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CAMPUS TO COMMUNITY

LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY

Health Promotion Partnerships

St George's Crypt

LEEDS BECKETT

The CommUNIty initiative exists to promote joint working between the university and community organisations

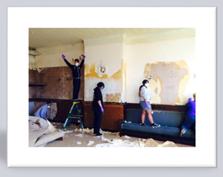
ST GEORGE'S CRYPT

A charity in the city of Leeds working with the homeless, vulnerable and those suffering from addiction

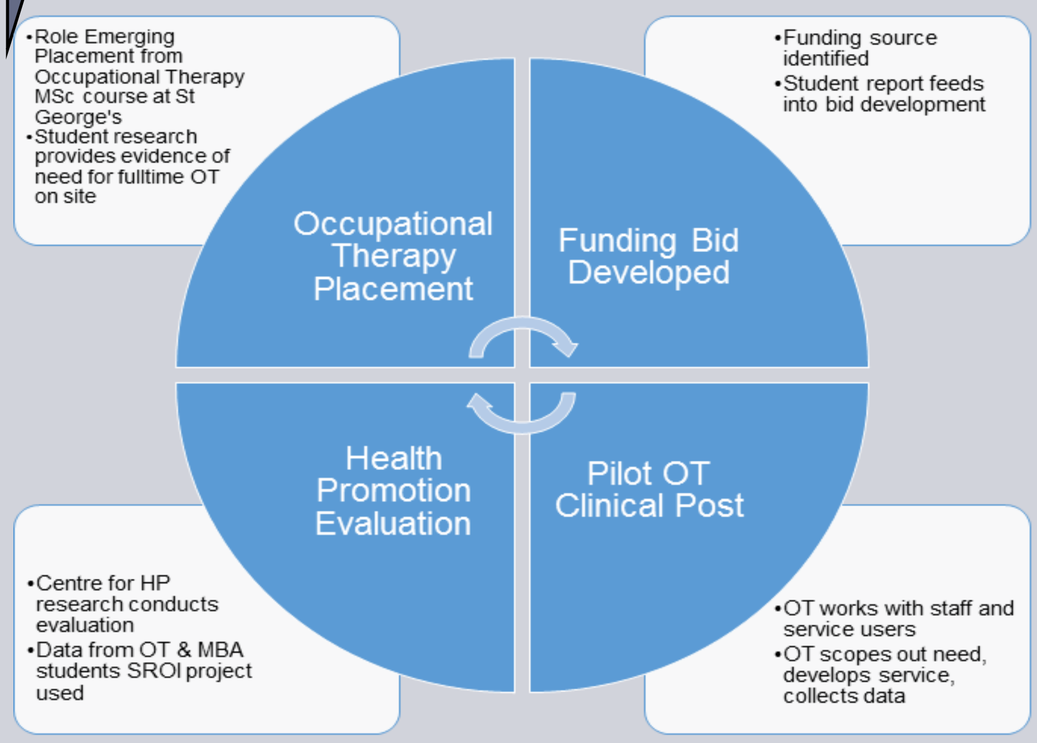
Background

- Communities have a vital role to play in physical & mental health & wellbeing & promoting healthy behaviours[1]
- Universities have a wealth of resources and are a significant player in building healthier communities[2]
- In the current climate of austerity where funding is scarce, universities can support charities to deliver services the local authority can no longer offer
- Our collaborations place emphasis on a community centred approach for health and wellbeing, as social connections & influence on local decisions are major factors in good health[3]

Activity	Benefit to University	Benefit to Community
Placements (e.g. OT, Physio)	Experience for students Employability	Access to skills, knowledge, latest practice Direct impact on service user health
Knowledge Exchange (e.g. Workshops)	Access to community knowledge Increases student engagement	Specialist training for staff Information for service users e.g. law clinic
Dissertations/ Projects	Real life engaging topic for students Valuable learning experience	Analysis can help develop service Evidence for funding bids e.g. MBA project
Research/bids/evaluations	Access to research areas/ participants	Demonstrate value of their service Recommendations for improvements
Volunteering	Acquiring additional skills	Increased capacity to deliver service



Model



Learning

- Building positive relationships underpins all our work
- Mutual benefit is essential for sustainability
- Academic and community knowledge have to be valued equally
- Partnerships develop organically to meet the needs of the community organisations and university staff/students
- Sharing good practice with other universities and community groups is important for developing the model
- Community campus partnerships need to be embedded in the culture of the university

community@leedsbeckett.ac.uk @LeedsCCP

Authors: Susan Coan, Karl Witty

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2.Seifer, SD. (2000). Engaging Colleges and Universities as Partners in Healthy Communities Initiatives, Public Health Reports, Vol 115
3. South, J. (2015). A Guide to Community-Centred Approaches for Health and Wellbeing, PHE