is helping abandofbrothers develop this sustainability model so that it can expand into new communities and reach more young men and support them to stay out of prison.</p> <p>https://abandofbrothers.org.uk</p>		
Visit Details (People met, premises visited etc.)		
<p>I arranged a Zoom meeting on 17/05/2021 with James Wong, Executive Development Officer, Band of Brothers. Unbeknownst to me he and Band of Brothers (BOB) invited a number of others to participate in a BOB group session! This involved each participant introducing themselves, explaining how their life had been prior to, and since their involvement with BOB. I joined in this but asked that James Wong and myself leave the session after 40 minutes to go through the review process which we did. Prior to this, approximately a dozen others were involved – both executive officers of BOB and recruits to the organisation.</p>		
Information about the Organisation		
<p>BOB is an organisation that aims to support young men who have a history of delinquency and criminality through mentoring and group support. This is based around an ethos that believes that young men benefit from modelling behaviour from older men and need rituals and rites of passage to assist their transition to successful adulthood. Their results are good and many participants attest to the benefits of their involvement with BOB.</p>		
Issues and Comments		
<p>The Triangle Trust grant period was started in April 2018, so has now ended. This Zoom 'visit' was therefore an opportunity to review the impact of the grant on BOB.</p> <p>BOB had produced a Development Grant Progress Report on 1st May 2020 which assessed progress against their three Key Achievement Goals. At that time their progress had been roughly in line with expectations for that stage i.e. end of year 2. Since then BOB has been subject to COVID restrictions which has curtailed their core activity i.e. the initiating weekend, subsequent group sessions and face to face mentoring. Nonetheless they have continued to provide Zoom group sessions and weekly Zoom mentoring to vulnerable young men.</p> <p>Development plans nationwide have also been affected. There are now 12 fully-fledged communities operating around England; 1 (Haringey) has disbanded, and 4 are in development. These are based on franchising the original model, rather than running them from a central hub. These developments have coincided with changes in</p>		

the BOB management structure – Nathan Roberts, the founder and original Chief Executive has retired. He has been succeeded by Conroy Harris as Chief Executive, Dan Hartley as Chief Operating Officer and James Wong as Chief Development Officer. They are developing regional managers to develop the service nationally. They are also recruiting older men for mentoring roles through personal knowledge, Facebook etc.

Other Feedback

The Covid crisis has impacted BOB as it has all organisations but because they could not conduct their core activities (as above), they have saved 80% of their costs in 2020 which are being carried over to 2021/2022. The support they received from Triangle Trust has allowed BOB to weather the chaos that ensued from Transforming Rehabilitation and remain viable.

Band of Brothers is very appreciative of their involvement with and support provided by Triangle Trust.