

## Outreach Report –

ECTU Operations Board and Joint Committee  
November 2023

A brief summary of areas of work is detailed below:

### Health

- Support re GP and Dentist registration.
- Support with referrals to other agencies/relevant services and checking appointments etc.
- Health days/Agency Liaison. We have worked with Community Agents, Community Dental Services, Essex Wellbeing Service (Provide), Craig Tyler Trust, Terence Higgins Trust and Child and Family Wellbeing Hubs and Sensory Deprivation Team to look at engagement with Health days being used as a first step, to then be developed into a more regular and consistent pattern of outreach from the other agencies.
- Health days dates and locations – see schedule below:

Date	Site
27 <sup>th</sup> April 2-4pm	<b>Hovefields Avenue</b> (private) approx. 40 plots SS12 9JA
25 <sup>th</sup> May 2-4pm	<b>Oak Lane</b> (private) approx. 40 plots CM11 2YH
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2-4pm	<b>Meadow Lane</b> (private) approx. 40 plots SS11 7DX
6 <sup>th</sup> July 2-4pm	<b>Homefields Nursery</b> (private)
20 <sup>th</sup> July 1-3pm	<b>Severalls</b> (ECC site) 12 Plots CO4 5TZ
16 <sup>th</sup> May 1-3pm	<b>Elizabeth Way</b> (ECC site) 21 Plots CM19 5FF
15 <sup>th</sup> June 1-3pm	<b>Wood Corner</b> (ECC site) 21 Plots CM9 6TP
14 <sup>th</sup> September 1-3pm	<b>Ridgewell</b> (ECC site) CO9 4SY
22 <sup>nd</sup> June 1-3pm	<b>Twin Oaks</b> (private) approx. 18 plots CM77 8AB
1 <sup>st</sup> August 1-3pm	<b>Navestock</b> (private) RM4 1HE
21 <sup>st</sup> September 1-3pm	<b>Hovefields</b> (ECC site) 25 Plots SS13 1QQ
28 <sup>th</sup> September 1-3pm	<b>Hop Garden</b> (ECC site) 16 Plots CM5 9PT

- Leading on from these outreach visits with partner agencies, a further two outreach visits have been carried out to Wood Corner site with the Essex Child and Family wellbeing Service on 18<sup>th</sup> September and 24<sup>th</sup> October when we also arranged for the library bus to attend.
- We are planning to continue these joint visits with the Essex Child and Family wellbeing Service after the Christmas period, on a monthly basis to build engagement and promote access to services.
- Outreach Library Bus – a further 6 Outreach library bus visits were carried out to sites over the July – October period.
- Two site visits with Public Health Dental consultant, to facilitate research into dental access to vulnerable groups in the East of England, enabling interviews to take place with people from the GRT communities.

## **Education**

- Continued support with applications to schools.
- College applications/advice
- Pre-school applications
- Close liaison with Employability and Skills team re working towards more culturally targeted provision, also to raise engagement and awareness, this is ongoing, however access to suitable courses is becoming more difficult.
- Support re issues in school/SEND, attending meetings, home visits to try to maintain children and YP in the formal education setting.
- Support to parents re challenging exclusions and SEND decisions re EHCP's.
- Referrals to and joint work with Families in Focus
- Advice re home education and joint visits when requested with Elective Home Education/Children Missing Education officers.
- Information re college/learning opportunities
- Support with attendance continuity when families travel, i.e., dual registration/temporary registration.
- Liaison with Anglia Ruskin University and the Traveller Movement to discuss arranging an event in Essex, connecting agencies and members of the GRT communities. With a focus on future provision for Young People from GRT communities this will hopefully raise cultural awareness and encourage discussion about accessible and relevant provision to enable Young People to achieve in Education – this is ongoing, and it is expected that this will take place in February 2024 dependant on availability of venue (ARU).

### **Applications submitted by Outreach team July – October inclusive.**

Primary	56
Secondary	22
College/FE	7
School appeals	10

### **Case studies:**

- X comes from the Travelling community; they live on a Council run site. X has struggled with their arrears for some time as the plot they are living on used to be joint tenancy with their mum and due to her mental health declining, when she passed away there was debt. X struggles themselves with depression and anxiety and was struggling to pay their rent and got confused with their Universal credit payments which caused more issues. On speaking with UC with X's permission we were able to change their rent to be paid directly to the landlord, so they no longer had to budget this money. Discussions were had with X about budgeting their monthly outgoings and helped explain how they could go forward in the future.
- A year 8 pupil, who had never attended secondary school due to anxiety went onto home education after his mother was taken to court and fined £500. The Reaching Out programme was recommended by The Traveller Movement. This provided an on-line basic skills course and the young person made rapid progress and gained confidence. The young person has now applied to secondary school at his own request.

### **Good news:**

- 9 YP's are going back into secondary school, following prolonged absence in 4 cases.  
It can be a struggle to try to maintain them in school.
- Although early days, liaison with ARU, looking to support regarding their potential outreach to the GTRSB communities in Education.