

CYF Summary

Since starting this role in September I have been able to speak/meet with each circuit across the district. I started with a mini audit by asking what work had been happening in each circuit pre-covid and what had re-started. My immediate sense of the outcome of the mini audit is that not all work has returned. Recognising that things on the ground are hard, with lack of resources whether that be finances, volunteers, prioritising different focus for the church/circuit. It almost feels like we're starting from scratch, that being said it we have great opportunity to re-imagine 'church' for Children, Families and Youth.

Over the last 5 months I've been hosting a community of practice, which is going really well. I've adapted this to suit the needs of the district volunteers/workers by having them on different times and days so to allow different people to access it. We also now have a specific theme such as; toddlers/Jubilee resources/how to make our groups, churches or circuits accessible for all with additional needs. I've also been inviting others to help facilitate based on their areas of expertise.

I have been working hard with both co-ordinators in Yorkshire North & East and Yorkshire West to provide resources to use across the districts. By producing templates for risk assessments, consent forms and other guidance information for local churches to use.

I'm also looking at other resources that could help across the district;

- having a guide for toddler groups or creche areas to use with a bible story, craft/activity, prayer to use
- recommending other resources that are available such as scripture union, caring for the family, message trust. I'm asking for groups to pilot some of the resources so we can then recommend across the district
- I'm also looking at what other resources might be needed such as holiday clubs, how to include general discipleship in a youth club/drop-in setting

We're planning a District gathering at Cliff Festival in June, we have a district take over day in June, Family Picnic at Bakewell in July, we'll be attending 3Generate in September and hosting a leaders retreat in October.

Future plans are to continue with community of practice monthly, updating website with regular resources/information, looking at how we nurture and mentor young people across the district both through the ONE Programme: District and younger youth. Continue to network and support where I can with conversations around what CYF work looks like in that area, helping new work start and support existing work.