

*Croydon young people's project*



Annual Report

April 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 - March 31<sup>st</sup> 2010



## Introduction

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This report covers the period of April 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2010 and was prepared by Pauline McGrath Area Manager, Ally Mckinlay Healthy Living Project Manager (seconded to the Croydon Youth Offending Team), Angela Pryce Support Officer, Grace Williams Support Officer and Angela Sinclair Support Officer.

During this financial year the Croydon Young People's Project (CYPP) has been funded via the Croydon Youth Offending Team and the Croydon Leaving Care and Independence Service as well as the Children's Fund.

### **The history of the project**

CYPP has been working in the London Borough of Croydon since 1984. The project started life as a pilot befriending scheme for young people in the New Addington area.

25 years later CYPP has moved on considerably. The Project now works with young people who live within the London Borough of Croydon who have offended, at risk of offending, socially excluded, in care, leaving care and young asylum seeking refugees. As well as this parents of young offenders and vulnerable young people are supported through the project's parenting service.

### **Achievements**

- **64** participants were supported on a one to one basis via the mentoring service
- **32** young people were trained to become peer mentors and received accreditation in peer mentoring at level one through the Open College network
- **57** volunteers were recruited and received accredited core and mentoring training
- **103** volunteers are attached to the project

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## Every Child Matters

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**This project will contribute to the framework of Every Child Matters by ensuring young people will:**

**Be Healthy** – Volunteers will assist young people to engage in positive leisure activities within their local communities.

**Stay Safe** – SOVA/CYPP has a rigorous volunteer recruitment procedure and a safeguarding policy.

**Enjoy and achieve** – Volunteers support young people in a variety of different ways such as assisting with homework, planning timetables and accessing clubs, activities and facilities.

**Make a positive contribution** –The project empowers young people to make a positive contribution to their local community by identifying areas of need and then seeking to increase awareness around these areas amongst members of the local community.

**Achieve economic well-being**

Volunteers will support young people to access further education and training. Furthermore volunteers will support young people in securing employment as well as gaining a wealth of skills, experience and ideas which will contribute immensely to their ability to achieve economic well-being in the future.

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## **Aims and Objectives 2009/10**

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1. To reduce youth crime and at risk behaviour in Croydon.
2. To involve the local community in youth crime reduction through mentoring.
3. To recruit, select, and train members of the local community as mentors to offer support and advice in a non-judgmental way to young people and parents.
4. To support young people and parents referred via the Croydon Youth Offending Team and the Croydon Youth Inclusion Support Panel.
5. To support young people referred via the Children's Fund.
6. To support parents referred via local agencies

## Progress against Annual Objectives

Objectives	Progress
<p><b>To recruit, train, select and maintain a pool of volunteer mentors representative of the local community</b></p>	<p>In the period under review 4 training courses took place and 57 members of the local community were invited to become CYPP volunteers. In total CYPP presently has a pool of 103 volunteers attached to the project.</p> <p>CYPP strives to make the training courses both informative and enjoyable for the trainees. Through the use of learning techniques including role-plays, brainstorms, group discussion and case studies, the exercises are varied and designed to be both informative and thought provoking. The training aims to enhance and develop the listening skills of potential volunteer mentors, inform them of the boundaries of the mentoring relationship and raise their awareness of issues facing young people and parents within the Borough of Croydon. All volunteers are asked to complete evaluation forms at the end of each training course, this enables staff to amend and adapt the training to suit the volunteer's needs. Below are some comments taken from evaluation forms.</p> <p><i>'Learning something new at each session'</i>  <i>'Being able to hear so many different opinions'</i>  <i>'The structure of the course and the way we were 'made' to come out of our comfort zone to interact with others'</i>  <i>'The diverse backgrounds of the group members'</i>  <i>'Being challenged'</i>  <i>'Each applicant was given the opportunity to participate without feeling pressurised to do so'</i>  <i>'The course opened my eyes and knowledge on identifying different aspects of the volunteering role including discrimination and boundaries'</i>  <i>'The course was informative and fun'</i></p>
<p><b>To match volunteers on a one to one basis with 45 participants referred via the Youth Offending Team (YOT) and Youth Inclusion Support Panel (YISP). To provide a minimum of 4 volunteers to</b></p>	<p>CYPP staff work closely with the YOT and YISP and regularly attend meetings such as team meetings with the court team/YISP and referral team. This helps to create good working relationships and promote SOVA to a wider audience. 37 participants were matched on a one to one basis with volunteers throughout the year and 12 volunteers</p>

**support the reparation project**

supported the YOT reparation project. Throughout the year, volunteers have supported young people and parents in a variety of different ways. The volunteers have brought with them many different skills and life experiences but what they have all had in common is an interest in the welfare of young people and parents within their local community.

Low self-esteem has been an issue, for many of our young people perhaps aggravated by lack of encouragement from parents and teachers, being bullied at school or media pressures to conform to certain stereotypes. Experience has shown that some young people do not possess the relevant skills to channel their feelings in a positive way which in turn can lead them towards negative behaviour patterns to please others in order to fit in.

Below are some case studies highlighting the excellent support which CYPP volunteers give to young people and parents in Croydon.

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AB is 14yrs old. AB was referred because she had been brought home by the police on a few occasions for minor incidents including shoplifting. AB has very limited contact with her father as he has a new family, which she feels he puts first and therefore does not spend time with her. This has resulted in angry outbursts towards her mother and friends. Her mum also believes that AB's lack of self esteem is because of her father's rejection. The referrer felt that AB would benefit from a mentor to have someone to talk to, help with her self esteem, and deal with her feelings about her family.

One of our new volunteers was chosen to work with AB. They were introduced to each other and below are some comments from the volunteer.

*'My experience as a volunteer for CYPP has been not what I expected at all, the training was great and the people I met were too.'*

*I was matched with my young person and I found my first session alone with her a bit daunting but knew that I had to take control of the situation because there I was faced with a young person who needed help and support and she was looking to get that from me! Once we got into the swing of things I found that my young person was a fun loving child and she was very open and friendly which made my first session easier for me as I am sure it was just as daunting for AB as it was for me.*

*The first few sessions were just about getting to know each other and building up a level of trust; I knew that I had to be open & honest with AB to show her that she could trust me with whatever she wanted to share no matter how great or small it was. I had to make sure that my approach was rather laid back and light hearted so as to create a safe and relaxed environment for AB to feel comfortable. As time went on AB began to relax more and began to be more open about the issues she was facing at home, school and just in her general environment. AB began to show her sense of humour which made me laugh. I respect AB's honesty about her feelings and the reasons as to why she does the things she does and she is happy to work with me on improving her behaviour which makes my mentoring worthwhile as I am beginning to see results. I enjoy the sessions with AB because I know that it is a time dedicated to her where she can be her without any inhibitions or expectations as I know that her life can be quite demanding and there can be pressure at times for her to be someone other than herself.*

*Overall, I have found this whole experience like a rollercoaster - there were times when I thought that I wasn't being effective at all, but this was at the beginning and thanks to my support worker, Grace, she supported me and advised me on the process and not to be too hard on myself or AB as each young person is different. That's another thing I like about CYPP, I know that I have a great support network if ever I need help or support. My support worker, Grace, is very good at supporting me and giving advice and so I feel secure in that I*

*can go to her for help and advice on being a mentor.*

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BC was aged 15 at referral. BC was referred as a result of common assault and criminal damage.

