

Best practice at BDU & SSP Community Engagement



Introduction

As part of BDU’s commitment to proactively engage with the local community the project has carried out a number of activities throughout the year that minimise negative impact of the project and maximise our social contribution.

What we did

As part of the community outreach plan for 2016 BDU have completed a number activities aimed at giving back to the community, including:

- The project participated in UKCG Open Doors Day for the second time. This provides an opportunity to promote the industry, Network Rail and Skanska to local communities and to people with an interest in finding employment in the sector.



**10 staff volunteers - 60 hours in total
£200 for catering**

- The project continued their work with XLP community group which provides a safe space for the youth community to relax and also find out information on employment and education.



8 staff volunteers - 75 hours in total

- The project has helped refurbish St. Katherine’s with St. Bartholomew Church Garden and youth club – this initial work has led to an even more ambitious refurbishment from other projects in which a kitchen and shower room will be installed for young people in need of safe accommodation.



46 staff volunteers - 260 hours in total

- BDU have completed a community garden at the Lewington Community Centre. The project provided shrubs, plants and veggies which employees planted alongside painting and cleaning the area for use by the local people.



**17 staff volunteers - 144 hours in total
£300 in materials**

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- The project has also provided the local Silwood Street residents with 10 wooden pallets that have been used to make resident notice boards and compost bins for the garden.



Benefits

The UKCG Open Doors day was attended by 12 members of the public giving people an opportunity to learn more about the project, inspire people to gain employment within the industry and to support relations in the community.

The XLP community group engaged with between 15-30 students on a weekly basis providing a safe space to offer support and education to the local community.

The refurbishment of the Church, community centre garden and supplying pallets to Silwood Street residents has promoted good relations with the local community and leaves a legacy for when the project is completed. It has promoted the brand of both Skanska and Network Rail to the local residents.

Supporting Benefits

- Less complaints through good relations
- Boosting local biodiversity through planting in the gardens
- Reducing waste from site by providing pallets for reuse
- Providing inspiration for people to gain employment in the industry

Positive Feedback

XLP Community Group

When asked to provide feedback on volunteering one volunteer said “XLP run a program that not only entertains children but inspires them to be the best they can possibly be. Being part of such an organisation opens one’s mind to reality some children live with and making that reality better or improving it for them gives a real sense of pride & purpose to my volunteering.”

St Katherine’s Project

The refurbish of the Church was covered in a news segment on London Live News, featured in articles in the Southwark News and Evening Standard and was given a full write up in the church newsletter. This offers great, positive promotion of the companies involved and BDU project to local communities and stakeholders. Church members said the volunteers were “Passionate in what they were doing” and “They taught church members better painting skills”.

Open Doors

Open Doors attendees provided very positive feedback including they had “An amazing day - I liked everything about it!” and they “Would like to visit again to follow the progress.” When asked what aspects they enjoyed most they said they liked “getting onto the structures and the viewpoints from the top” and “It was great having the project manager doing the tour as he was knowledgeable on all aspects of site”.

Meets SDS Objectives

- 7 – Proactively engage with communities around TLP
- 12 – achieving CEEQUAL targets
- 18 – reduce waste generated and disposed of on TLP
- 20 – maintain and enhance biodiversity on TLP