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Disability – The Facts

There are 10 million people disabled people in the UK



.but most disability is 'invisible'



Disability – The Facts

- Over 1 million people live with enduring mental health problems
- 25% of all adults suffer poor mental health at some time in their lives
- Nearly 1 million people live with a learning disability
- >130,000 people <u>each year</u> suffer a stroke



One of us has a brain injury and suffers from depression



One of us has spent time in a locked psychiatric ward



I can't write, count or tell the time



I've had a stroke and my right side is paralysed



Disability- Reality

•Disabled people are less likely to be employed, have half the income of non disabled person and more likely to have no educational qualifications

•Unemployment rates are highest amongst people with learning difficulties or mental health problems

•30% of people with learning difficulties suffer hate crime or bullying



.....but disabled people created this!



All About Thrive.....



Thrive is passionate about enabling disabled people to improve their lives

Five key benefits:

- Physical Health
- Psychological Health
- Skills
- Social
- Natural environment

In 2012 Thrive helped over 10,000 disabled people

1,300 of these people attended our gardening programmes in the community in London and the South East



Gardening with Thrive



8 gardening programmes meet a wide range of needs:

- Working it Out and Dig It!
- Grow & Learn
- Growing Options
- Pathways
- Life After Stroke
- Gardening Memories
- Social Inclusion and Recovery
- Bespoke

Working in public open spaces helps to engender a sense of self worth and contribution to the community.....

The community starts to value that contribution and recognise those skills

It's about 'CAN DO'



Grow, Train & Eat!



Working in public parks, Dig it! Down to Earth and Working it Out are designed so that teams of disabled gardeners can work together with local people to create community food growing spaces

They also work with the contract teams helping to maintain the park

Aims:

- Reducing social exclusion and breaking down barriers
- Gaining the skills and qualifications needed for a job
- Learning about healthy living and celebrating food
- Access to affordable food

Outcomes:

- 30% get paid work
- 60% volunteer with the community
- 80% improve their health



Effective measurement



Thrive is rigorous about ensuring that outcomes are properly captured, recorded and evaluated

We've designed our own tool.....

INSIGHT [™] is a built on an "Access" platform and facilitates the recording of a wide range of information and data

- Demographics
- Disability
- Soft skills
- Hard skills
- Health and well being
-basically anything you might choose to measure

Lickert scale records outcomes on a numerical basis with numerical changes being backed up by narrative

Outcome analysis by individual, by group, by disability, by project and across varying timescales