When she was living with her father she suffered physical abuse and as a result presents as a troubled yet very vulnerable young person who finds it difficult to build relationships with others. BC lives in a children's home. It was felt that a mentor could work with BC at the children's home to spend time with her to build up a rapport, as BC was not comfortable leaving the home. We felt it would be a good idea to perhaps watch DVD's, take part in cookery sessions, and play board games to help to build her trust in order for her move to independent accommodation.

Jackie (CYPP Volunteer) and BC have built up a good relationship, here is Jackie's account of her mentoring:-

*'The first time I met BC I felt very confident. I have to admit that I had forgotten about children growing up in children's homes. I had friends who have grown up in care; however they were constantly in contact with their families. After reading BC's notes, I actually expected someone who looked aggressive. I was so wrong. BC and I bonded straight away and we went to the cinema on our first visit.*

*Our cooking sessions and hairdressing sessions were quite comical. BC dislikes cooking and having her hair done. Once we started cooking, she really enjoyed it and I was able to do her hair on more than one occasion.*

*The staff at the home are excellent. They were very surprised that BC and I got on very well. Not once did I ever witness her temper, there were occasions where I had to sit down and talk to her about her behaviour in regards to how she spoke to the staff. I really enjoyed my time with BC.'*

As well as supporting young people on a one to one basis, CYPP recruits and trains volunteers to support the staff on the YOT reparation project. Please see below a statement regarding reparation from a couple of CYPP volunteers.

*'I remember my first day as a volunteer, it was a bit challenging, when I arrived @ YOT I saw Mike, I introduced myself and Mike then introduced me to Peter who told me to sit in the bus. There was a sessional worker in the bus as well as some young people. I introduced myself to the young people then we started on our journey to the allotments. Val introduced me to the young people, then she explained what my duties would be. I started by helping the young people unload the equipment from the bus. The sessional worker advised me that the young people should be doing this as part of their reparation duties so I took a step back. During the session I decided to participate with the young people working on the allotments by removing weeds, emptying the wheel barrow and integrating with the young people. I found that the time went really quickly because I was enjoying myself so much and was looking to my next reparation duty, I asked where the next session would be held and was informed that I could attend Kensington Avenue Primary School.*

*When I arrived at the school with Val and Peter, I was introduced to Marcus who explained that the young people would be digging a path, my responsibility would be to help to supervise them. Again I decided to participate (I was told by the sessional workers to take it easy because I think they felt I was doing too much).*

*I have really enjoyed my reparation duties, during my interactions with the young people. I feel I got to know them on another level which for me was an enriching experience because young people get a very negative press. I am looking forward to meeting some more young people and learning new experiences.'*

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*"From my first day at the Croydon YOT, they made me feel very relaxed and at ease. Mike the Co-ordinating Officer made me welcome by introducing himself and other members of the team to me and showing me around the office. They asked about my background, how long I had been volunteering and what I wanted to get out of my time there. I felt free to ask staff questions and get involved in any planning or areas I could get involved in.*

*We discussed how we would approach each session with the young people, each lasting around 3 hours, either in the morning or in the afternoon. They would plan their format, what they want to achieve and what they hope the young people would gain from the session. After each session we would talk about how we felt the session went and they would often give me feedback.*

*I am thoroughly enjoying my time at YOT and would love to continue to be involved with the staff and young people".*

CYPP volunteers continue to support the YOT parenting team. An excellent working relationship has been established between both agencies. Regular review meetings are held and minuted accordingly. The parenting manager facilitated a specialist training session this year and as always feedback from volunteers has been very positive. The training consisted of a variety of different topics such as:

- looking at how parent support mentors fit into the work of YOT/YISP,
- parenting risk factors and protective factors in relation to children and young people becoming involved in anti-social or criminal activities
- Identifying risk and protective factors
- Recording session record forms

Due to additional funding in the new financial year, CYPP will be expanding this service to other parents within the borough of Croydon.

Please see below a case study regarding the CYPP parenting support service.

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Jennie was referred to the parenting team due to concerns regarding her son's behaviour at school and his involvement with a local gang. Once the assessment had been completed it was identified that her parenting skills were not in question however, for over one year Jennie had been waiting to hear from the immigration office, whether she and her family had been granted their stay in this country. In addition to this both Jennie and her eldest daughter were diagnosed with type 1 diabetes which is insulin dependent and very unstable. Due to Jennie's immigration status she was not entitled to any benefit support. When Jennie was referred to CYPP she was quite suspicious of the service and it took 3 attempts before she finally agreed to see the manager. Jennie was introduced to a volunteer mentor whose name was Lynne last year. Once Lynne had explained the boundaries and what her role was, Jennie was open and forthcoming and she did not mind if Lynne asked her questions or asked for clarification on certain issues. From the beginning Lynne was extremely pro-active. She read through all the official paperwork regarding Jennie's immigration status, she contacted NASS (National Asylum Support Service) to find out if they could assist financially through their emergency subsistence programme. Jennie was at least 2 months behind in rent arrears and Lynne arranged for her to meet with the Croydon Housing Aid Society (CHAS) and the Tenancy relations officer. Lynne attended meetings with education as Jennie's son James had been excluded from school. Due to all the stress which Jennie was presenting Lynne was able to act as an advocate for her on many occasions. Jennie's lifestyle was extremely chaotic and because of her health issues there were occasions when she did not turn up for her sessions but not once did Lynne give up on her.

