

Annual Report 2024-25

SRCDC



Message from the Chair

It's a pleasure to introduce this year's highlights from South Riverside Community Development Centre. This report gives a brief look at another busy year for SRCDC shaped by the commitment, creativity and care of our staff, volunteers, and our surrounding communities.



Our work continues to show the difference that local, community-led action can make. Whether it's providing practical support, creating opportunities to learn and connect or simply offering a welcoming space.

Thank you to everyone who has been part of this work. I hope you enjoy looking through the highlights and sharing in the commitment we all have to our communities.

Martina Svobodova

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Chair of Trustees

South Riverside Community Development Centre Ltd

About SRCDC



“Based in the vibrant and diverse community of Riverside in Cardiff, we provide a broad range of projects, activities and services engaging the communities of Riverside, Grangetown and Canton. Using a ‘Community Development’ approach, we work towards improving peoples quality of life, bringing people together, creating spaces for learning and promoting positive change.”

Our Aims

1. Advance the education of the public in matters related to mental, physical, cultural and social welfare.
2. Relieve poverty.

Our Strategic Aims

Our strategic aims – the interrelated means by which we will achieve our mission – are:

To foster the empowerment of individuals and groups through providing information, facilitating involvement in issues that affect their lives through supporting community organisation and developing skills and acting as an independent, representative voice for the community;

To ensure access to services, facilities and opportunities necessary for social and economic development, health and well-being;

To develop strong cross-cultural relationships which recognise, value, and celebrate the multicultural makeup of our community. We aim to achieve this by supporting cultural activities within each community, encouraging sharing between cultures and promoting understanding and acceptance, which will benefit our diverse communities.

Our Values

The Centre operates with the following values and processes to **promote**:

Social Justice

Enabling people to claim their human rights, meet their needs and have greater control over the decision-making processes which affect their lives.

Participation

Facilitating democratic involvement by people in the issues which affect their lives, based on full citizenship, autonomy, and shared power, skills, knowledge and experience.

Equality

Challenge the attitudes of individuals, and the practices of institutions and society, that discriminate against and marginalise people.

Learning

Recognise the skills, knowledge and expertise that people contribute and develop by taking action to tackle social, economic, political and environmental issues.

Co-operation

Work together to identify and implement action, based on mutual respect of diverse cultures and contributions.

Our Projects and Programmes

Believe Credu II

River Music

Wyndham Street Pantry

Let's Interpret

Youth Innovation Fund (Youth Club)

Supporting Working Families

Young Children and Parents Project

Suss it Out

Sustaining Grassroots Empowerment

The Fullness Project (55+)

The Lunch Club

Believe Credu II



Funded by the Henry Smith Foundation, Believe/Credu II is a 3-year project set up with the goal that Black, Asian and other ethnic minority women aged 25+, living in Riverside, Grangetown & Canton have improved employability and quality of life.”

.The priority areas of activity that the fund seeks to support are as follows:

- **Employment and training**
- **Support networks and family**

Group activities offered in Year 2 included the following:

- Read & Write English Language classes
- CV and Interview Techniques workshop
- Introduction to Social Care and Introduction to Human Rights career workshops
- Sewing classes / Renew & Recycle sessions
- Digital Literacy workshops
- Childcare courses (in partnership with Cardiff University)
- Get Cooking course (with Cardiff & Vale UHB)
- Barista training (through partnership with Cardiff Council)
- FAN (Friends and Neighbours)
- Numeracy classes
- Move It Monday walks/Lowland Walk Leader Award training (with Partneriath AwyrAgored)
- Introduction to Law module (in partnership with Cardiff University)
- 'Meet the Boss' days with the Education Workforce Council, the Welsh Rugby Union and other organisations
- International Women's Day celebrations with the Red Cross, Pedal Power, Let's Interpret and other partners
- Tour of BBC Wales
- Visits to Grow Cardiff and the Welsh Rugby Union (Principality Stadium tour).

Project Outcomes:

92% of project participants improved their soft skills .

92% of project participants reported increased confidence in literacy and/or numeracy

69% reported improved digital skills

River Music

Music of the World coming out of Riverside!



Over the past year, our established arts programme has continued to see strong and growing engagement with participants joining **weekly sessions** in:

- Ukulele
- Piano
- Drama
- Urban dance
- Open rehearsals
- Balkan dance
- Roma music
- Art
- Arabic/Urdu arts

These activities, alongside a Royal College performance (30 participants), were embedded in our summer and winter festivals, fostering grassroots expression and cultural exchange.

Our festivals and events brought diverse performances—from a Polish choir to country blues artists playing “Old Town Road” (recorded with parents)—to audiences of 2,000, with 100 active participants.

