



Riana Development Network

Harnessing the future

Newsletter

Welcome to our fourth edition of the RDN Newsletter. Find out more about the programmes we're doing in your community

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Life Skills Project—1 Year On



It has now been one year since RDN launched the Life Skills programme!

In the month of May, Maxwell Omondi, (Youth Coordinator) caught up with the young people who took part while also reflecting on the impact the programme has had.

Continued overleaf ➔

What's going on?

Riana Youth Hub

Ages 11-18yrs

Wednesdays 5-7pm

Alf Chandler Centre,
Hounslow

Supplementary Education

Ages 7-16yrs

Saturdays 12-4pm

Sundays 2-4pm

Alf Chandler Centre, Hounslow

Community Allotment

Open to all

Tuesdays 3:30-4:45pm

Waye Avenue, Cranford

Life Skills—1 Year On



By Maxwell Omondi

One of the greatest things which has happened since completing the Life Skills programme is that all of the volunteers still keep in contact! We set up a WhatsApp group while taking part in the programme last year and it continues to be active.

During the programme in Heston West, we had to carry out a project which benefited the local community and we decided to organise a family fun day. There were plenty of skills that we picked up along the way such as negotiating with shops and venues to keep our project costs down, and learning how to communicate and lead a group effectively.

My favourite moment was filming our promo for the event as there ended up being a lot of embarrassing bloopers—which I got to edit.



Overall the project was a success and volunteers and local people at the event were impressed with all the work we had carried out as a group.

Out of all the participants who have taken part, 60% have continued to be active volunteers in their local communities which is remarkable! As a young person, volunteering has helped me to recognise the importance of helping others and how small acts of kindness can go a long way in improving the lives of those in my local area.

I decided to catch up with my fellow volunteers on the project to find out how the programme has impacted on them.

1) What were your favourite moments during the project?

Making new friends and experiencing new things—**Amrita**

My favourite part was being able to spend time with my friends and getting to meet new people while helping the community—**Anjali**

Having fun whilst knowing I'm doing something productive at the same time. Plus learning new things and how to handle big projects—**Juhi**

Marketing our plan to attract numerous members of our community through social media and making videos—**Isaiah**



2) How have you helped out in your community since the fun day event?

Picking up litter whenever I see it—**Amrita**

Since the event I've taken part in multiple events for the community—**Anjali**

Yess, I'm still volunteering and taking part in clean ups and other events —**Juhi**

3) What would you say to young people to encourage them to volunteer in the future?

Take the opportunity to help your community, you'll never regret it and it will give you so many new thoughts on different events and activities—**Amrita**

I think young people should take part in voluntary work as it boosts your confidence while teaching you different life skills all at the same time. It also provides you with lots of experience while taking part. —**Anjali**

You should volunteer because it's so much more than just working, it's probably something you'll never forget. You'll have new relationships, learn how to deal with situations that'll help you in the future, plus a bonus for your CV. Benefits are everywhere—**Juhi**

Volunteering has a positive impact to your environment, those inside it, as well as on yourself.—**Isaiah**





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