

YMCA MENDIP

WORKING IN MENDIP & SOUTH SOMERSET

Places of Hope where young people thrive

YMCA Review - working in Mendip and South Somerset



Our Values

- ▶ We Seek Out
- ▶ We Welcome
- ▶ We Inspire
- ▶ We Speak Out
- ▶ We Serve Others

Support YMCA Mendip to provide services in your community by:

Online: visit www.mydonate.bt.com/charities/mendipymca

Friend: make regular monthly donations

Text: text MEN41£ (your donation amount) to 70070

Goods: donate quality items for us to sell on our ebay store

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www.mendipymca.org.uk
 The Old Glasshouse,
 South Street, Wells
 Somerset BA5 1SL
 Registered charity number: 1074660
 Company no. 3719773

This impact assessment was carried out by Hawkins Charity Consultancy - www.hawkinscharityconsultancy.co.uk - 07970 628118



YMCA enables people to develop their full potential in mind, body and spirit. Inspired by, and faithful to, our Christian values, we create supportive, inclusive and energising communities, where young people can truly belong, contribute and thrive.

SUPPORT & ADVICE

ACCOMMODATION

FAMILY WORK

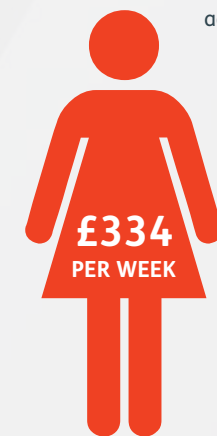
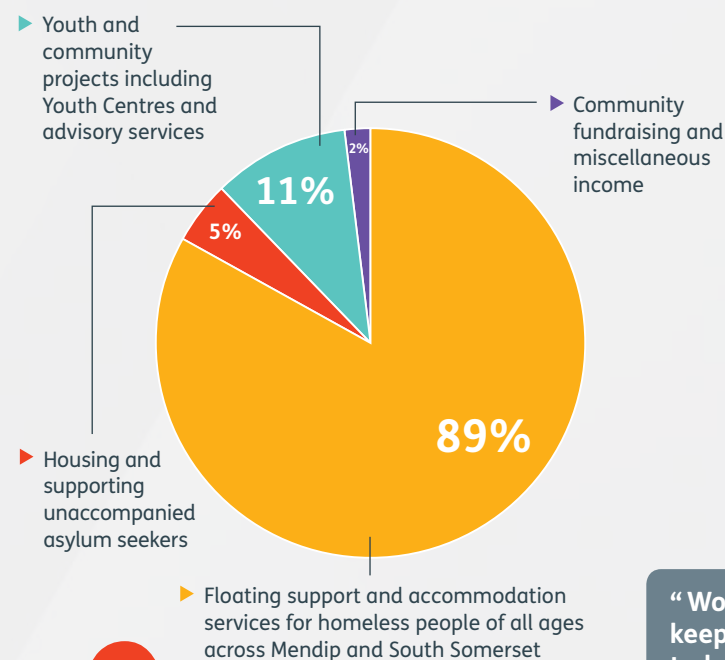
HEALTH & WELLBEING

TRAINING & EDUCATION

Financials

YMCA Mendip is grateful for the support from individuals, groups and communities that enable the good work to continue.

Our annual income is just over £3m. For each £1 we receive, our income goes towards:



Our housing and support costs £334 per young person per week. Equivalent costs are*:

- Foster care - £646 per child per week
- Care home - £3,286 per child per week
- Local Authority care home - £4,036 per child per week

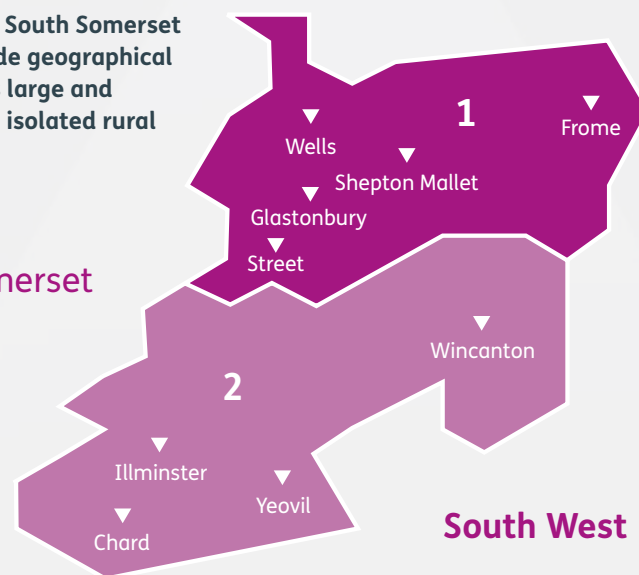
“Working with young people keeps you young. Pancakes today - good fun.”

