

### 2024 - 2025 • West Kent

# **Annual Update**



**Supported Accommodation** 

## **Ryder House**

- **98** local young people provided with a safe place to call home within the Tunbridge Wells area
- 53 of these young people successfully moved on to fully independent living

# **The Bridge Trust Project**

- 41 local adults facing homelessness provided with a safe place to call home within the Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells area
- 19 of these local adults successfully moved on to fully independent living

# Training & Education

- young people with a special educational need or disability enrolled on to our Horizon training and education post-16 programme, achieving 21 qualifications to date
- **26** young people from across 5 mainstream schools have attended our day release training programmes

Youth Services

- **239** unique young people engaged with our weekly youth clubs
- $oxed{11}$  different youth clubs provided for children aged 8-16 years
- 6 different locations across the Tonbridge area

Retail

Luke Shotter, one of our dedicated young workers at our Goods Station Road shop, was awarded the National YMCA Young Achiever of the Year Award. This prestigious recognition celebrates Luke's remarkable journey — overcoming real adversity, transforming his life, inspiring others and becoming an invaluable part of our organisation.



### Across the wider organisation....

- Supported accommodation: we've provided safe, supported housing for over 700 individuals facing homelessness
- Specialist fitness classes: across Romford and Dartford, we've delivered 272 seated exercise classes for members with mobility challenges, plus 81 specialist circuit sessions designed to improve physical and mental wellbeing
- Senior citizens' group: we've hosted 102 weekly meet-ups for older adults, with an average of 19

- attendees each week reducing isolation and building community
- Cancer rehab at YMCA Romford: 54 adults living with cancer have completed our free 10-week tailored exercise programme, helping them regain strength and confidence
- We're proud of Luke Shotter from our Goods Station Road shop, who won the national YMCA Young Achiever of the Year award. Luke has overcome adversity, inspired others, and become a true asset

#### **Bag a Brighter Future**

Many of our residents arrive with just a single bag containing nothing more than a few clothes.

You can help provide them with the essential items they need to help ensure a brighter future, whether you drop the donations into one of our branches or donate the monetary equivalent to enable us to purchase for them.

If you would like to donate, scan the QR code or email our fundraising team at <u>communitysupport@ymcatg.org</u>.

#### Sleep Easy



Once again, we are inviting our local community to help raise funds for their local branch or project by running their own Sleep Easy.

If you would like to get involved, email: <a href="mailto:sleepeasy@ymcatg.org">sleepeasy@ymcatg.org</a>

#### Challenge Events

We have a host of bucket list events on offer, giving you the opportunity to challenge yourself whilst raising funds for YMCA Thames Gateway Group!

For further information head over to <a href="mailto:ymcatg.org/challenge-events">ymcatg.org/challenge-events</a>



#### Become one of our Lottery winners through Havering Local Lottery



Within weeks of our first ever draw within the Havering Local Lottery, one lucky YMCA Thames Gateway supporter won the jackpot of £25,000, with a further 11 of our supporters winning a range of other prizes.

You don't need to be a Havering resident to enter so why not sign up today and you too could be one of our lucky winners! Go to: <u>www.haveringlocallottery.co.uk/support/ymca-thames-gateway-group</u>