We also performed at Black History Month, Afrobeat Delta Lounge, Yma Pontypridd, interfaith rehearsals, Windrush celebrations, and charity events—culminating in a 25-person performance at the Sickle Cell Awareness Benefit. New recordings addressed issues like knife crime and Welsh identity, resonating across Riverside’s communities.



Wyndham Street Pantry



The Wyndham Street Pantry collaborates with a range of suppliers including FareShare Cymru, Asda and more recently Costco to respond to food poverty challenges facing residents and the reduction of food waste through the process.

The Wyndham Street Pantry provides a twice weekly opportunity for local residents on low incomes to access up to £25.00 worth of food shopping for £5.00.

We would like to recognise and celebrate the massive investment in time and effort of our **dedicated and valued volunteers** who source food on a weekly basis from various suppliers including Costco, Lidl, Aldi, Alex Gooch/Brod bakeries and individual shop donations

Let's Interpret

Let's Interpret is helping multilingual women train as interpreters and find opportunities to use those skills in the community.

In 2024-25 we welcomed 34 more women into the project, who all successfully completed an accredited, Level 3 course in Public Service Interpreting thanks to the continued support of Cardiff University's Lifelong Learning department.

Funding from the "Volunteering Wales Main Grant" allowed the Let's Interpret project to identify more opportunities for our members to gain voluntary work experience.





Many of our members also gained paid work experience, providing interpreting services to our partners across the city. In 2024-25, a total of 230 hours of interpreting provided by our members, have allowed non-English speakers to engage with the important services being delivered by these organisations

“I’m seeing everything with different eyes now. Not just in relation to interpreting, but also skills and knowledge that I can apply to every aspect of my life”

— Let’s Interpret member

“Let’s Interpret provides interpretation services that empower us to connect meaningfully with our clients... This language support is essential to overcoming barriers that could otherwise hinder access to vital mental health services”

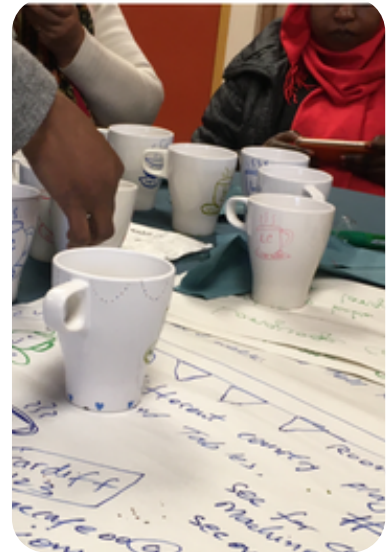
— CCAWS (Community Care and Wellbeing Service)

Youth Innovation Fund

The Riverside and Grangetown Youth Innovation programmes provided a wide range of creative, educational, and physical activities that matched the interests of young people in the community. Through art, sports, safety education, and building community spirit, we empowered participants to express themselves, develop valuable skills, improve their wellbeing and connect positively with their community. The programme's commitment to holistic development and responsive engagement has laid a strong foundation for **continued positive impact in the lives of young people** in Grangetown and Riverside.



Resilience for Families



Resilience for Families, our 2 year National Lottery funded programme has continued to offer a range of activities ,co-produced by local families, that are designed to fill gaps in provisions as identified by the community.

Activities have included:

- *Our ever popular language cafe, now in it's 6th Year set up by Mashmooma Din.
- *Reading classes which was attended by local Guinea Bissau community members.
- *B1 visa English test Preparation sessions.
- *Driving Theory test sessions
- *Cooking on a budget
- *Reflexology and mindfulness sessions.

If you have a new idea for an activity that fills a vital gap in local provision please do let us know!

Young Children and Parents Project (YCPP)



The YCPP has continued to run a toddler group 2 day a week during the school term, which is funded by Children in Need. We have 12 families registered with children aged 0 to 5 who attend these sessions, the majority of who speak English as a second language. The children learn through play and all the activities we select for them, aid in their development and prepare them for starting school.

During the half term and summer holiday the YCPP also put on sessions for children aged 7 to 14 years old. There is a variety of activities such as arts & craft sessions, sporting activities, and things that celebrate various cultural events.



Mobile Creche

We also provide a mobile creche facility where we can supply toys and trained workers to provide quality childcare for parents who are attending classes run by other organisations. This year we have facilitated regular childcare for The Red Cross, NHS Dietetics, and Face Painting sessions for Cardiff Council.