“Mendip YMCA is a marvellous provider of services for the young and vulnerable people in Somerset, the achievement and dedication that the YMCA have shown is commendable.”
Angela Yeoman - OBE

Where We Work

YMCA Mendip and South Somerset works across a wide geographical area that includes large and vibrant towns and isolated rural communities:

- 1 - Mendip
- 2 - South Somerset



1. Financials - *Costs based on 'Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2017'. 2. Volunteering - *As at April 2018; based on national minimum wage. 3. Katy Case Study - *Identities disguised.

Volunteering

Nearly 40 volunteers donate nearly 4500 hours every year; equivalent to £33,000*.

- building relationships at youth clubs
- helping youngsters complete forms
- giving administrative support e.g. finance, governance
- preparing for independent living
- arranging cold-weather provision for the homeless

Those who volunteer may have time to spare or skills to share. Others are able to develop their own skills and build their confidence. If you would like to find out more about volunteering with YMCA please contact the office.



KATY Q CASE STUDY

Katy began volunteering in our Routes youth drop-in café. After mentoring training, she began working with Sam on a regular basis, she won his trust and helped him recognise some of his challenges. It is unlikely that Sam would have reached the point of asking for a mental health intervention without Katy's involvement.*

“The YMCA are one of our key partners...the go to agency for the Police when diverting young people away from both crime and anti-social behaviour.”
Inspector Mark Nicholson - Avon & Somerset Constabulary

Although part of the largest and oldest youth charity in the world, YMCA Mendip (founded in 1892) is a fully autonomous local charity.

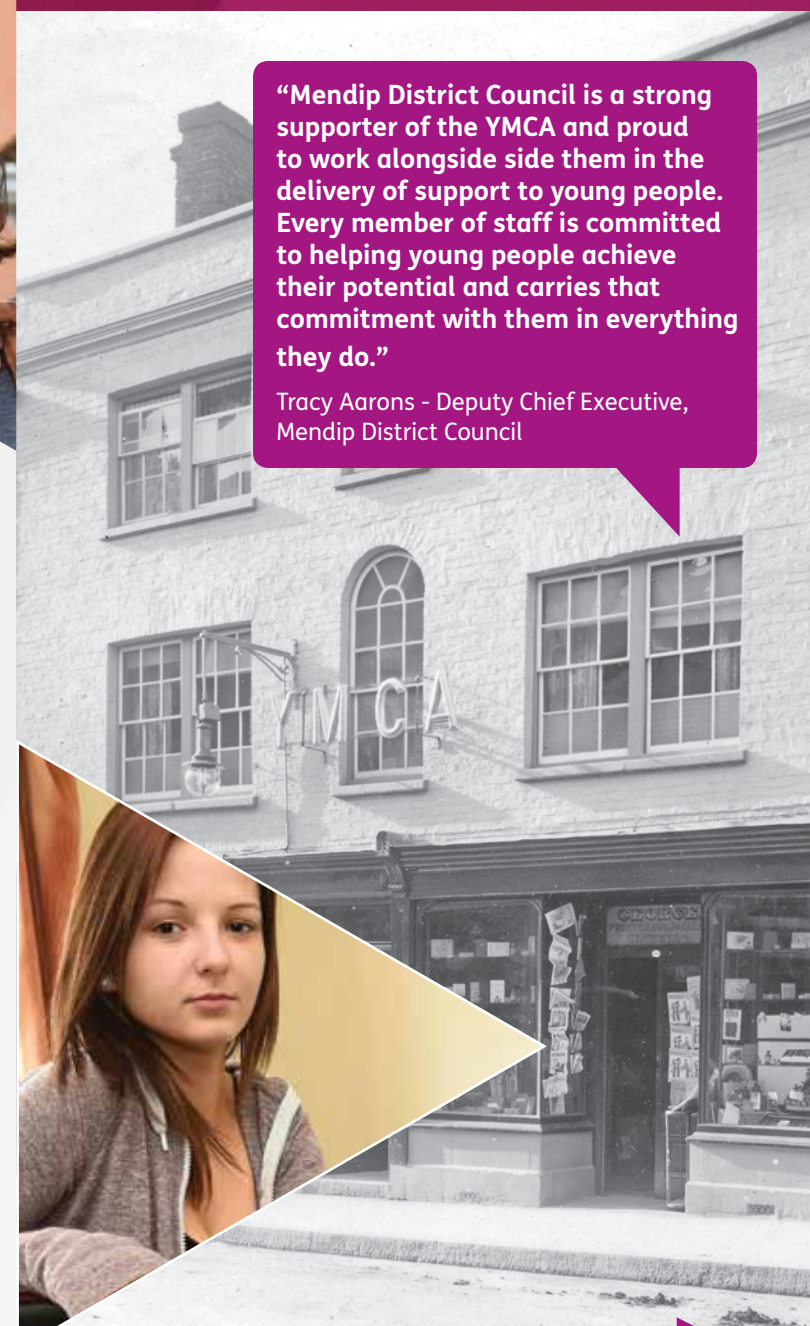
We encourage young people to grow in confidence, develop as individuals and realise their full potential; focussing on housing and homelessness, advice and support, health and wellbeing, training and education and youth and community work.