	<p>Throughout the mentoring relationship Lynne was an excellent ambassador for CYPP, she kept the project informed of progress through regular supervision sessions and detailed session record forms as well as conducting herself in a professional manner at all times.</p>
<p><b>To support 17 young people aged 8 -13 years who are socially excluded and have been referred via the Children's Fund</b></p>	<p>Through the Children's Fund, CYPP work with young people from the ages of 8yrs old to 14yrs, there is room for flexibility on the age of the young person we are prepared to work with, and the length of time we are prepared to work with the young people, depending on the individual's circumstances and the young person concerned.</p> <p>The referrals received continue to be varied which in turn has led to the Support Officers role being developed to being invited to attend Mental Health Review meetings, Child Conference meetings and Child Protection meetings.</p> <p>The vast majority of the young people accept the service at the home visit stage and mid reviews are carried out with the young people, their parent and mentor throughout the sessions, to monitor progress and discuss any concerns young person, parent and or mentor may have, at this stage all concerned are able to discuss how they feel the sessions are progressing or could be improved on. Some parents look at the service as a means of additional support for them. Feedback received from volunteers and parent/carer on these meetings has been positive. 17 young people were matched with volunteers throughout the year.</p> <p><u>Case Study CD</u></p> <p>CD was referred because of her disruptive, confrontational behaviour in school which was of concern to her teachers and the affect it was having on the other students, Social Care was also involved. Mum was a very mild mannered parent, easily manipulated, but very cooperative with all the agencies, dad was a substance abuser and on three occasions had not turned up at rehab for treatment. CD's attitude towards the CYPP service</p>

was very nonchalant but was willing to 'go with the flow', however she was very specific about where she was and was not prepared to go. Due to work commitments and not being familiar with the area, the volunteer was unable to meet with CD on a regular basis.

Things came to a head when it became clear at the Child Protection meeting that there was domestic violence in the home against mum and that dad was still making excuses for not attending treatment.

An immediate decision had to be made to change the volunteer for one who was able to commit to regular weekly sessions; mum and dad were made aware of the possible implications of the child protection meeting, i.e. if dad refused to attend treatment, what the possible consequences could be. Dad was in denial about his habit in any way contributing to CD's behaviour, but mum was prepared to take on board some of the strategies discussed to build on her relationship with her daughter. It was important that mum was also aware that should dad refuse to go to treatment, Social Care would have to make the decision to remove CD from the present home environment or mum would be forced to make the decision and leave the situation with her daughter.

A new volunteer was matched with CD, this volunteer was mobile and therefore willing and able to take CD to different places, swimming, museums, and the volunteer was also able to commit to weekly session. CD's anger and aggressive behaviour was a major concern for mum and the school along with her reluctance to talk/discuss what was bothering her. This has changed, CD is enjoying her sessions with the volunteer, which is a positive; she is finding it easier to discuss her likes and dislikes which is also positive and hopeful that this will eventually lead to her being able to open up on a personal level when she is ready. Mum tries to spend quality one to one time with her daughter, they go swimming and for something to eat twice a week, mum and daughter are building on their relationship, unfortunately dad has not yet gone for treatment and it will therefore be a matter of time before mum will be required to make a decision.

Case Study BB

BB was referred by Social Services (SS) and he was 8yrs old. BB was the youngest of three and referred as a 'Child in Need'. The family was brought to SS's attention by the school. BB was attending school in an unkempt condition, the home had spiralled into chaos and mum was struggling and in need of support. There was no routine in the home BB would go to bed when he wanted and would revert to baby like temper tantrums if he did not get his way, this included only eating what he wanted and not what was given to him. Mum made allowances out of guilt, which resulted in the children taking advantage and basically controlling things around the home. Mum's guilt was surrounding the sudden and unexpected death of their father. BB was matched with a male mentor; BB explained to the mentor that he was being bullied in school and had chosen not to tell his mum about this. The mentor worked with BB to concentrate on achievable goals, i.e. trying to eat as a family and what was given to him and to start with small portions, Mum was informed of the set goals and asked if in agreement to try to help BB to stick to them.

BB has grown in confidence, is no longer being bullied, and has started going to a lunch club in school; he also participates in quite a few out of school activities. BB is very much aware how to manipulate mum and mum is aware what she is required to do to enable the family to function as a family.

Comments from BB's Mentor.

*Working with BB has been productive and enjoyable; I think the whole experience has sharpened my listening skills and my initiative skills. I believe BB has a lot of greatness. I hope he will continue to grow in confidence and continue to tackle his weaknesses.*

*BB seems to have also enjoyed being mentored; I believe that he is beginning to see his potential. I have also liked interacting with mum and the rest*

	<p><i>of the family.</i></p> <p><i>Angela your session record feedback has also been beneficial for me.</i></p> <p><i>I look forward to continue mentoring.</i></p>
<p><b>To support 10 young people referred via The Leaving Care and Independence Service (LCIS) and to place 2 volunteers 2 days a week in the LCIS office</b></p>	<p>CYPP's core involvement with LCIS is to provide mentors to support and guide young people on a one to one basis who have left care. As well as this, CYPP Volunteers have continued to support staff at the LCIS office and this service has proved to be a very positive volunteer opportunity. Since April 2009 a total of 19 volunteers have given 679 hours in support to the LCIS staff.</p> <p>LCIS staff and management have given very positive feedback regarding CYPP's involvement.</p> <p>During the financial year the Support Officer visited LCIS on a regular basis and met with the Deputy Operational Manager each month to discuss issues regarding referrals in particular if there has been a lull in the process. As well as this any issues regarding the volunteers who were placed at the LCIS office, such as volunteer cover for absence as well as discussion of feedback from LCIS staff regarding volunteer performance. Updating protocols and procedures would also take place at these meetings. This forum provided the ideal opportunity for exchanges of information such as organisational re-structure and the LCIS input into CYPP volunteer training. These meetings had a positive result in generating referrals; it also enabled new members of LCIS staff to become familiar with the services which CYPP offer.</p> <p>Volunteers have participated in a wide variety of tasks with young people. For example, volunteers have carried out care plans which have involved registering the young people with health services. As well as assisting young people in moving to independent accommodation. In the past, volunteers have also accompanied young people to appointments at the solicitors, the court and if necessary counselling appointments and other agencies where the young people may feel they need support. Volunteers have also, where necessary liaised with landlords and the housing department.</p> <p>Below are some case studies written by volunteers</p>

highlighting the positive support which volunteers have offered to young people:

*When I first met Karen, she was in her late stage of pregnancy, she was not fully prepared for the arrival of her baby, so I supported her to get herself ready by taking her to get the baby's necessities. I also encouraged her to feel more confident about becoming a mother.*

*Karen finally had her baby and I was told by LCIS that she was being moved to a new flat. Our sessions were then spent helping her accessorise her flat. I took her shopping for curtains, rugs, and kitchen utensils. And I also helped her with fitting the curtain rails and assembling furniture. As well as this I helped her apply for all the benefits she was entitled to. My main goal was to ensure that she and her baby were settled and comfortable in their new flat. Karen and her child are doing well, she has adapted to motherhood exceptionally well and I am very proud of how she is coping*