Suss it Out



Suss it Out is funded by Community Foundation Wales and provides twice weekly sewing workshops that include 3D embroidery workshops, basic and advanced sewing skills which includes basic alterations, stitching and working with different materials. The project engages an average of 6-8 women per session

Sustaining Grassroots Empowerment

The Sustaining Grassroots Empowerment project is a 2 year project funded until August 31st 2026. In partnership with the Bevan Foundation, the project has been designed to increase opportunities and engagement of migrant communities in influencing policy reviews and contributing responses to Welsh Government and Cardiff Council consultations.

Through a project lead and two community connectors, the project team aim to increase migrant communities' contributions to 10 consultations, develop and publish a migrant community engagement strategy and develop a policy influencing model. During this period the team have been busy building relationships and networks in communities, developing a series of coffee mornings and engagement sessions to hear the voices, concerns and aspirations of migrant communities across our localities.



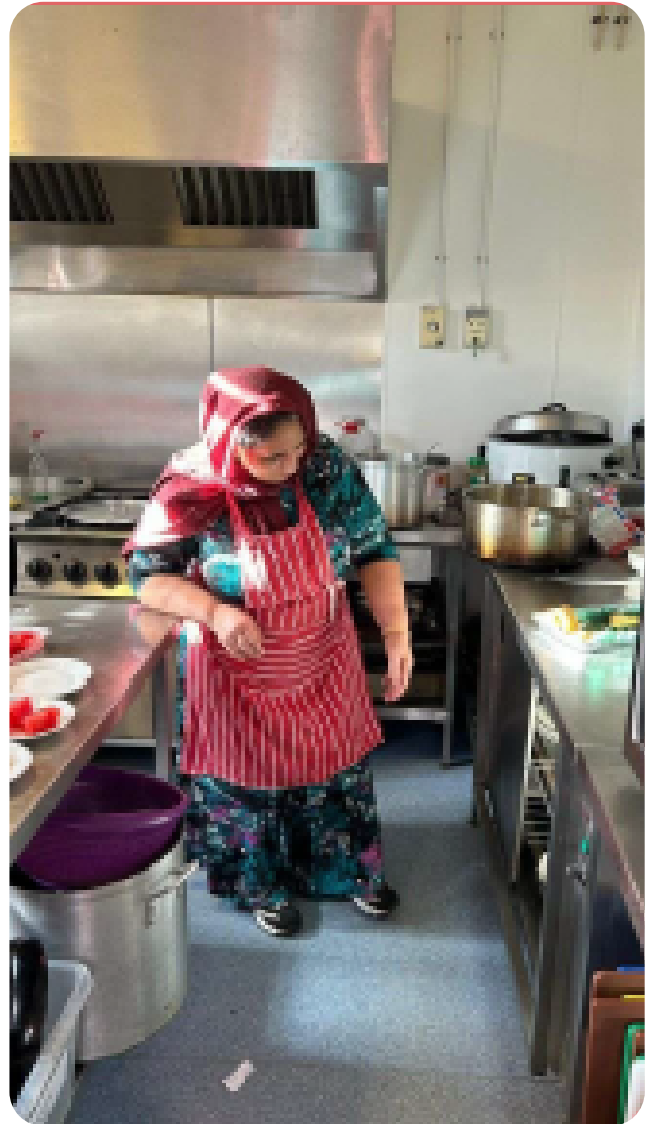
The Fullness Project (55+)



A vibrant community of adults, 55+ years living in Riverside, Canton and Grangetown. Brought together by South Riverside Community Development Centre (SRCDC) and funded by Global Make Some Noise. This project provides a programme of uplifting activities, events and trips to enhance health, wellbeing, and cultural interests. Our ultimate goals are to reduce social isolation, increase advocacy and support, and improve emotional and physical well-being amongst older residents within our localities.

We run a weekly programme of advocacy and support drop-in sessions that help older people to understand letters, make phone calls and signpost them to appropriate services. We also offer a wide range of weekly engagement activities, including arts and crafts, board games, baking and cooking, singing and local trips.

Older Person's Lunch Club



In October 2023 South Riverside Community Development Centre (SRCDC) started a Lunch Club for local residents who are over 55 years old. The Lunch Club, funded by the National Lottery, takes place every Thursday and is a good place for people to meet up, chat and play board games. Here they have a 2 course meal freshly cooked using seasonal vegetables. The Lunch Club regularly caters for about 30 people each session

Venue Hire

SRCDC has 3 venues available for hire, including a multi-use sports hall, two kitchens, meeting spaces, classrooms and office space.

If you are looking for a local space to hold an event, party, meeting, practice or weekly activity then please go to our website www.srcdc.org.uk or email info@srcdc.org.uk for our latest packages and prices!



Thank you to all our volunteers & funders for your continued support!



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