This review outlines our wide range of services throughout Mendip and South Somerset. It explains our impact as we fulfil our charitable mission to be responsive to need and improve the lives of young people within our local communities.

The figures used in the review are based on a 12 month period.

“Mendip District Council is a strong supporter of the YMCA and proud to work alongside them in the delivery of support to young people. Every member of staff is committed to helping young people achieve their potential and carries that commitment with them in everything they do.”

Tracy Aarons - Deputy Chief Executive, Mendip District Council



The YMCA in Wells in 1910.

TURN HERE

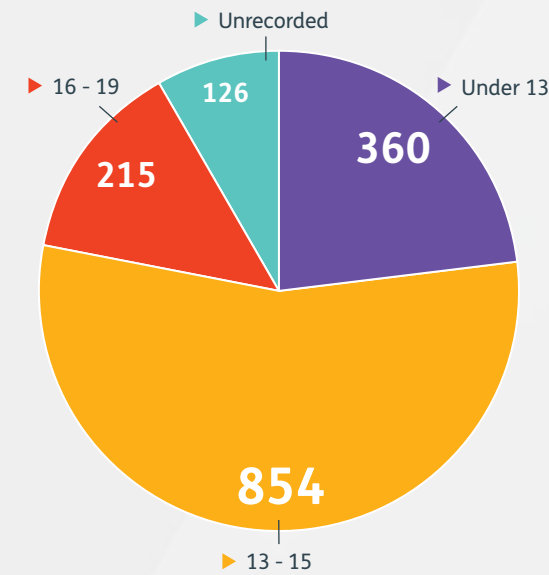
We provide a number of different services that can be accessed by young people as they journey through life

1 Somewhere to go, something to do

Without access to productive leisure and self-improvement activities, young people can become marginalised and find a sense of fun and belonging in more negative ways. YMCA Mendip Youth Clubs provide a safe environment where young people's views are taken into account to ensure their continued engagement and participation in planned programmes of positive activities.

1555 young people (819 males and 736 females) attended youth activities from Shepton Mallet to Street, from Frome to Yeovil. Supported by a total of 35 youth workers.

AGE PROFILE OF THOSE ATTENDING YOUTH ACTIVITIES



"Staff are approachable, friendly and we can speak freely about things."

STEPHEN CASE STUDY

Stephen is 14, has been in trouble with police and was close to being expelled. He found it hard to respect others, including his family. He has been coming to Coleford Youth Club for 9 months. We have been doing issue-based work with him to show acceptable behaviour. His attitude and school attendance has improved and we have worked closely with his grandmother to help him realise the effects of his actions. We have had the same worker with him and have seen him change from intimidating and angry to excited and full of potential, with improved diplomacy and anger management skills. He likes to help plan youth club meetings and he hopes to remain in mainstream education and attend college to do a mechanics course.

