



**European Union**  
European Structural  
and Investment Funds



**Education & Skills  
Funding Agency**

# E-Bulletin

July 2021 Vol.33



**Humber  
Learning  
Consortium**

*Passionate about learning*

## ESF COMMUNITY GRANTS 5 OPEN FOR APPLICATION NOW

**Welcome** to our final summer edition of the E-Bulletin until September. In this issue we showcase the great work of two of our Community Grants recipients and celebrate the accomplishment of some of our learners.

**Humber Job Hub CIC's Community Job Club project** was set up to help unemployed individuals of all ages such as parents/carers wanting to get back into the job market; those who have been made redundant; lone parents or retired individuals looking for a new challenge and non-native English speakers who may be struggling to find work.



A great example of one successful learner is a lady who moved to England nearly 20 years ago and had been a stay-at-home mum for most of that time. She was unsure of what she could do for work, lacked confidence in herself and her skills, particularly written English, and didn't really know how to find work.



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## Community Grants ●●●

They discussed areas of interest and identified any training needs, including an English skills assessment, CV and job search support, along with interview preparation and techniques, and an invitation to a confidence coaching workshop.



Following completion of the Job Club, she had a clear career direction in accounting and enrolled on a course to improve her skills. She gained the knowledge to update her CV and personal job profiles. Her self-confidence improved greatly. She learned how to perform well in interviews. She contributed much to the group sessions, helping others as well as herself. She rated the service she received as 5 out of 5 and said, "The course has been a really fantastic experience for me." We are very pleased to report now that she is working in her chosen field.

Humber Job Hub have said:

**"Thanks to funding from the European Social Fund's Community Grants 5 we are proud that over 77% of our members have gone into employment or work-based training, with 100% reporting that they feel more confident and able to find and apply for the jobs they want."**

## THE EQUALITY PRACTICE - ME-LEARNING PROGRAMME

Amanda Arter is a mum with three children. Her eldest is fifteen and was born with Dandy-Walker Syndrome. This is a rare condition, which means he is totally reliant upon her and she has devoted much of her adult life caring for him, as well as the two younger children.



Although she had aspirations when she was younger, she put them aside to make sure her youngest children had the best opportunities, whilst keeping up with the needs of her older son, and ensuring he had all the surgery he required. She has spent so long fighting for his needs that she put away her own dreams. Coming on The Equality Practice's Me-Learning Course, she felt it would just be another programme, something that would get her out of the house for a while. She didn't particularly have any expectations other than that.



**Community Grants** ● ● ●

The Me-Learning Programme aims to give women the chance to think about themselves, about what they want to do with their lives and how to take the first steps to get there. It also helps them build new relationships, try new experiences and places them slightly out of their comfort zone to enable them to grow and build confidence.

The programme is almost at an end now. Amanda committed to all aspects of it, resulting in her having a real goal - one she wasn't aware of when she began. She said; **'It was as if a light bulb went on in my head.'** She has decided her ideal job is working as a Children's Play Specialist in hospitals. To move forward, she has spoken with the local university and planned her path to achieve that. It will take seven years of studying and placements but for her that time-frame is perfect, as her children will be old enough for her to take on a full-time role by then. She starts her GCSEs in Maths and English this September.

Amanda's advice to others;  
**"If you're thinking about doing the Me-Learning Course, then do it!..."**



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## ESF COMMUNITY GRANTS 5 IS OPEN FOR APPLICATION!!...

We are happy to announce that Community Grants 5 round 6 is now open for application.

If you've been inspired by the case studies celebrated in this issue, then the Community Grants 5 funding is a great opportunity to run a unique project to support unemployed adults in the local community, to develop skills to help them to move closer to employment or further education. Please get in touch as grants of between £5,000 to £20,000 are now available.

Many organisations have already been successful in receiving vital funds, that have helped to make a real difference to people's lives.

Deadline for this round of Community Grants 5 applications is **Friday 13th August at 16:00.**

For further details or to apply for the funding please go to [LINK](#). You can also book onto one of our Application Development Workshops through our website.

**Community Grants** ● ● ●



**PROBE**  
(HULL) Ltd

## BBO: SUPPORT INTO EMPLOYMENT - JOANNE'S STORY WITH PROBE...

Joanne had no paid work history at all, she had previously volunteered and engaged in work experience to develop some skills, however she had no confidence at all to apply for employment. Joanne initially had a negative attitude towards applying for vacancies, believing that she was not employable, and employers would judge her on her lack of work history.

Joanne joined the BBO project in October 2020, requesting support to increase her confidence to enable her to find employment in the future. She hoped to find work as a cleaner but needed a COSHH qualification and with support from BBO successfully completed the COSHH course on 18/5/2021. Joanne then went onto find employment almost immediately as a cleaner.

Joanne said, "**BBO really increased my confidence by helping me get a qualification that ended up with me getting a job the next week.**"



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## YOUNG MUM USES LOCK DOWN AND VIRTUAL LEARNING TO LAUNCH CRAFT BUSINESS!

Samantha started accessing support from MC4C during lockdown in March 2021, while she was on her maternity leave and on Furlough from her part-time role in a hair salon.

She was keen to develop her craft business from a hobby into a small enterprise. She needed help to register her company and to create a website for her products. She also needed to gain the knowledge around the legalities of setting up a business.

**“The 1-2-1 support I have received through Graham has been great! He has guided me from start to finish. The flexibility has been so beneficial. It has allowed me to learn whilst looking after my children. I’ve also met lots of new friends and shared ideas,”** said Samantha.

After leaving school Samantha completed a Level 3 in Health and Social Care. She originally wanted to study Midwifery but became pregnant with her first child. She had always loved making things and started selling her crafts to friends and family. Through MC4C Samantha was able to attend weekly Big 13 business enterprise skills sessions, where she learnt about the legal side of setting up her own business, developing a business plan, how to market her products and effective customer service.



She also received help from her 1-2-1 mentor. Due to lock down she was able to study virtually, through video conferencing calls and on-line group sessions, which suited her perfectly whilst looking after her baby.

Graham Henderson, MC4C Enterprise Officer, said, **“Samantha is a remarkable young lady who showed real motivation and determination to get her small business off the ground in a short space of time. With our help she was able to develop her enterprise skills, whilst looking after her young family. We are very proud to have supported her and wish her ever success.”**

Samantha said, **“I cannot thank MC4C enough for the support they have given me to help me progress and launch my business. The skills and knowledge I have learnt will help me to make a better life for my family.”**

For more information about MC4C please visit their website [LINK](#).

Check out Samantha's Creations Galore website here [LINK](#).



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