



How Can You Help?

Forum Housing Association is always looking for additional funding to support the fund. Any additional support received, whether it is monetary or not, is used in areas of work which are complementary to the core business of the organisation.

There are many ways for you to help including donating, attending our annual Ball and Auction normally in October, supporting our Projects in their fundraising efforts or organising a fund raising event yourself.

Further details are available on our website

On behalf of the young people the Can Do Fund assists can we thank you in advance for your support.



For information about the Association please visit our website

www.forumhousing.co.uk

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FORUM HOUSING
— it's all about you —

The Can Do Fund

encourage young people to engage in positive activities that stimulate personal development

About Forum Housing Association

Forum Housing Association has been a specialist provider of supported accommodation to young people aged 16-25 for over 40 years.

During the last 4 decades we have increased our accommodation projects in Wirral, Sefton, and Ellesmere Port and Neston. Alongside providing housing for young people we work with our young people supporting their varied and diverse needs in order to prepare them for successful, independent living. We are currently working each week with over 350 young people.

The Association's mission statement "it's all about you" is a testimony to the Association's Christian foundation and values. It captures for us the sentiments of respect for and consideration of others, which is at the heart of all we do.

There are over 125 staff working for the Association in a variety of roles and included in this is a small group of resident representatives. These are young people themselves, charged with the task of encouraging participation and engagement of our young people in the planning, decision making and evaluation of all the services we deliver.

The Association is conscious of addressing local need and fulfilling its obligations fully within Local, Regional and National Strategies. It is our intention to invest in our young people to enable them to influence and add value to those same Local, Regional and National Strategies, Initiatives and Programmes.

We work alongside many Statutory, Public, Private and Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector organisations and we are grateful for the support and encouragement we receive.

As an Association we strive for excellence in all that we do, we are committed to our own learning and development and to bringing improvements in service for young people wherever and whenever we can.

The "Can Do Fund"

The Association raises funds through-out the year to support young people living with us with numerous personal development activities that have a long term benefit to their lives.

The "Can Do Fund" has assisted numerous young people over the years. To qualify for the fund the young person needs to prove that their activity is well planned, purposeful and will have a long term benefit in terms of personal development.

Young people have used the fund to support their fundraising for Raleigh International Expedition, Tall Ship Voyages, to pay for train fare to go to open days at universities and to meet up with close relatives that they have not seen for years after family break ups.

You can read a number of young people's stories over the page.

Kim visits Uganda

In February I went to Uganda which is in Africa. It took 30 hours to get there, I had to board two planes and then travel to where we were staying.

I visited a lot of projects such as a bakery, water supply and a beehive project. I also went to visit a lot of sites, such as schools and people's homes.

The food there was ok, we had rice and beans. We had to drink a lot of water otherwise you would be ill, especially because of the weather as it was 44°C. I was ill a bit because of the heat and not drinking enough water. All of us in the group were none stop busy for all the two weeks. We had to push ourselves a lot and it was very challenging. It was an amazing experience.

My whole frame of mind and opinion on life has changed since the trip. I am more focussed and positive. I've come back on a really positive note. When you go to do something like I have done you become a better person, knowing you have changed so many lives for the better, as well as your own. It's a memory that I'll never forget, it's been a great experience and many people like me, could do something similar.



Voyage of Discovery

In June, 6 intrepid sailors embarked on a voyage lasting 1 week, on a sailing ship called the Duet, sailing from Penzance, Cornwall to Holyhead, Wales. A voyage that would change the outlook of all concerned.

Every emotion was experienced, as the young people and staff act as crew on this antique craft, which is highly thought of by the sailing industry.

They were sea sick, sunburned, deprived of sleep, chefs, cleaners, deck hands, team players, family members, story tellers, musicians and singers!

They were supported for the week by Dawn Franklin (captain), and mate Eric, what a great team they made. They encouraged everyone to take personal responsibility, whilst confronting the demands and challenges of life at sea.

Hopefully the confidence, self esteem and positive attitude gained on this trip will change the course of young lives.

