

# Reach Update

May/June 2020

Supporting people with learning disabilities across Nottinghamshire

reach

## Update

Hi I'm Chantelle. I've been Reach Newark Manager for 5 years but right now I'm responsible for managing Reach's response to coronavirus. Since we sadly had to temporarily close our centres in March, **we have been determined to find new ways to reach our clients and families, helping them to stay as safe and well as possible.**



It's obviously been a really difficult two months for everyone, but it's not been without reward. Everyday I hear from our clients and families, telling us how our support is helping them to cope, and what a difference it makes to know they're not alone.

**One of the things I'm most proud of is how quickly we put our alternative offer into place and that is thanks to the skill and commitment of our wonderful staff.** We straightaway started delivering packs and supplies and worked on getting our digital offering into place to deliver quality learning sessions online. Thank you all, everyone has played their part. Because we know our clients so well we have been able to put extra support in place for those facing difficulties and loneliness. People like Phil whose story below shows how we are working quickly and creatively to overcome problems.

For now we'll keep delivering and evolving our "new normal" service and trying to find new ways to reach people. We all face challenging times ahead but with the help of our supporters and friends we will make it through – thank you.

## Crisis Appeal Extended

**Thank you for helping us raise £10,000 in just 2 months. There is still so much to do that we are extending our appeal to raise a further £5,000.**

[Find out more](#)

[Our Crisis Response](#)



## Events

**Virtual Pet Show - Entries now open! (see details below)**

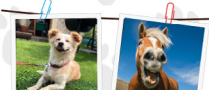
**Coming soon: Virtual sporting event**

**Virtual Bake Off**

Contact [sarah.cobb@reachuk.org](mailto:sarah.cobb@reachuk.org) for enquiries. More details available on social media (see details below)

## Reach Virtual Pet & Wildlife Show

Entries close: 1pm 5th June  
Voting: 8th June - 14th June  
Winners announced: 16th June



To enter go to:  
[reachuk.org/fundraising/pet-show](https://reachuk.org/fundraising/pet-show)



## Thank you

**Thank you to our funders for their vital support**

Thanks to supporters of our crisis response:

- The Edward Gostling Foundation
- The Jones 1986 Charitable Trust
- Neighbourly
- Newark Castle Rotary Club
- National Emergencies Trust
- Nottinghamshire Community Foundation
- Nottinghamshire County Council's Local Improvement Scheme
- Severn Trent Community Fund
- Southwell & District Lions Club
- Waitrose Community Matters

Thanks to our existing funders for their flexibility:

- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Nottinghamshire Freemasons/The Masonic Charitable Foundation
- The Samworth Foundation

## Phil's story

Phil lives on his own and was feeling very cut off from his friends. He doesn't have internet access or a computer so he couldn't join in with online socialising and activities. Whilst we've managed to sort computers for many of our clients, we discovered that we couldn't immediately solve the internet issue for Phil. So we set up a safe, socially distant space for him to access a computer at Reach Newark. This means Phil can participate in 2-3 sessions a week and catch up with his Reach friends. We've also allocated an appropriately trained member of staff who accompanies Phil on his shopping and socially distanced exercise outings.



**"Before Reach helped me I was just stuck in the flat on my own" - Phil**

## Events update

Since going into lockdown we have lost a lot of the income we rely on from people taking part in organised events or from our own sporting or social fundraising events.

This has not put off our wonderful supporters who have helped raise money for Reach in new ways. Lots of staff and supporters took part in our 2.6 challenge, from ponies in fancy dress to virtual marathons, we were overwhelmed with the support from the event which raised more than £5,000.



We are truly grateful to everyone who has hosted their own virtual events in support of Reach from weekly quizzes, giving trees, song writing, family bingo and so much more. Thank you also to Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark who hosted a raffle which raised over £1800.

**We continue to need your support, if you have any ideas please call Sarah on 0772102266.**

**Don't forget to share your fundraising ideas so we can promote them on our social media platforms.**

Follow us on Social Media:



@ReachLearningDisability  
@ReachLDCare  
@flowerpodsouthwell  
@reachcafebalderton

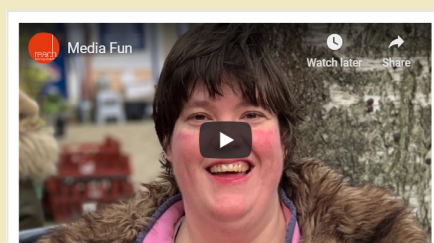


@reach\_ld  
@FlowerPodReach



reach\_learning\_disability  
flowerpod\_official

Take a few minutes to watch our Media Fun film with a cup of tea, and dream with us for a better world.



Head over to our website to fill in a keeping in touch form to find out about our work. You can change your preference at any time by re-submitting this form or contacting [sarah.cobb@reachuk.org](mailto:sarah.cobb@reachuk.org) <https://reachuk.org/opt-in/>

Thank you for your continued support