

Covid-19 Response Grants 2020

Falkirk Council Community Learning Resettlement Team



Who are Falkirk Council Community Learning Resettlement Team?

As part of the Learning and Resettlement Team, Falkirk Council have helped support Syrian refugees to settle into the Falkirk area. They primarily do this by providing English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL) support but are also involved in planning various events and activities that encourage integration, community involvement and promote robust health and wellbeing. There are 11 families in total supported by the Learning and Resettlement Team (approximately 19 adults and 27 children).



How was the grant used?

- The grant was used to provide families with 'Grow your own' herb garden kits and 'Summer Fun' bags. This meant that families were able to engage with the enjoyable process of planting/tending/growing and finally producing herbs for their own use, as well as participating in social activities with their own families.
- The Health Promotion Officer provided additional information on Community links, which enabled the Resettlement Team to obtain the 'Veg for your Ledge' boxes, compost and vegetable seeds for their learners, which they really enjoyed planting and looking after.

What had to change due to Covid-19?

- During Covid-19 all families have been restricted in movement and unable to visit close friends and family, especially during their very special celebratory time of Eid. Contact with friends and other family members is particularly important for this group for mutual support, as they are a minority group in the Falkirk area.



What difference has the grant made?

- Feedback from the families, who planted the herb seedlings and participated in Veg for your Ledge, stated that they had a lot of fun carrying out these activities together with their children.
- Growing Veg on their window sills and balconies, promoted an overall feeling of relaxation and sense of achievement for the families involved.
- The organisation were able to acquire other community links and information and were able to signpost families and get them involved in other activities, such as the Forth Environment Link's 'Veg Your Ledge' scheme.

Feedback from the families who planted herb seedlings and Veg for your Ledge

'I planted with my children and my husband. We would love to have a garden to plant more but this is good for now.'

'We had fun doing this together-my children liked to help me.'

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