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*I have been mentoring John on a one to one basis for sometime. John is an incredibly intelligent young man who is highly self-motivated and well organised. Initially our sessions focused on John's desire to play semi-professional football, now our sessions are more focussed on developing John's self-esteem. John feels his English is not of a standard where he feels confident to initiate conversations in a social setting. Therefore I have been helping John to familiarise himself with the English language by together reading newspapers, magazines and books from the local library. There has been a lot of progress and John is settling into a new independent lifestyle.*

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*I have been mentoring Anna for about 7 months and have found her to be a very pleasant, warm and friendly young woman.*

*When I met her she had just moved into her own place after being with a foster carer for a couple of years. She took to independent living well and I found that there were only a few things that she*

*needed help with.*

*I helped her register with a local doctor and dentist, and together we found out about local activities which she could get involved in such as the local gym and tennis. As well as this I assisted her in completing benefit forms and contacting the Red Cross as she had an interest in looking for family members back in Angola. Anna has regular phone contact with her former foster carer but has not visited them; this is something I am trying to encourage her to do as she has spoken highly of them. Anna is very involved with her church, she does a lot with the youth group, she visits hospitals, assists with stage shows as well as helping out with a book club. This all takes up her time but she has made many friends through the church and seems to be happy going there. Within our sessions we talk openly about her involvement in the church as well as her life before she came to England and her hopes and aspirations for the future which is to become a midwife and to travel abroad.*

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*I completed a one month voluntary placement at LCIS which was really interesting and was a good way to see how the organisation deals with young people leaving the care system.*

*The staff were really helpful and friendly, I supported them by assisting with filing, being present during meetings with young adults and social workers, as well as this I helped out at the reception and welcomed the young adults when they arrived at the office.*

*Some of the time I did not have much to do as staff were really busy and there were a lot of tasks that I could not do because I was not qualified or trained or the case was too sensitive, but I have to say the members of staff did their best to keep me occupied. What was good about my time at LCIS was it gave me a really good idea of how this service functions, and how difficult and busy it can be.*

*Overall I enjoyed my experience there and I wish I could have extended my stay there but sadly due to funding restrictions this could not happen.*

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## The Healthy Living Project

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HLP have worked with 76 young people since the start of the financial year with 61 of these young people being new to HLP groups. Of the 61 new young people 13 were female (21%) and 48 were male (79%). 48 young people have been referred by the YOT with a further 12 young people coming from the YISP. One young person continues to attend HLP and uses her work to contribute to her art portfolio at college.

44 young people (72%) have successfully completed HLP groups. 14 young people (23%) have a disability or learning difficulty and 62% are from Black & Minority Ethnic groups. 1 young person has re-offended with 2 breaching their bail conditions meaning 94% have not re-offended. 13 young people have remained outside of the youth justice system. 80% of participants live in Neighbourhood Renewal Wards.

FC YOT have beaten the young peoples HLP FC Team 2-1 in football matches this year. HLP have secured the use of "The Hut" at the Brits School which will allow a bigger and better "MAGIC MONDAY" session where they will have the full pitch for 2 hours. Training sessions will be mixed with coaching for up to 30 young people on Monday nights with the Tuesday night session now closing.

HLP Art have created art pieces for the new Reparation Rowdown Centre. They have also created large cultural masks after an inspiring trip to the Horniman Museum and most recently created pieces for the new Turnaround Centre. The art group continues to have a strong reputation for its work and the queue gets ever longer for those waiting for HLP to do some work for them.

A number of tunes have been recorded at HLP Music over the year and the group has become more focussed around recording lyrics and less on making music. This has prompted a rethink about what is offered in this area as the rapid rise of computer software allows many young people to make beats at home or at a friends house.

HLP's Food continues to be happily consumed by staff and young people with the multi-cultural selections provoking discussion and learning. HLP hope to develop the cooking further this year and link in with other agencies at the new Turnaround Centre.

HLP has also piloted a pottery class for females with sessions run at CALAT (an adult Education Learning Centre). Pottery has proved tough to sell to young people but those who have attended seem to have really enjoyed sessions and have found it rewarding with creations made every week. HLP plan to continue sessions having secured a kiln which is located at the Rowdown Centre.

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## Peer Mentoring

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During the year CYPP delivered accredited peer mentoring training to 32 young people.

Three courses took place and each course consisted of three (six hour) sessions accredited through the National Open College Network. The project strived to make training sessions both informative and enjoyable. Several learning techniques were employed. These ranged from role-play and case studies through to brainstorm exercises and group discussions. The following areas were addressed. Motivations for Volunteering, Benefits of Peer Mentoring, Peer Mentor Qualities, Boundaries and Personal Safety, Communication, Listening and Negotiation skills, Safe Guarding overview, Time Management, Discrimination, Equal Opportunities, Administrative Procedures, Rights and Responsibilities, What Young People Experience through Adolescence, Every Child Matters, Local Helping Agencies, Working with Young People, Case Studies and Difficult Situations.

All learners participated fully in the training courses and were responsive to the training styles adopted. Learners seemed to respond well to all group activities including large group, small group, pair and individual activities. The learners were very adept at expressing themselves verbally to the rest of the group. The accreditation necessitated completion of a variety of written worksheets. The time taken for completion was factored into the sessions and the project deployed CYPP volunteers to assist with the gathering of evidence.

From speaking to parents/guardians/referrers and the young people themselves they have learnt a vast amount from the peer mentoring training. In many aspects, self esteem, confidence and the ability to communicate had much improved. Terminology learnt was already being put into place by learners and shared with others outside the group for example information about Every Child Matters (ECM), the helping agencies and the valuable skills and qualities of good listening and the showing of empathy. Overall feedback was positive and even at times if some of the sessions were difficult to experience i.e. how it feels to be discriminated against; they were very valuable learning experiences for the young people. They appreciated that this was facilitated in role-plays or in pairs to have true meaning. The chance to ask anonymous questions about their fears and anxieties regarding peer mentoring was an opportunity to find out that their peers and others were experiencing some of the same feelings as their own.

Although the three groups were only together for a short period they gelled well and were supportive and learnt from their peers and had fun during the process of attaining valuable information. In recognition for their achievements, each learner was presented with a 'course completion' certificate. The project is delighted to announce that all learners received accreditation.

## Community Profile

In accordance with SOVA's minimum quality standards, the Project is required to produce a community profile, comparing the profile of the volunteer pool with that of the local community. The following information was compiled in March 2010 using London Borough of Croydon 2001 census figures.