2 Learning and growing

Through our Youth Work Curriculum, we deliver informal educational activities which combine enjoyment, challenge and learning and to guide the young people to think for themselves; make healthy choices; improve their emotional health and wellbeing; build skills for life; build resilience; have a better understanding of the world around them and take action for others.

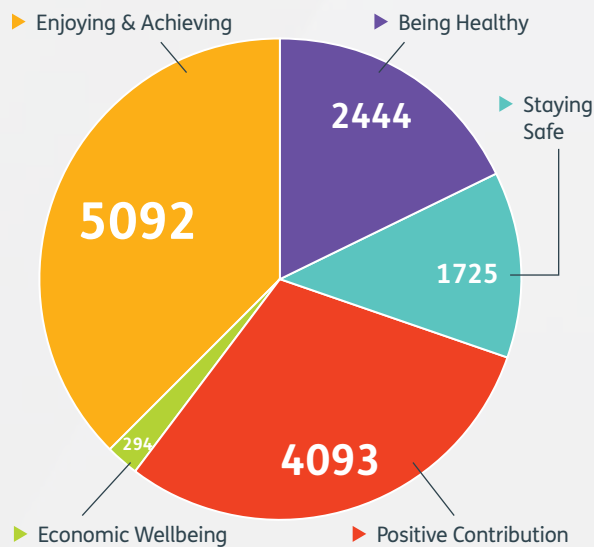
Young people were engaged in planned curriculum activities relating to 'Every Child Matters'* outcomes...

13,648

times in the year.

"I really miss the staff now that I have moved out, they showed me that motivation is key."

EVERY CHILD MATTERS CURRICULUM ACTIVITIES



Every Child Matters is a nationally recognised youth work curriculum that we use in our clubs.

3 No one to turn to

In our teenage years relationships can sometimes become difficult, for any number of reasons. Occasionally this may mean that young people need outside help and sometimes even somewhere else to stay in an emergency.

We have provided Individualised Floating Support to 324 young people, helping to find, set up and maintain tenancies or improve relationships to remain in their accommodation if safe to do so.



Pathways to independence (P2i) enables young people to live independently and is there while they need a hand*:

- 208 asked for help
- 105 placed in emergency accommodation
- 65% of 16/17 year olds engaged in education/training
- 80% of young people worked with to secure employment
- 69% were clear of rent arrears

Emergency housing is provided in family homes, with support given by YMCA Mendip staff to secure permanent accommodation or support a return home.



"Really helpful and supportive, made sure I felt safe which I didn't before."

*Based on P2i annual review Dec 17 - Mendip and South Somerset.

4 When you have nowhere else to go

We provide accommodation for young people who have nowhere else to go.

The 3 main reasons our clients find themselves homeless:



- 145 young people completed **Moving On Moving Out** - a module based course, which equips young people with the knowledge, skills and understanding required to source, and successfully maintain a home and tenancy.



"It's fun and good, there is always something interesting happening."

KATHRYN CASE STUDY

When I first came to the YMCA, I was heavily in debt, I had difficulty sustaining employment and felt increasingly anxious about my finances and in social situations. Sadly, my relationship with my mum had become very strained too. My support worker encouraged me to seek help from my GP to discuss my anxiety. Together, we also investigated and organised debt management. Having finally dealt with my debt responsibly, my finances and anxiety levels are now much more stable. Mum and I are now close again too. I now live independently in a shared house and enjoy working full-time in a luxury hotel.

*Care leavers are children and young people leaving care at age 18. They have a statutory duty to be supported by Somerset County Council until they are 25.

5 If things get rough in later life

Our main work is with young people, but YMCA Mendip also helps adults who find themselves homeless, or in danger of it.

We gave 188 adults housing support to - access benefits, - access secure accommodation and - maintain their private rented tenancies.

The three main reasons for having lost a settled home, given by applicants for homelessness support from local councils are:

- parents, friends or relatives unwilling or unable to continue to accommodate them.
- relationship breakdown, including domestic violence.
- loss of an assured shorthold tenancy.*



Tenant Accreditation Scheme helped 40 people develop the skills and knowledge to improve their chances of securing a tenancy.

- We helped 46 over 25's into private rented accommodation.

Spencer House provided supported accommodation:



23 homeless over 25s with low to medium support need

"I was in a mess, but after receiving support I am settled and happy."

*Statutory homelessness statistics, CLG, 2008.