



## **Update Report for the ¼ Contract Review Meeting**

**Name of Organisation:** Voices from Care Cymru

**Name of Project:** RCT Local Group

**Funder:** RCT Local Authority

**Team Member:** Laura Harper

**Date:** 16th February 2023

The RCT Local Group project has engaged a variety of young people over the last quarter. This includes both a variety of ages, and a variety of young people attending internally (through Voices From Care Cymru membership/internal social media promotion) and externally (through public social media promotion/promotion via Nicole Katchi and externally). Nicole has been a great help to us over the last quarter and beyond with our promotion, we are very appreciative - thank you.

Pre-Christmas, one of our most notable events included the Building Strengths Workshop that took place in November and had a very positive turn out. This was a great opportunity for young people to engage with peers, spread positivity and make meaningful connections.

We also had the honour of holding the Care-Experienced Summit 2022 at the beginning of December. This was a special opportunity for our Young Ambassadors from RCT and beyond to come together with Mark Drakeford and the Ministers to share their views on their chosen topic (education, mental health + wellbeing, health + social care, or social justice) and initiate meaningful change. Annabel Lloyd kindly joined us at this event as a spectator.

We were also able to run and support a variety of Christmas events internally and externally which the RCT care community engaged with. From the Christmas Pantomime to the Christmas Quiz, to the Cardiff Christmas Dinner - there was lots of festive cheer!

A full list of activities can be seen on our Corporate Parenting report.

Following previous consultation work with Llamau and Missing People, there has been an online support toolkit for practitioners published - please see <https://www.missingpeople.org.uk/reducing-the-criminalisation-of-care-experienced-children-and-young-adults-in-wales-a-practical-toolkit-for-professionals>. 1 member of the RCT Local Group supported with this consultation work back in Summer 2022. This work has now been finalised and is public. We continue to maintain links with partner organisations and will welcome and support any upcoming projects that the RCT Local Group can help develop.

Current and upcoming exciting events for the RCT Local Group include the following. Future events are in the works; posters will be distributed bilingually in due course.

- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February: drumming and arts and crafts workshop to promote healthy relationships.
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February: Proud to Be Me 2023, a celebration of being care-experienced.
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March: meal to promote and celebrate group relationships and celebrate/reflect work done to date.
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023: promoting wellbeing and feeling good through music and arts;
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023: friendship and fun.
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023: inspiration and influencing - creating feedback material for the local authority to link in and review important group topics.