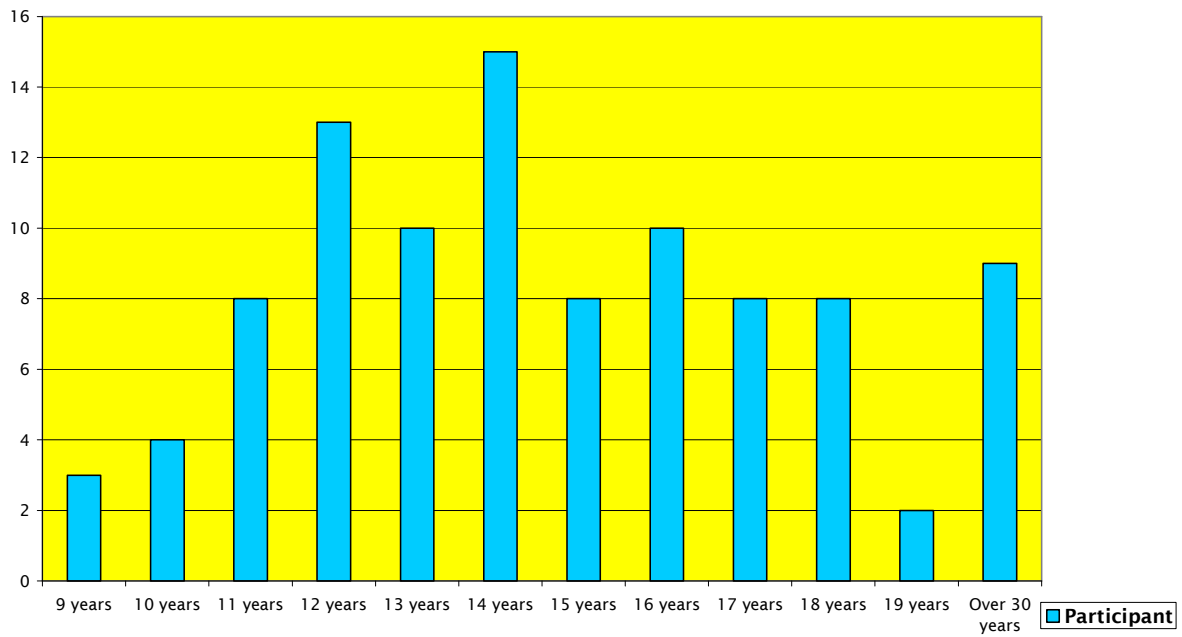
<b>COMMUNITY</b>		<b>CYPP</b>		<b>VARIANCE</b>
<b>Race Identity</b>		<b>Race Identity</b>		
Black	18.7%	Black	69%	+50%
White	70%	White	17%	-53%
Other	11%	Other	14%	+3%
<b>Ethnic Identity</b>		<b>Ethnic Identity</b>		
UK	70.2%	UK	17%	-53%
Mixed	3.7%	Mixed	7%	+4%
Black/Black British/Other	13.3%	Black/Black British/Other	69%	+56%
Asian/Asian British	11.3%	Asian/Asian British	1%	-10%
Chinese/Other	1.5%	Chinese/Other	6%	+5%
<b>Employment Status</b>		<b>Employment Status</b>		
Full Time	63%	Full Time	42%	-21%
Students	7%	Students	15%	+8%
Unemployed	3.9%	Unemployed	27%	+24%
Other*	26%	Other*	16%	-10%
<b>Gender</b>		<b>Gender</b>		
Male	48%	Male	16%	-32%
Female	52%	Female	84%	+32%
<b>Age</b>		<b>Age</b>		
18-29 years old	18%	18-29 years old	28%	+10%
30-44 years old	34%	30-44 years old	49%	+15%
45 – Retirement	30%	45 – Retirement	22%	-8%

\*"Other" category includes House-person, Part time, Self-employed, Retired.

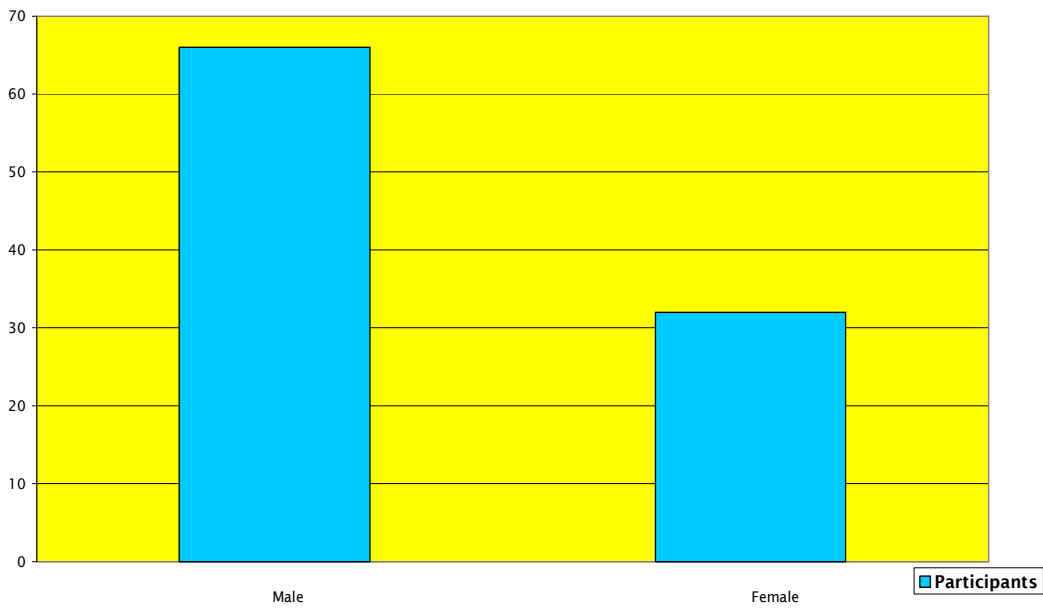
\*\*All % are rounded up to 1 decimal place and may not add up to 100%

