

Knights Youth Centre – at the heart of a community for over 80 years!

Knights Youth Centre (KYC) is an independent Christian UK registered charity that has been changing young lives since 1936. KYC's primary ethos is to transform the life of each young person we work with. KYC provides a quality and inclusive youth service for 120-150 young people each week, living on and around the Clapham Park Estate, an area of high social and economic need in Lambeth, South London. Young people who attend the club have challenging backgrounds, are suffering from poor educational attainment, drug or alcohol misuse, criminal records, difficult family relationships and dismal employment prospects.

KYC strives to empower these young people into positive and independent futures. KYC achieves this through a weekly programme of supportive relational work, engaging with peer groups, craziness, entrepreneurial support, co-produced services with young people, centre-based activities, street-based services and plenty of off-site programmes.

In the last year KYC has:

- **Delivered more than 225 sessions**
- **Taken a group of young people to volunteer in Sri Lanka for 2 weeks**
- **Provided employment for 8 young adults**
- **Supported 7 young people through the court system with most receiving a positive outcome**
- **Doubled the size of its Trustee Board**
- **Announced George Clarke (from Channel 4's Restoration Man and Amazing Small Spaces) as Patron of KYC**

KYC is currently reviewing a range of options to develop and diversify our service to meet the needs of an increasingly disconnected generation of young people and a very transient population. Some of the options include:

- **More social enterprise opportunities**
- **Greater resident involvement**
- **Capacity building the core team**
- **Creative use of how our Centre is used during the day to increase use by the community whilst further developing our networks, support and resources**
- **Stronger relationships with local businesses**
- **Developing a community asset based approach with others**

2018 promises to be a year of change, challenge and a chance for KYC. We will continue to be instrumental in providing local young people, their families and others with real and fresh optimism for the future.

The question is... do you want to be part of this?