## **Charts showing statistics of participants referred during 2009/10**

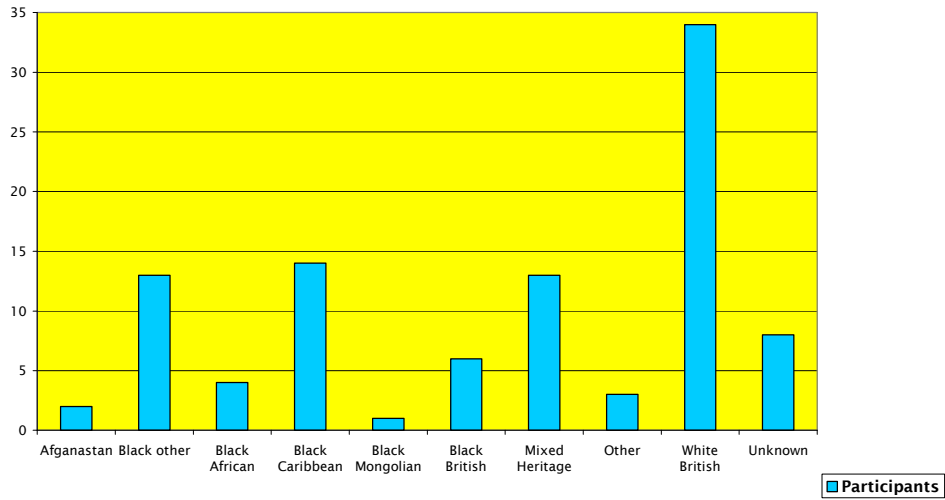
Age of 98 Participants referred



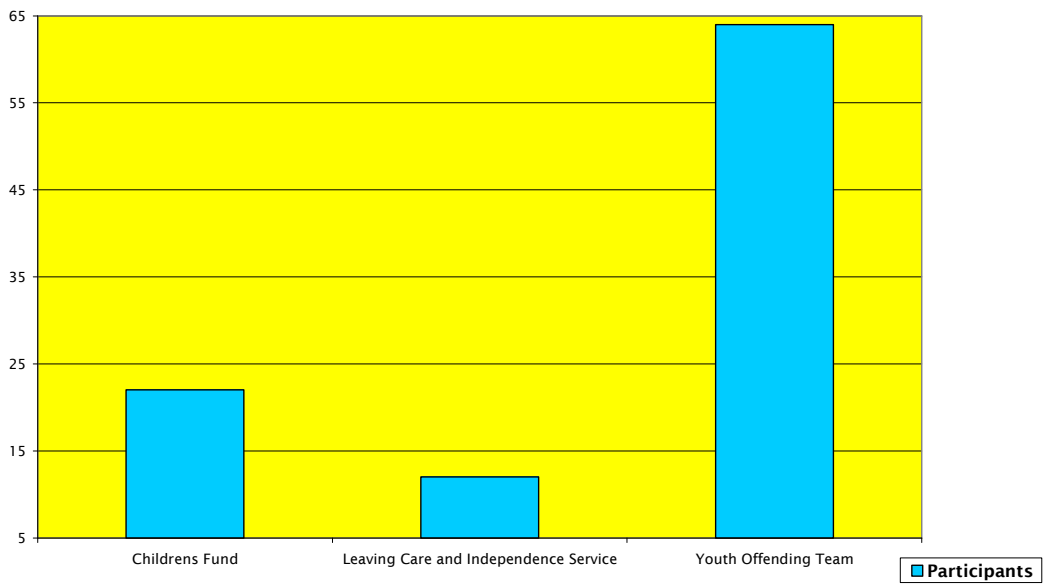
Gender of 98 participants referred



Ethnicity of 98 participants referred

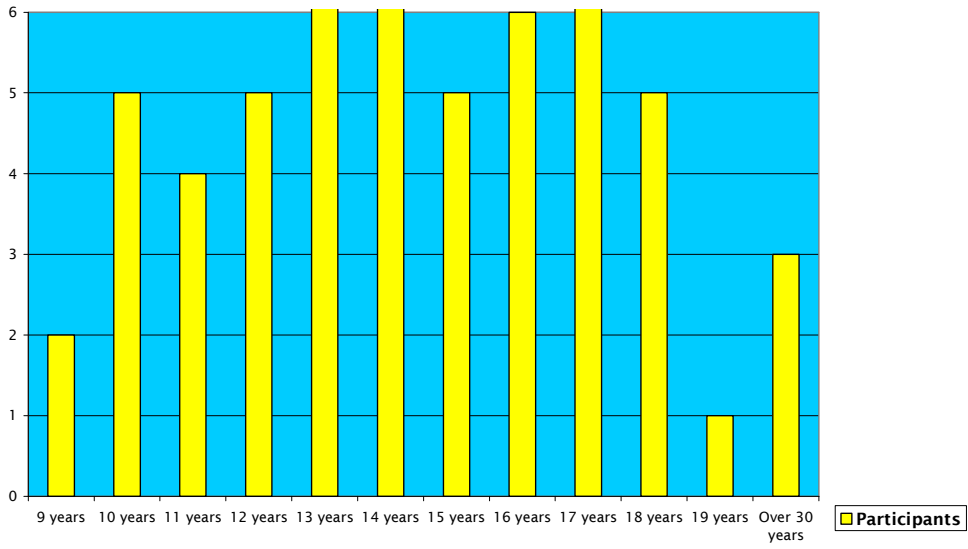


Referral source of 98 participants referred

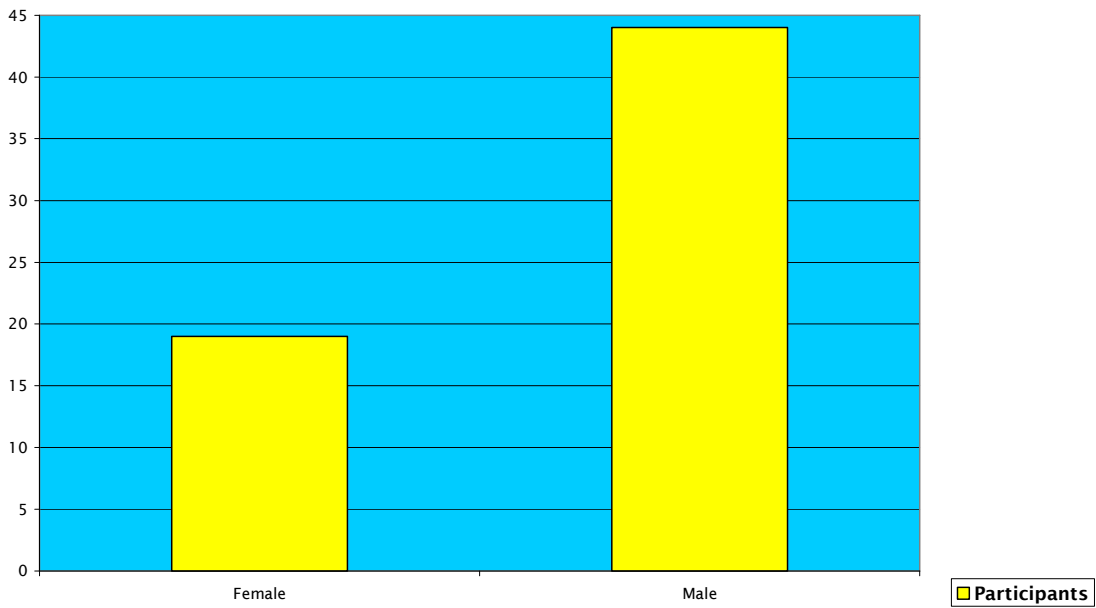


**Charts showing statistics of participants  
matched during 2009/10**

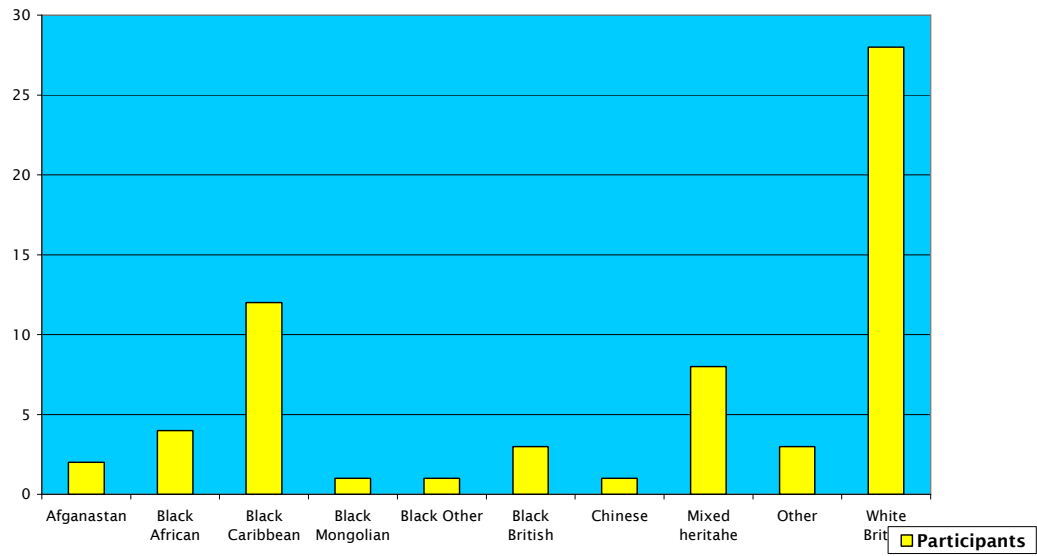
Age of 63 participants matched



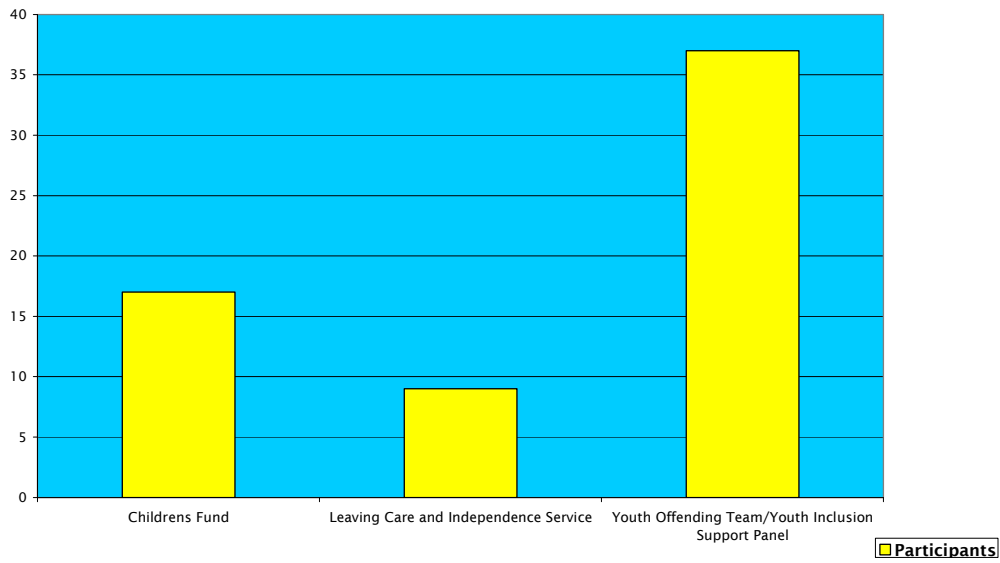
Gender of 63 participants matched



Ethnicity of 63 participants matched

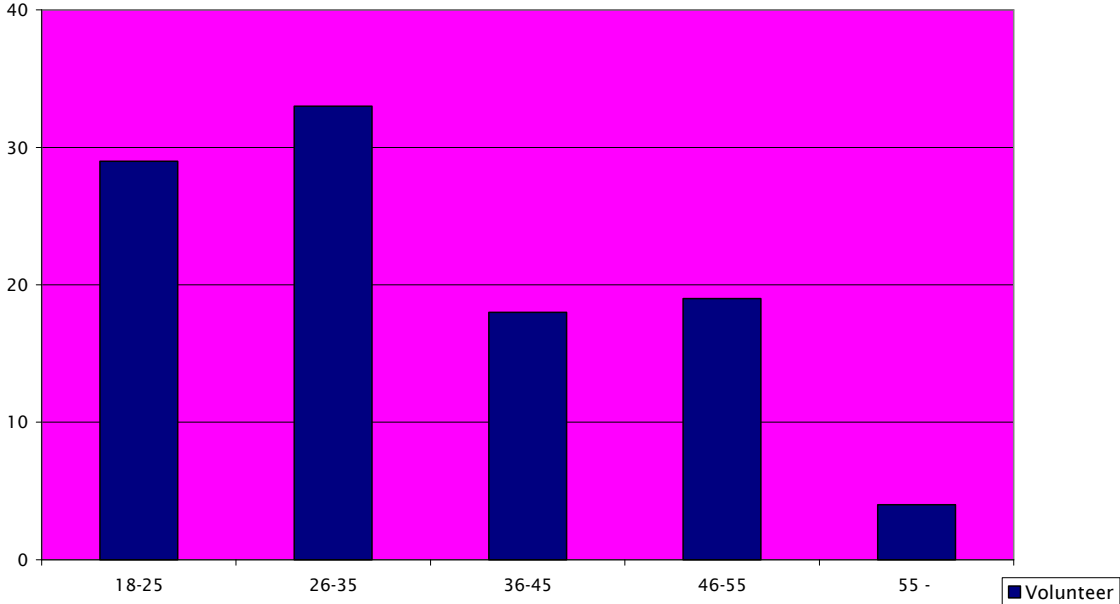


Referral source of 63 participants matched

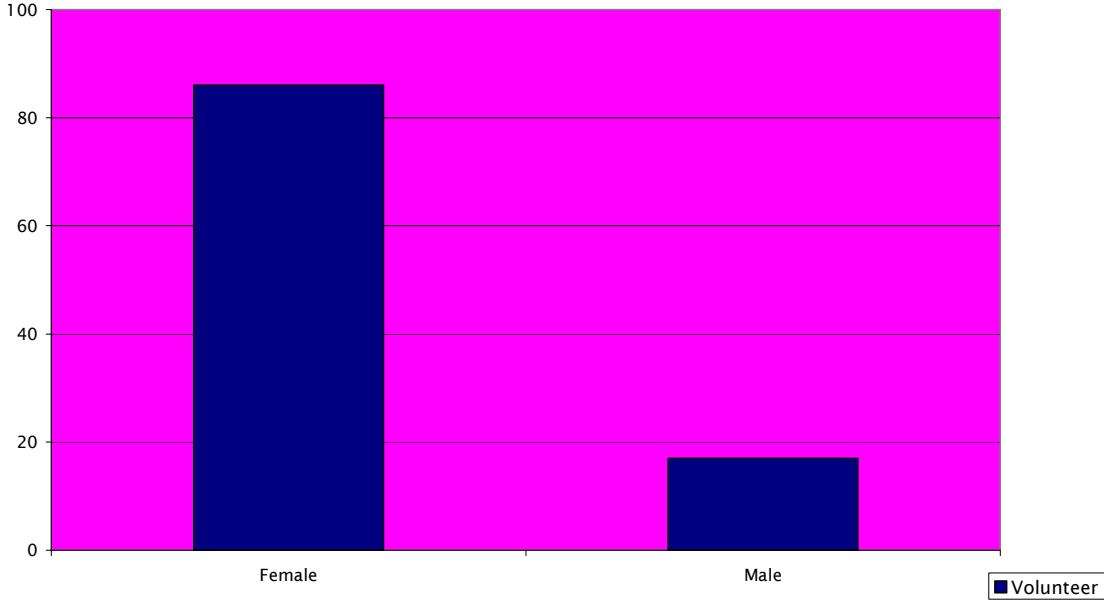


**Charts showing statistics of volunteers  
attached during 2009/10**

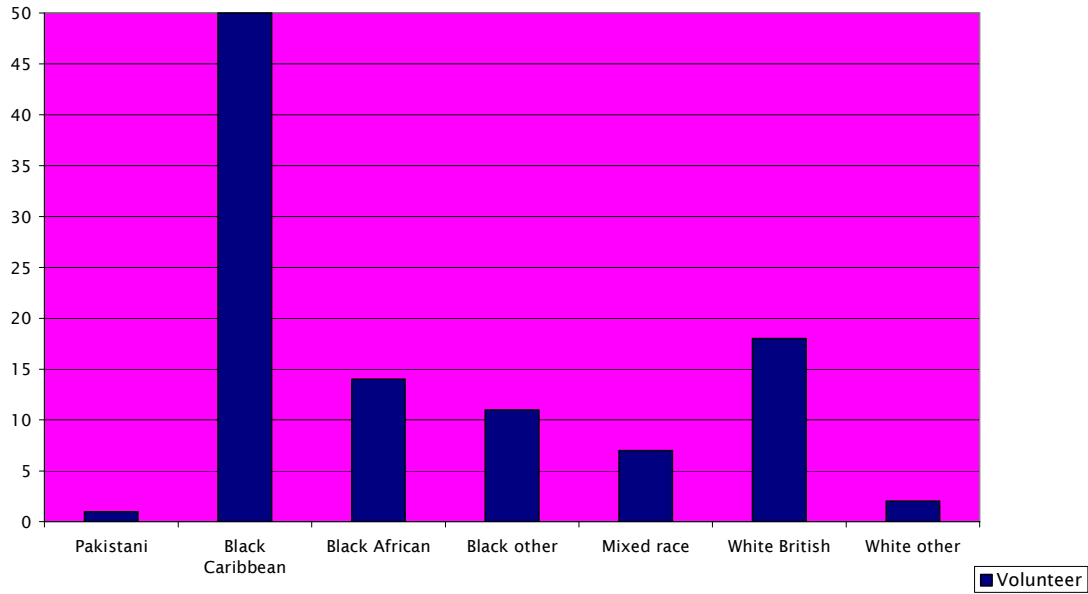
Age of 103 Volunteers Attached



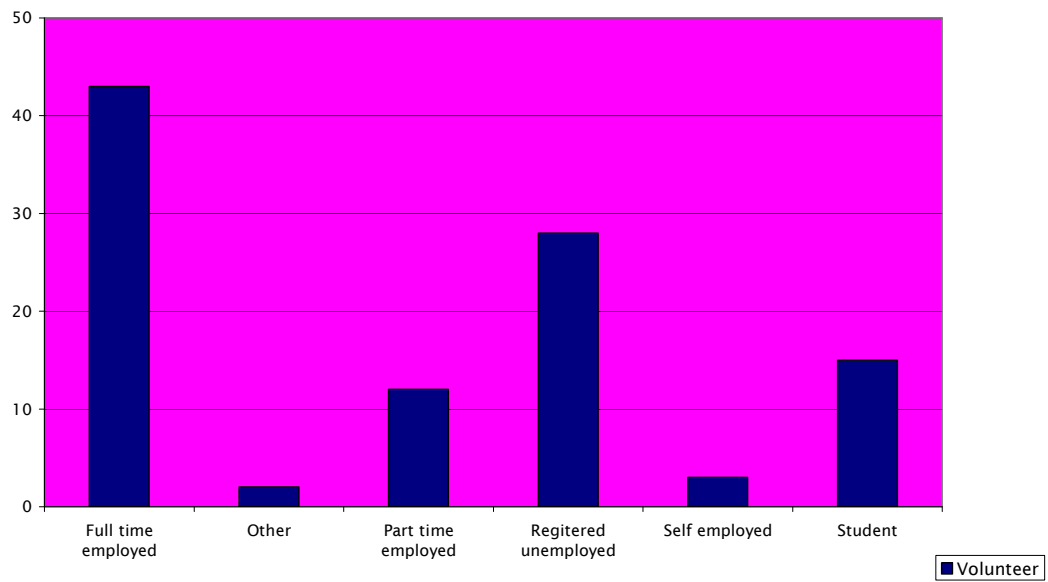
Gender of 103 Volunteers Attached



Ethnicity of 103 Volunteers Attached



Employment Status of 103 Volunteers Attached



During the year, CYPP delivered accredited peer mentoring training to 32 young people living within the London Borough of Croydon. The project is very proud of this achievement and feed back through evaluation and video diaries from the young people suggest that this service is a much needed activity. Below are a few pictures taken from a training course.

